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No. 110

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

June 26, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RALPH NORMAN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

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

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

### COMMENDING MICHAEL KRAAN

(Mr. YAKYM of Indiana was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank an outstanding member of my team as he departs for a new opportunity.

Michael Kraan has served as one of my legislative assistants for the past 2 years. He has covered a broad range of issues, from natural resources to veterans affairs, and has done so with exceptional diligence and precision.

While working in my office, Michael also earned his master's degree in na-

tional security policy studies. He quickly established himself as an indispensable asset. I have often said that a good Member can become a great Member with a great team, and Michael proved that every single day in my office.

Michael played an essential role in creating and advancing key legislation, including the National Veterans Advocate Act of 2025. This bill would help ensure our servicemembers have the support and resources they need when they return home.

After a veteran in my district could not get the timely access to mental health care from the VA that he needed, Michael created the Sergeant Ted Grubbs Mental Healthcare for Disabled Veterans Act. Just last night at dinner, Michael shared how the highlight of his time in my office was meeting Sergeant Ted Grubbs.

I also highlight his critical work on the SECURE American Telecommunications Act, which I recently introduced to protect our Nation's infrastructure from enemy threats.

None of these would have been possible without Michael's dedication and expertise. Although it is also often difficult to see a team member leave, Michael is taking steps to go on to be a military legislative assistant in another office.

Max is getting one of the best. I trust the gentleman will take good care of Michael.

I thank Michael for his hard work, loyalty, and service. He will always be part of the family.

### RECOGNIZING MARIAH GREENLEE

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional member of my team, my director of operations, Mariah Greenlee.

From day one, Mariah has been an indispensable part of our office. As every Member knows, the director of operations is the person who keeps the trains running on time. While I may be

biased, I truly believe that Mariah is one of the very best.

Whether it was fitting 47 meetings in 2 days, managing our intern program, overseeing travel logistics, or simply keeping the office running smoothly, Mariah did it all with excellence. Her calm under pressure, strong organizational skills, and unwavering dedication helped our office serve the people of Indiana's Second District at the highest level. Hoosiers who visited the Capitol often commented on her customer-service-driven approach.

Over the past 2½ years, I have come to rely on Mariah not only as a trusted colleague but as a friend. Her work ethic, professionalism, and commitment to service to Indiana's Second District have left a lasting impression and mark on our team. While I am sad to see her go, I am incredibly excited for what lies ahead for her in her next chapter.

I thank Mariah for everything. Her contributions have meant so much to me and my team. She will always be part of the Yakym family.

### HONORING VINCENT O'NEILL

(Mr. KENNEDY of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Vincent O'Neill, a brilliant artist, beloved teacher, dear friend, and cultural giant who transformed the landscape of theater in western New York.

Born in Dublin, Ireland, Vincent carried a deep love for his Irish roots that he shared with western New York and the world. Vincent trained at University College Dublin, Trinity College, the Abbey School of Acting, and under the legendary Marcel Marceau in Paris as a mime.

As a member of the prestigious Abbey Theater, he toured the globe

□ 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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acting and directing. His one-man show, "Joyicity," inspired by the works of James Joyce, earned international acclaim. He was invited by both the President and Prime Minister of Ireland to perform the piece, a powerful testament to his talent.

Vincent first came to Buffalo in 1985 with his brother, Chris, to perform Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot" in a hotel dining room in Cheektowaga, instantly winning over local critics and audiences.

That performance sparked something greater in Vincent, and in 1989, he returned to Buffalo permanently. Within a year, he cofounded the Irish Classical Theatre Company alongside his late brother, Chris, Josephine Hogan, and Dr. James Warde.

What began as a makeshift stage grew into one of Buffalo's most cherished institutions. For over 30 years as artistic director, Vincent brought his passion, creativity, and vision to the Irish Classical Theatre, directing 30 productions, appearing in 67 more, and setting the standard for excellence in local theater.

From The Andrews Theatre to Shea's 710, Vincent proved that Buffalo's theater scene could rival any in the world. "Waiting for Godot" remained a through line in his life. It was the first show the Irish Classical Theatre staged in its new home, the play that reopened the theater after the COVID-19 pandemic, and also his final role on that stage.

Vincent was more than a performer. He was a mentor, teacher, and leader. At the University of Buffalo, where he served as chair and director of theater performance, he shaped generations of actors, instilling in them discipline, empathy, and love for the craft. He collaborated with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, led Irish cultural celebrations, appeared in local films, and brought people together through art.

Vincent's contributions were recognized by peers and the community alike. He received Artie Awards for acting, directing, and lifetime achievement, along with honors like the Buffalo News Outstanding Citizen Award, Irish Echo Community Champion, and Irishman of the Year. Just 3 years ago, he was honored with a permanent star in the Buffalo Theater District's Plaza of Stars.

Together with his brother, Chris, the O'Neill name became synonymous with artistic excellence in Buffalo, a legacy now permanently etched into the city with the naming of The Brothers O'Neill Way on Main Street in the Buffalo Theater District.

Last week, Vincent O'Neill left us at the age of 75 after a battle with cancer. To lose Vincent is to lose a piece of Buffalo's artistic soul. Vincent was one of a kind: a consummate artist, a devoted teacher, a pillar of our arts community, and, above all, a man of vision, integrity, and warmth.

I thank his beloved wife, Teja; his children, Laura Emily, and Jamie;

their mother, Josephine Hogan; and his sister, Margaret, for sharing Vincent with us. His many friends, colleagues, and all whose lives he touched will honor the legacy he leaves behind. He will be missed beyond measure.

I find comfort in knowing that Vincent's spirit will remain with us in every performance at the Irish Classical Theatre, in every student who carries his lessons forward, and in every audience moved by the power of a great story, especially when told with the heart, soul, and humor of an Irishman.

May Vincent O'Neill rest in peace.  
"Eternal peace"; "Suaimhneas siorai."

#### HONORING THE HORTMAN AND HOFFMAN FAMILIES

(Mr. EMMER of Minnesota was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Minnesota to honor the lives of former Minnesota Speaker of the House Melissa Hortman and her husband, Mark, who were brutally murdered in their home on June 14.

We also express our collective outrage over this politically motivated attack, which resulted in life-threatening injuries to my friend, Minnesota State Senator John Hoffman, and his wife, Yvette.

My wife, Jacquie, and I have known Melissa for more than 20 years. Melissa and I joined the Minnesota Legislature together in 2005, and we served together until 2011.

While we may have disagreed on policy, Melissa was a great colleague who fearlessly fought for what she believed in and devotedly served the people of Minnesota.

One day, while I was in the Minnesota Legislature, I brought my only daughter to work with me. I wanted to introduce her to some of the strong female leaders in our State and my colleagues who were, frankly, exceptional at what they do.

One of the first people who I introduced Katie to was Melissa Hortman. Though we came from different sides of the aisle, Melissa was incredibly gracious with her time and couldn't have been more kind and encouraging to my daughter.

Melissa's warmth and generosity extended far beyond that moment. As speaker of the Minnesota House, she led with integrity and fostered bipartisan collaboration, even during the most challenging times in our State.

While we mourn Melissa and her husband, Mark, we continue to pray for healing and peace for Senator Hoffman and his wife, Yvette, and their daughter, Hope, who were targeted by the same evil coward that night.

I have known Senator Hoffman for many years and have had the pleasure of meeting his daughter, Hope, on several occasions as they visited our office here in Washington, D.C.

John is a wonderful man, devoted husband and father, and friend. He is a commonsense legislator and has been a champion for Minnesotans with disabilities throughout his time in office.

His bravery during the attack, lunging at the gunman to protect his family, likely saved their lives, though it left him with life-threatening injuries.

Yvette, who was also hit by the gunfire, heroically shielded their daughter, Hope, whose quick thinking in locking the door and calling 911 triggered a statewide law enforcement response that, frankly, prevented further tragedy. Their courage and heroism should continue to inspire us all.

We are grateful to the brave men and women of law enforcement for their work to apprehend the evil perpetrator, and we look forward to justice being served.

Let's be clear: There is absolutely no place in our country for politically motivated violence. This attack, carried out by an evil coward disguised as a peace officer, was not just an assault on two Minnesota families, but it was also an attack on the very fabric of our Nation. It sought to silence and strike fear into the hearts of those who dedicate their lives to public service.

As we continue to grieve, we cannot and will not let this tragedy define us. We must show our communities, our State, our country, and the world that Minnesotans are united and that our resolve is stronger now more than ever. From Minneapolis to Mankato and from Delano to Duluth, we come together as one voice to condemn all forms of political violence. We commit to always treat each other with respect, regardless of differing opinions or political affiliations.

Our prayers are with the Hortman family as they grieve the devastating loss of their loved ones, and we also continue to pray for John, Yvette, and Hope as they deal with the physical and emotional repercussions of this horrific attack.

In closing, I will echo the words of Melissa and Mark's children: "Hope and resilience are the enemy of fear. . . . Hold your loved ones a little closer. Love your neighbors. Treat each other with kindness and respect. The best way to honor our parents' memory is to do something, whether big or small, to make our community just a little better for someone else."

May we always adhere to that sentiment.

□ 1015

#### HONORING BRIAN JOHNSON, CEO OF EQUALITY ILLINOIS

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brian Johnson, CEO of Equality Illinois, who will be ending his tenure at the end of this month.

For nearly a decade, Brian has been a driving force behind the rapid growth and rise of Equality Illinois, turning it into a powerful multi-issue advocacy organization dedicated to advancing LGBTQ+ civil rights across the State.

At a time when we are seeing the LGBTQ+ community face relentless attacks, Brian has been at the helm of Equality Illinois fighting back and ensuring our State remains a safe, inclusive place for everyone.

As he enters this new chapter in his life, I wish him the best of luck and am confident that he will continue the good fight protecting and empowering the LGBTQ+ community in Illinois and across the country.

#### BENEFITS OF THE ONE BIG, BEAUTIFUL BILL

(Mr. ROSE of Tennessee was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, the House Ways and Means Committee has run the numbers for the American people. They all point to this fact: The One Big Beautiful Bill Act is good for this Nation, good for everyday Americans, and certainly good for the men and women I represent in Tennessee.

Here are the numbers. The bill, which this body passed and which I was proud to vote for, some experts say could produce an annual GDP growth rate of more than 5 percent in the next 4 years, with longer term annual growth reaching 3.5 percent.

The bill is also set to preserve between 6 and 7 million manufacturing jobs nationally. That would impact a whole lot of families. In my district alone, this bill protects 12,000 manufacturing jobs, more than \$1.1 billion in wages, and more than \$2.2 billion in economic growth. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to pass this bill without delay.

Mr. Speaker, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act is about restoring fairness and awarding work, and it begins with Americans' taxes.

In Tennessee, the bill we passed here in the House would put an average of \$11,700 more in the pockets of a family of four every year. Under this bill, everyday Americans will see lower income tax rates, a larger standard deduction, and an expanded child tax credit. That means more take-home pay, more money for groceries, gas, and healthcare. Filing will be simpler. Refunds will be bigger.

This bill doesn't just cut taxes. It makes them fairer. It puts kitchen-table concerns at the center of policy and shifts the balance back toward the middle class. With the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, we are saying yes to opportunity, yes to working families, and yes to an economy that grows from the bottom up.

Mr. Speaker, it would be hard for me to count the number of job creators I have met in Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District since I came to Con-

gress in 2019, but I can tell you that nearly all of them emphasized to me the need for tax certainty and for tax and regulatory relief.

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act includes something called R&D reprieves. That sounds like jargon to most people, but if a piece of equipment is the only thing separating you from expanding your business or hiring more employees, you know the term well.

Research and development tax credits have been the lifeblood of growth for small businesses and for our Nation's economy for several years. Estimates tell us that the immediate expensing for R&D will accelerate more than \$20 billion in investment. I have seen this firsthand in my own small business that I continue to operate. This bill is further proof of promises made, promises kept, and I was proud to support the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

Mr. Speaker, the men and women who put a badge on every morning, every afternoon, every evening want to leave the world better than they found it. Yet we civilians don't fully appreciate just how much time they spend away from their families to protect ours. They stay late writing reports or working events. They are often required to testify in court on their days off to ensure the conviction of a suspect they have arrested. That time, overtime, is needed to truly serve their communities. They do it without complaint.

They do receive extra pay, of course, for their overtime, yet that often comes with the burden of extra income taxes. It puts many of our law enforcement officers in a tax bracket that costs them more money.

Fortunately, it is not about the money for most of our men and women in uniform. Fortunately, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act ensures that our brave law enforcement officers won't be taxed on their overtime pay.

#### OPPOSING PROVIDER TAX RESTRICTIONS IN THE GOP RECONCILIATION BILL

(Ms. BARRAGÁN of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, Senate Republicans are making Donald Trump's big, ugly bill even uglier with steeper cuts to Medicaid that will leave more kids, parents, and seniors without healthcare. This is all so they can reward their billionaire donors with even bigger tax breaks.

This bill would deeply cut Medicaid and hurt our most vulnerable. Don't take my word for it. Republican Senator THOM TILLIS shared this chart on the State-by-State impact of Senate Republicans' newest cuts.

Do you live in North Carolina? If you do, you stand to lose \$38.9 billion and kick up to 600,000 people off Medicaid. Many States, including Republican States, lose tens of billions of dollars in Medicaid funding.

How about Virginia? Virginia will lose \$24.8 billion. Louisiana, the Speaker's home State, will lose \$20 billion. South Carolina will lose \$20 billion. States with small budgets would get hammered.

Iowa loses \$4.1 billion. What did Senator ERNST from Iowa have to say about it? She is not concerned. She says: "Well, we all are going to die."

Kentucky loses about \$12 billion. What does Senator MITCH MCCONNELL have to say about that? He says: "They'll get over it."

What?

Are you, the American people, going to just get over losing your healthcare so that a billionaire can buy a bigger yacht? Do you want to die young in the emergency room so that a Fortune 500 company can add a few more seats to their private jet?

Here is what Senate Republicans are doing that caused Senator TILLIS to make this chart. Right now, States use a variety of tools to help pay for their share of Medicaid, which is the health insurance program for low-income families, children, seniors, and people with disabilities.

One of the most important tools is called a provider tax. That is when hospitals or health plans agree to pay a small tax to keep Medicaid running. In return, the Federal Government matches those dollars. It is a Federal-State partnership that keeps hospitals open, staff paid, and patients covered, but the Senate Republican bill would limit how much States can use that tool. It puts new restrictions on States that expanded Medicaid to low-income people, saying they can't collect as much from hospitals or health insurance companies as they do now.

It means the Federal Government would be telling States that you can't use the money you have depended on for years to keep Medicaid going. That is going to cause a lot of damage. Hospitals would lose funding. States will face bigger budget gaps.

What happens then? You will see cuts: cuts to healthcare, cuts to services, and cuts to the very people who need help the most. This means tens or even hundreds of billions of dollars lost. Those are not just numbers on a page. Those are real people losing health insurance. Those are real patients getting turned away and real communities, especially rural and low-income communities, being left behind.

This morning, the Senate Parliamentarian ruled that these provider tax restrictions cannot be included as drafted, but this fight is still very real.

We have seen Republicans rework the text of these radical cuts to get the Parliamentarian's approval, and at least one House Republican suggested today that they just ignore what this Parliamentarian has said.

I have no doubt that the plan Republicans come up with will slash Medicaid and devastate hospitals to fund their tax breaks.

Now a few Republicans here in the House have said these new cuts go too

far. Yet, are they really willing to stand up for their constituents and vote “no” if the Senate sends over these deep cuts? I am not going to hold my breath because Republicans have already caved last month and voted to kick millions of people off Medicaid. House Democrats and Senate Democrats are united to stop this big, ugly bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Republicans in Congress to join us to do the right thing and oppose this bill. Republicans should stand up for hospitals, stand up for patients, and stand up for the millions of Americans who count on Medicaid every day.

#### RECOGNIZING PALMHURST POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

(Ms. DE LA CRUZ of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Palmhurst Police Department for 20 years of service and dedication to public safety.

Since 2005, the department's officers and telecommunicators have gone above and beyond the call of duty. They have received recognition for their Mothers Against Drunk Driving efforts, completed advanced rapid response and active-shooter training, and worked hand in hand with local, State, and Federal agencies.

Their services extend beyond law enforcement and public safety. The Palmhurst Police Department is also dedicated to giving back to the community by hosting Coffee with a Cop and other events, such as organizing toy drives in partnership with the local schools and bringing neighborhoods together through their annual National Night Out.

Mr. Speaker, for 20 years, they have not only protected the safety of Palmhurst but they have also brought Texans together. I thank them for their tireless work and dedication and congratulate them on 20 years of exceptional service to the people of Palmhurst and the great State of Texas.

#### EMANCIPATION DAY

(Ms. PLASKETT of the Virgin Islands was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, as Americans celebrate this Independence Day, July Fourth, the day the Founders declared their intention to be free from England, the day before in the Virgin Islands, July 3, we celebrate one of the most historic and spectacular days for those of us who have ancestral ties or call the Virgin Islands our home.

It is the commemoration of our emancipation because on that day, July 3, 1848, the Virgin Islands became one of only two places in the Western Hemisphere for individuals to gain

their freedom from enslavement by organized violent overthrow.

On that day in 1848, after months of organization and planning, thousands of enslaved people, including my ancestors, left plantations throughout the island of St. Croix and converged at Fort Frederik in what was the Danish West Indies and demanded their freedom.

Unfortunately, while the Governor of the time, Peter Von Scholten, declared all formerly enslaved in the Danish West Indies free, we now know that freedom is not easily free, and a declaration without full rights and privileges is a hollow declaration.

Even today, anyone who decides to live in the Virgin Islands must give up a portion of their freedom: the right to vote for President, the right to have full voting representation in both Chambers of this body, and the right to receive SSI. The list goes on and on.

How often when asking for equal treatment, even tax law, I have to remind people that we are not foreign. We are, in fact, a possession of the United States, drafted into wars, loving this country with no path to full inclusion. Imagine if Wyoming or Iowa or Vermont were indefinitely to remain territories with no path to full citizenship.

In the 116th and 117th Congress, language was added into H.R. 1 which created a Congressional Task Force to not only create a recommendation to a pathway for greater inclusion for the territories and voting participation in this body but also to examine what has been the cost to the people economically, socially, politically, for hundreds of years not having those rights, including Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

I will be introducing this legislation this term, and I ask my colleagues to join.

□ 1030

Mr. Speaker, let me say to my fellow Virgin Islanders: We, as well, have work to do in our own freedom. As the prayer and chant says, “We must free our minds from mental slavery,” the chains that bound us in a psychological and cultural legacy that persist long after the physical chains are broken. Liberation involves more than legal freedom. We Virgin Islanders have had our legal freedom for almost two centuries, and yet we still struggle with violent crime against one another, crumbling sociopolitical infrastructure, and blaming others for the state of our community instead of assigning ourselves work to make it better.

True emancipation and liberation require breaking free from internalized oppression, self-limiting beliefs, and our own social systems that continue to marginalize ourselves and our children.

Our ancestors made the brave, bold decision to take a history of bloodshed, pain, and inhumanity—a history of

being stolen and trafficked from Africa to the West, and exposed to some of the most inhumane and grueling conditions—and transformed it into achievement of their freedom.

The environment of self-hatred and hatred of others that persists on our islands must stop. That is not the sacrifices our ancestors made. Our ancestors could not have accomplished the incredible feat of defeating the Danish Army with every odd stacked against them without being unified. Unity and love are inseparable.

Let this Emancipation Day serve as both a commemoration and a call to action for us to honor our ancestors who resisted and survived as we do the work of full liberation. Let this day remind us that freedom is both a historical achievement and an ongoing process of our individual and collective self-determination, progress, and development.

Blessed Emancipation Day.

#### HONORING MELINDA WOODHURST

(Mr. NORMAN of South Carolina was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize an extraordinary public servant, Ms. Melinda Woodhurst, whose unwavering dedication to our Nation's veterans has left a lasting mark on York County, South Carolina. Her strong advocacy and innovative thinking has transformed the landscape of veteran services and has created meaningful change for our servicemembers and their families. She is a prime example of servant leadership.

Since 2017, Ms. Woodhurst has served as the York County veterans service officer. Month after month, she attends meetings with numerous Veteran Service Organizations and the York County Veterans Advisory Council to stay closely connected with the needs of her community. Her involvement also extends to partnerships with the hospice network of York County and other vital support institutions.

Ms. Woodhurst's service to our community has been far-reaching, particularly through her work with the Disabled American Veterans. The chapter's aging transportation van, affectionately known as the bag of bolts, finally gave out during a trip to Dorn Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Even when fundraising progress stagnated, Melinda stepped forward on her own time to raise over \$30,000, enabling the purchase of a new van. She also worked to submit an application for a Disabled American Veterans Trust Fund grant, bringing the potential total funding to nearly \$60,000.

Ms. Woodhurst's leadership goes much further than fundraising. Understanding that the certification process for volunteer drivers through the Dorn VA could take up to 9 months, she collaborated with VA representatives and identified a solution. Thanks to her coordination, Melinda streamlined the

entire certification process, condensing it into a single trip to Dorn. As of January 10, 2025, this process has resulted in 14 certified drivers, which was a dramatic improvement that is now being considered for statewide implementation.

Her vision extends beyond boundaries, as she prepares to transition the management of the Veterans Transportation Program to the newly opening VA community-based outpatient clinic this summer. This will ensure that the impact of her work continues long after her tireless efforts.

Melinda Woodhurst is not only a dedicated public servant but also a compassionate leader and an unwavering advocate for our veterans. Her work is a shining example of what true civic responsibilities look like that I know will shape generations to come. Her efforts have cut red tape, saved time and money and, most importantly, provided critical services to those who have sacrificed for our Nation.

We recently found out that Ms. Woodhurst, due to family reasons, is going to retire as of this week, and I just want to extend to her a slogan that Winston Churchill said years ago when Great Britain was under attack. He said: There will be a time when doing your best isn't good enough. You have got to do what is required.

Melinda Woodhurst has done what is required to serve her community, her State, her country, and more importantly, her God.

On behalf of the Fifth Congressional District of South Carolina, I extend my deepest appreciation for her tireless efforts and exemplary service for those who serve our Nation. I thank her and wish her Godspeed in her retirement.

#### SURVEILLANCE PRICING IN GROCERY STORES

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, families in our community are already struggling with rising grocery prices. It is shameful that companies like Kroger are price-gouging our residents with surveillance pricing.

As you can see here, companies are already collecting a tremendous amount of data and private information about our residents to create custom profiles about them. Now, with electronic labels and facial recognition technology, this information is being used in real time to charge us more at the grocery store.

Imagine if you were at the grocery store right now, and they charged you a higher price for an item because it used technology to determine that you were willing to pay more than the next person. Maybe it is hard to believe, but it is true. You look at this, and you can see that they are being very clear about the fact that they want to instantly change the price if it is hot

outside, if it is something that you, again, have been looking at online.

Now they are even adding the use of facial technology in grocery stores that not only raises serious concerns of privacy but also racial bias. We know that facial recognition technology discriminates against our Black and Brown neighbors. This is not just about discriminatory technology, Mr. Speaker. It is about corporate greed, and the CEOs are getting rich while working people struggle.

It is essential that we work together in this body to protect our communities and ban these practices. I ask my colleagues to please support my legislation to ban surveillance pricing, digital pricing in grocery stores. Come and see me. You need to stand with your residents, not these corporations.

Look at Walmart. Look at this: "If it's hot outside, we can raise the prices of water and ice cream." That is what we are talking about. We need to protect our residents. Please, again, support my legislation.

#### KEEPING FIREARMS SAFE

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, firearms are now the leading cause of death for children and teens in our country. I have talked to pediatricians. They are telling me every day that gun violence is just increasing. Every day, over 125 Americans are killed from gun violence and more than 200 people are shot and wounded.

These aren't just statistics, Mr. Speaker. These are human beings with lives and futures. They are our babies, our friends, our neighbors, our loved ones. Many of these deaths involve accidental discharge of a firearm, often by a child, including several tragic incidents in southeast Michigan.

Just last month, Mr. Speaker, in Oakland County, a 9-year-old was seriously injured after he was accidentally shot. First responders found the boy bleeding from the head and transported him to the local hospital.

This Gun Violence Awareness Month, let's do something to save lives. I am introducing the Safe Storage Saves Lives Act with Representatives DELAURO, FROST, and KELLY to reduce firearm deaths among our children.

This legislation mandates every firearm seller to include a gun lock or gun safety device every single time a gun is sold in the United States. Far too often, irresponsible gun owners fail to properly secure their weapons with tragic consequences, leading to accidental deaths, preventable suicides, school shootings, and other mass violence.

When used correctly, a gun lock makes it impossible for a gun to be fired. Look at this. This is \$4. This legislation is a commonsense solution that every Member of this body should support, every single one. Keeping firearms out of the hands of our children should not be a partisan issue, Mr. Speaker.

We must honor those who have already been killed with a lack of action

in this Chamber. Our communities deserve better. Our children deserve better.

#### HONORING MATTHEW FISHER

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of our dear neighbors in the 12th Congressional District. We worked over 3 years to present Matthew Fisher, a remarkable resident of my district, with the Purple Heart for his dedication and service to our country.

Matthew Fisher was born in Livonia and is a proud graduate of Stevenson High School. In 2004, Matthew answered the call to serve others by becoming a firefighter in one of our counties. In 2007, he made the decision to serve our Nation by joining the U.S. Army. He was deployed to Kuwait and Iraq from December 2007 to 2009. Unfortunately, he was there when a horrific bomb changed his life forever. It took us 3 years as a country to recognize his sacrifice.

Since his return, Mr. Fisher has continued to give back to our community. He currently serves as a mentor at the veterans court system in Redford Township, helping fellow veterans navigate their own paths and helping them heal.

He is a devoted husband to Kathryn and a proud father to stepson, Bankston, and also Sophia.

Please, Mr. Speaker, let's honor Matthew Fisher for his extraordinary service, again, as we honor him with the Purple Heart.

#### FLETC CELEBRATES 55 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 55th anniversary of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, FLETC.

On July 1, FLETC will celebrate this monumental milestone at their headquarters in Brunswick, Georgia. FLETC's mission is to facilitate the training of Federal, State, local, and Tribal law enforcement officers, as well as international partners that are entrusted to enforce the laws, treaties, and regulations within the United States and abroad.

In the 1960s, studies revealed an urgent need for Federal law enforcement training by professional instructors using modern facilities and standardized course content.

For 55 years, FLETC has molded Federal law enforcement through high-quality, cost-effective, and standardized training programs.

Their programs have trained over 95 agencies and over 1 million graduates for our country. The academy's professional instruction and emphasis on practical applications provides students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed as Federal law enforcement officers.

Today, we celebrate FLETC's continued excellence and the achievements of its graduates.

CONGRATULATING U.S. MARSHAL DAVID LYONS  
ON HIS RETIREMENT

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Marshal David Lyons from the Southern District of Georgia, who is retiring this June.

Marshal Lyons previously served as chief of police in Garden City, Georgia, a position he held for 16 years. While serving as Garden City police chief, Marshal Lyons was appointed to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and was elected to the Executive Board of the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police.

Before his service as the Garden City police chief, Marshal Lyons served a combined 22 years in the United States Navy and Army.

In 2016, Marshal Lyons was selected as Chief of the Year by the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police before retiring from Garden City in December of 2017.

These are only a handful of positions Marshal Lyons has held in our Nation's police force throughout his impressive career.

Today, we honor U.S. Marshal David Lyons for his lifelong service in ensuring the safety of Americans.

□ 1045

RECOGNIZING JUSTIN THOMAS, JR.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Justin Thomas, Jr., a remarkable young man and proud Savannah native whose recent success and achievements have brought pride to the State of Georgia. As a graduate of Benedictine Military School in Savannah, Justin was a standout athlete who now plays center field for the Arkansas Razorbacks.

Justin and the Razorbacks posted an impressive 50-win season, earning a trip to the College World Series. Even though Arkansas came up short of the program's first national title, Thomas' relentless hitting in clutch moments stood out.

Justin was one of just two Razorbacks named to the all-tournament team, finishing the tournament with an impressive .571 batting average. His leadership, sportsmanship, and performance reflect the very best of what the city of Savannah stands for.

Today, we celebrate Justin's achievement and look forward to his next incredible successes both on and off the field.

RECOGNIZING JAMIE DUPREE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend and colleague, Jamie Dupree, as he celebrates his 45th anniversary of the day he first began working here on Capitol Hill. Time flies when you are having fun.

For Jamie, there has been no better place to work than right here in the Halls of Congress. Over the past four and a half decades, Jamie has built an exceptional career in broadcasting, delivering fair, clear, and hard-hitting reporting on the work of this institution.

For 32 years, Jamie reported for Cox Radio, becoming a senior Washington correspondent for Atlanta's WSB Radio and one of the most trusted sources of news on Capitol Hill.

In 2017, Jamie was diagnosed with dystonia, a rare condition that cost him his ability to speak. Even after that diagnosis, Jamie's dedication never wavered. Through technology and perseverance, he continued to provide bipartisan coverage that served as a window into Washington for people across the country.

Jamie has been honored with the Career Achievement Award for Distinguished Reporting on Congress from the Radio and Television Correspondents' Association and has been referred to as the most connected man in Washington, a reflection of his professionalism and integrity.

Today, we congratulate Jamie Dupree on 45 years of outstanding reporting and service to the American people.

#### TRUMP ADMINISTRATION NEEDS TO HONOR ITS WORD ON FOOD AID

(Mr. MAGAZINER of Rhode Island was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the 25th time to demand that the Trump administration restore funding for lifesaving food aid for malnourished children.

This is Plumpy'Nut. It is a fortified peanut paste that has saved millions of lives by getting safe nutrition to children in hard-to-reach places around the world. Until recently, this was being shipped by USAID to war-torn and famine-torn areas all over the world, saving lives under Democratic and Republican administrations, until the Trump administration dismantled USAID. As a result, children are starving around the world.

Here in the United States, the production lines that create this product are virtually shut down. Edesia Nutrition in my district in Rhode Island and Mana Nutrition in Georgia get all of their ingredients from U.S. farmers. This is all produced in the United States. When it is shipped around the world, it is shipped in boxes that say: "From the American People."

This is not just about saving lives, though this does save lives. It is also about strengthening America's standing in the world. When we pull back and stop providing food aid for starving kids around the world, our adversaries, particularly China, are happy to step into the void. They are doing so already.

Next week, we will celebrate the Fourth of July, a day when we reflect with pride on the Nation that we have always been and the values that we stand for. This year, let's reflect on those values of charity and leadership, those values that have, under Democratic and Republican administrations, guided our foreign policy.

Here is the thing: The Trump administration, while cutting off funding for ready-to-use therapeutic food, has also been insisting that it is just temporary and that the funding is going to come back. Elon Musk even put out a tweet where he named the factory in my district and said they are going to get their funding back. Marco Rubio repeatedly, including in front of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said that funding for emergency food aid would be restored. They leaked a story to FOX News about how they were restoring food aid.

The money hasn't come yet, and this is still sitting in warehouses in Rhode Island instead of being shipped to the children who need it. It has been 6 months. What is taking so long?

What we need is for the Trump administration to not change its policy but to honor its word. They say that they are going to do this, so do it already.

I will continue to stand on the House floor every single day until they do. Restore the funding now.

GO AFTER CRIMINALS, NOT INNOCENT PEOPLE

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, Donald Trump and Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem said that they would focus on deporting violent criminals and gang members, but that is not what they are doing.

I sit on the Committee on Homeland Security. Let me tell you the data and facts from the administration themselves.

More than 70 percent of the people detained or deported so far under the Trump administration have never been convicted of any crime. That is 200,000 people detained and deported who were not convicted of any crime.

They are deporting mothers and grandmothers, children with cancer, and employees of American companies, people just trying to make a living. They are not only deporting people who came here illegally. They are going after legal green card holders and asylum-seekers, locking them up with no due process. Students who had the gall to write an op-ed expressing their opinion on a political issue are being locked up for deportation.

It is all to meet the artificial quota of 3,000 per day set by Stephen Miller. He doesn't care whether the people he is deporting are criminals or not, clearly.

They deported a 4-year-old American citizen child with cancer whose parents had no criminal record, and we still don't know why.

We still haven't gotten answers about Andry Hernandez Romero, a gay makeup artist with no criminal record who legally sought asylum and who never even entered the country but was deported to a prison in El Salvador, a country that he is not even from.

This week, a landscaper, Narciso Barranco, with no criminal record was beaten in the streets by masked agents. His three sons are all United States marines.

This has to stop. The Trump administration needs to do what they said they were going to do: Go after criminals, not innocent people.

#### BOOSTING AMERICA'S HOUSING SUPPLY

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight just one way the House-passed One Big Beautiful Bill Act will help more people live the American Dream.

As the chairman of the Housing and Insurance Subcommittee, I am very concerned about the housing crisis that America is experiencing. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which this House passed last month, includes a key provision that expands tax credits to incentivize the building of more workforce housing. While increasing housing supply has no silver bullets, expanding the low-income housing tax credit is a major step in the right direction.

According to the National Association of Realtors, there is a 5-million-unit gap between housing demand and housing supply in this country. Once the bill is law, the expanded tax credit will boost America's housing supply.

I look forward to continuing to work together to tackle the housing issues facing America with creative solutions.

#### RECOGNIZING RANDY GATES

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and dedication of one of the First District's most dedicated public servants, the city of Norfolk's finance officer, Randy Gates.

I have known Randy almost my entire life. He has served Norfolk for over four decades, and his career has been defined by a deep commitment to growing and maintaining Norfolk's economic success while using sound accounting principles and conservative fiscal planning.

Thanks to his steady leadership and smart fiscal policies through the years, Norfolk has become a shining example for communities across our State. Earlier this month, Randy was honored with the League of Nebraska Municipalities' prestigious LEAD Award, presented at the 2025 Municipal Accounting and Finance Conference. This award is just one more testament to Randy's success and the enduring impact his work will have.

I congratulate Randy on this well-deserved recognition. I look forward to his continued success and leadership on behalf of Norfolk.

#### HONORING ANDREW OZAKI

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a giant in Nebraska journalism, Andrew Ozaki.

Over the course of his 43-year career, Ozaki led KETV's Lincoln bureau and built a reputation for both tenacity and kindness.

Whether he was covering the unicameral, the Governor's office, sports, or more, Andrew Ozaki was everywhere covering everything. From staking out legislative hearings to running up and down the sidelines of Husker football games, Ozaki relentlessly chased stories that have shaped public policy, entertained crowds, and brought our entire State together.

As he prepares to retire from KETV, his absence will be noticed not just by the numerous people he covered but by the audiences who relied on his accurate stories.

Wherever Andrew's next chapter takes him, his integrity, compassion, and commitment to storytelling have left a mark on our State that will endure for years to come.

#### ICE TURNS COURTHOUSES INTO TRAPS

(Ms. BALINT of Vermont was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, right now, ICE is showing up at courthouses across the country, waiting to arrest people after their official immigration hearings.

Is this what we thought we would see in America? ICE officials lying in wait to grab people who are actually following the rules? In some cases, these people had just had their cases dismissed.

They walk into court, following the rules, doing what they were told, following the legal pathways, and they are being taken into unmarked cars and fast-tracked for deportation.

Let's be clear: This isn't about catching dangerous criminals. It was never about catching dangerous criminals.

These are moms, dads, students, grandparents, workers, people who are trying to get through the legal process the right way, but ICE is turning our courthouses into traps.

The very places that immigrants are supposed to go to follow a legal path to citizenship have now become traps to lure people in so that they can be arrested, detained, and disappeared.

ICE tricked a Vermonter, Mohsen Mahdawi. He has been legally in our State for 10 years. He showed up for the final step in his citizenship process only to have masked men detain him after he exited the courthouse. He knew it was a risk to show up, but he decided it was worth the risk to maybe finally become an American.

Imagine going to court, following the process, and then getting arrested the second you step outside. That is what is happening in America right now.

Last month, in San Francisco, four asylum-seekers were taken by ICE after their hearings were over. In New York City, even a city official, Comptroller Brad Lander, was detained by ICE while trying to support an immigrant friend.

If they are willing to rough up city officials, mayors, and even a sitting

U.S. Senator, what does that mean for the rest of us? These tactics are to scare people. People are now afraid to go to court.

How does that possibly make our country more safe? People are skipping hearings, risking automatic deportation, because they don't trust the system anymore. How is anyone supposed to follow the legal steps if even those are now a risk?

Republicans claim over and over again in committees that this is only about illegal immigration. It is not. If that were the case, then they would be just as outraged as I am that people are being snatched outside of their court hearings.

It is an attack on due process, plain and simple. It is an attack on the idea that we all deserve a fair shot in this country. It is also a clear tactic to instill fear in all of us so that we will be intimidated into submission and stop standing up for our neighbors.

ICE agents without visible ID, without any official markings on them, and with masks are acting more like vigilantes than agents of our government.

□ 1100

Mr. Speaker, how can we even trust that these are government officials? It is nothing more than kidnapping, and it needs to stop. There should be no more secret arrests and no more plainclothes agents waiting outside of courtrooms. This kind of thing does not happen in democracy. It doesn't.

The only way to protect Americans from these abuses is to provide due process to anyone facing deportation. Due process exists to protect American citizens and to protect all of us from wrongful deportation and wrongful detention.

This administration does not seem to care about this complete and total violation of our constitutional rights, a right that we are all entitled to, regardless of status.

Under Trump, ICE and DHS have become a means to carry out political arrests and to silence anyone that disagrees with their extreme agenda. That is what we are looking at right now. It has never been about removing the criminals. It has always been about creating mass fear and mass intimidation so they can retain more power.

This is not what Americans want. I need my Republican colleagues to fight for everyone in their district. I need them to speak up.

Mr. Speaker, where is your line?

#### INCREASING GAS PRICES

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, in my home State of California, gas, fuel, is about \$1.44 more than the national average. Let's talk about where that money goes based on this graphic we have from California Energy.

Right here at the top, over a third of the costs are imposed by the State.



Let's go to the bottom here. Let's see what it takes to get a gallon of fuel to a station.

Down here at the bottom, we have the crude oil cost itself, to explore and get it out of the field. Next, we have the refinery costs. We see at the bottom it is about \$1.83 or so in California and 86 cents for the refinery. Then it is 47 cents on top of that to get it to the retailer and be able to pump it into the vehicles.

Then we get into the litany of taxes on top of that. We have a cap-and-trade tax of 24 cents and the low carbon fuel standard of 18 cents. We have the Federal excise tax, which is 18 cents on the Federal side, of course. We have the State excise tax of 60 cents, and State and local sales tax of about 10 cents. Then we have an underground storage usage fee which is another 2 cents.

That is not all. With all these out-of-pocket costs, the wisdom in California is we need to add more tax to that. There is an automatic ratchet up of one of these taxes of another 1.6 cents that will happen in July.

The new one is going to be a brand new environmental tax. Some estimates are it will be 65 cents per gallon. That is 65 cents of a new tax per gallon on top of all the other fees on the most expensive State to buy fuel in already.

It is amazing how out of touch Sacramento is on that. What is Sacramento doing? Why is that important? There are many other States trying to emulate what California does with California's CARB rules, the California Air Resources Board.

For example, recently we were able to turn back an electric vehicle mandate via the CRA process that President Trump signed. California had sought a waiver for this, but also 16 other States want to be part of it, as well.

New Jersey, Colorado, Maryland, Oregon, Illinois, Rhode Island, Vermont, D.C., Massachusetts, Minnesota, Washington, and others want to join that parade with California on being forced to have electric vehicles.

The State's mandate would be 35 percent of all vehicles sold in California by the end of next year would have to be electric. Cars will sit on the lots that they can't sell, and the consumer won't be able to buy the vehicles they want because those lots have to sell those as mandated.

We are in a situation where not only do we have bad ideas coming from California, but other States think it is a good idea to follow those. It is detrimental to auto manufacturing and the market in this country and, most importantly, the choices for people.

On top of that, in California, we have two State refineries that are slated to close unless they get some help in the eleventh hour. Phillips 66 will shut down a plant this fall, and Valero up in Benicia will shut down a plant next spring.

That will take 21 percent of refinery capacity out of the State of California.

We have our own special blend of fuel that we can't get from anywhere else unless the Governor might give a waiver in an emergency and allow it to be brought in by train or truck from some other State that has refineries.

We are going to see one-fifth of our available fuel disappear at the end of the year due to mandates. No matter how many electric vehicles will be built between now and then, that is going to have a very, very detrimental effect on industry, on agriculture, on mining, on timber, as well as families and schoolbuses. Mr. Speaker, you name it, the price of fuel won't go down. It will continue to go up.

A study by USC, University of Southern California, which is independent of us, says we could see a daily shortfall of up to 13.1 million gallons of gas because of these closures.

With all of this stacked together—the tax hikes, the CARB rule, the refineries shutting down—that same study says we could see fuel hit \$8.43 a gallon in California. Isn't that a neat reality?

I have a farm at home. We have to buy a lot of diesel in order to make things happen and grow our crop. I can't imagine my fuel going up another 50 percent.

The wages are forced to go up by State mandate, as well. We like paying our guys, but people need to have some say in what they pay. They have mandated the McDonald's workers get \$20, plus a ratchet on that. We now see more kiosks at McDonald's.

Other States want to copy California on clean air rules, clean car rules, and things like that. I mentioned some of them on this list. We don't want to go there unless we can enjoy this sort of thing.

California until recently had a \$12 billion deficit because they are giving \$12 billion to illegal immigrants for Medicaid. They are going to make that up on the backs of people with taxes like this and give us things like high-speed rail.

#### HONORING PASTOR WARREN STEWART, SR.

(Mr. STANTON of Arizona was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a remarkable public servant, faith leader, and civil rights trailblazer, Pastor Warren Stewart, Sr., on the occasion of his retirement as senior pastor at First Institutional Baptist Church in downtown Phoenix.

God called Pastor Stewart to Arizona 48 years ago, and he has been speaking truth to power in our State ever since. Each Sunday, Pastor Stewart's sermons and service work inspire Arizonans to better their community and to uplift their neighbors.

From the helm of Phoenix's oldest African-American Baptist church in Arizona, Pastor Stewart used his platform to advance justice and civil rights across our State.

His guiding principle is Jesus and justice work together. His advocacy is well-illustrated by the battle to establish Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a State holiday in Arizona. By 1992, Arizona was the last State refusing to recognize MLK Day, despite the Federal holiday being signed into law nearly a decade prior.

Pastor Stewart fought to correct this injustice, leading multiple movements to get the holiday initiative on the ballot. He mobilized coalitions across political spectrums, religions, and cultural backgrounds to come together to win this long overdue public vote.

As the longest serving leader of the First Institutional Baptist Church, Pastor Stewart traveled extensively, preaching in 39 States and territories and in 60 countries. He has received many, many accolades for his contributions to our community and beyond.

Following the teachings of the Gospel, his work always focused on the poorest and neediest immigrants, unsheltered people and veterans, and those suffering with mental health challenges.

Pastor Stewart and the church turned Christian values into action. FIBCO Family Services, Samaritan House for Homeless Families, Ujima House for Unwed Teenage Mothers and their Infants, and the Broadway House were all created under Pastor Stewart. They minister to those most in need of compassion and care. FIBCO has become a hallmark in Phoenix's non-profit scene and has even taken their mission abroad, expanding into Africa.

Pastor Stewart's impressive academic and public service record led to roles as chair of the National Immigration Forum and president of the American Baptist Churches of the Pacific Southwest.

He was proclaimed a State Historymaker by the Arizona Historical Society. Under unanimous direction of the Phoenix City Council, the street in front of his church was named "Dr. Warren H. Stewart Way."

Today, all of Arizona congratulates our very own living legend on his well-deserved retirement. Pastor Stewart's career and contributions have cemented him as one of Arizona's greatest religious leaders and greatest over-all Arizonans.

I personally have been blessed to know him as a friend and trusted adviser. He will be the first to say he couldn't have enjoyed such a long and stellar career without the love and support of his wife, the Reverend Dr. Karen Stewart, and their children and grandchildren. We thank the entire Stewart family for sharing this great man with all of us.

We thank Pastor Stewart for his decades of commitment to our community. May his quest for moral justice continue in whatever he does next. Godspeed.



### BUZZ FROM BREAK ROOMS TO BACKYARDS

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, some say it is the bee's knees. What is the buzz?

Basically, it brings better jobs, bigger paychecks, and booming communities. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act is about boosting wages, backing small businesses, bolstering border security, and it brings tax relief.

Mr. Speaker, I recently sat down with manufacturers from my district in northeast Florida who reviewed the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, and they said bravo.

The Trump tax cuts have bolstered growth, boosted job creation, and benefited American production. However, barring action, burdensome tax hikes will be bothersome. In northeast Florida alone, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act protects 15,000 jobs and over \$2.6 billion in base economic output.

The House has done its part, but I am banking on the Senate to bring it on and show the American people they are serious about ensuring manufacturing remains the bedrock of our blossoming economy.

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act is not just about good policy. It is the reason there is a buzz from break rooms to backyards. It brings bold benefits to builders, businessowners, and breadwinners. It is the best for workers, families, and our big, beautiful future. Let's get it done, and let's boogie.

### CELEBRATING UNITED NATIONS CHARTER

(Ms. PELOSI of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter and the establishment of one of the world's greatest organizations for peace and the advancement of humanity.

As the Representative from San Francisco, this anniversary holds particular pride for the people of my city and for me. It was in San Francisco that we played host to the grand conference of delegates that wrote the U.N. Charter.

It was in the San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center on June 26, 1947, that the charter was signed. On that day, President Harry S. Truman came to the plenary session to offer his congratulations and his hopes for the future of a new United Nations.

He said: "You have created a great instrument for peace and security and human progress in the world." President Truman said that, and he said: "The world must use it now."

The world must use it now. It was true then. It is true now.

Eight decades later, 193 member states have ratified the charter. It was

50 that day. Then Poland joined, which made it 51. Mr. Speaker, 193 members have ratified the charter.

The world's greatest leaders and thinkers have been among the United Nations' representatives. In 1946, United Nations General Assembly delegate and former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt helped draft the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which builds on Franklin Roosevelt's commitment to freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from fear, and freedom from want for all people.

□ 1115

It has sought to advance human rights, human dignity, and opportunities for women and girls.

It has focused the world's attention on the plight of refugees and the urgency of the climate crisis with its sustainable development goals. It has been a bulwark for global peace and peacekeeping. In striving to fulfill the ideas and promises of its charter, the United Nations, its related agencies, programs, and staff have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize 11 times.

In 1950, Ralph Bunche, an American, became the first person affiliated with the new organization to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. In his acceptance speech, he remarked: "I am but one of many cogs in the United Nations, the greatest peace organization ever dedicated to the salvation of mankind's future on Earth."

Under the leadership of Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, the United Nations remains a strong, resolute, and unwavering voice for peace in a world burdened by war. Today, the United Nations is convening a plenary meeting of the General Assembly in New York at the United Nations headquarters to "revive the spirit of San Francisco and once again embrace the ideals that united humanity during its darkest hour, reaffirming our commitment to those values into the future."

May we recapture the spirit of solidarity that existed in San Francisco 80 years ago as the United Nations continues to stand as a beacon of peace for the next 80 years and beyond.

Since I have a little more time, I want to tell a personal story.

When I was in high school, this would be about a dozen years after the founding of the United Nations, President, then-Senator, Kennedy came to Baltimore for a great event. It was the United Nations Association of Maryland dinner honoring someone named Jacob Blaustein, a civic leader in our community. My father was the mayor of Baltimore. My mother, knowing how much I admired the Kennedy family because we were taught by Irish-Catholic nuns from Boston, even in Baltimore, she said: I don't think I feel well going to the dinner tonight. Why don't you take my place?

Taking her place meant sitting next to Senator Kennedy for this dinner where he was giving the keynote address. There is a picture of that occasion.

The reason why I tell the story is because I was a member of the United Nations Youth in high school. I was a junior in high school at the time. There was a table of United Nations Youth, and they came over to me and said: Since you are a member of the United Nations Youth, we invite you to sit with us at our table.

Oh, my gosh, John F. Kennedy or United Nations Youth?

As conflicted as I was, how could I leave a vacant seat next to Senator Kennedy of Massachusetts who was soon to become President of the United States?

In any event, as I said at the beginning, this holds a special particular pride for me personally, as well as officially.

### DEFUNDING "SESAME STREET"

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, again, I want to commend NANCY PELOSI, Speaker Emerita, for always making judgments, and sitting next to President Kennedy certainly was one of them, as well. What a great story.

We are here today because oftentimes, Mr. Speaker, as you might know, there isn't enough bipartisanship.

Today I rise, since the Speaker Emerita mentioned President Kennedy, to talk about profiles in courage. I commend the Republicans and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for the courage they demonstrated when they decided to get rid of "Sesame Street."

I don't know how many people know this, but a lot of people think that "Sesame Street" is about the education of children, especially in rural areas, and teaching the basics, like reading, writing, and arithmetic. However, our colleagues on the other side have pointed out that: No, this is about wokeism, and it has a direct impact on reconciliation, reconsideration, and inquiries of resolution. Those are three Rs that I didn't know about.

I had to explain to my daughter when she said: Do you mean your granddaughter won't see these programs?

I said: Well, I went to JIM HIMES on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and I asked him if he had heard anything about wokeism or what does woke mean?

Jim looked around the room. He was a little cautious, and he said: Well, woke means we are okay with Elmo.

I didn't realize that the Republicans had actually broken the code, and that anyone who is okay with Elmo has to be suspect of wokeism.

He further said to me: We have discovered that this is a real issue.

I said: What is the threat that exists here? Has there been a classified briefing on this? Are we aware of this?

He said: No, there has been no classified briefing yet, but there is grave

concern about the Cookie Monster. Anytime you have “monster” in your name, the American people ought to be made aware of it, and you ought to be vitally concerned about what kind of habit this monster could create.

I couldn't believe it. Imagine, Mr. Speaker, for more than 50 years, they have been providing this kind of education, teaching kids how to read, write, and to inquire, but it was all code. This was part of leftwing wokeism. Regarding the Cookie Monster, that should have been obvious.

He said that a lot of people are wondering why the supreme Commander in Chief had been talking about Greenland, other invasions, and everything like this.

There is grave concern, and I asked ROSA DELAURO if she had heard about this. She is a known friend of Big Bird, and because of that relationship, she, obviously, along with others, is locked into this wokeism that has been plaguing the country.

I didn't even get into the relationship that JOE COURTNEY had with Bert and Ernie on the Armed Services Committee. However, Mr. Speaker, you can only imagine the job and the skill that our colleagues used on the other side to say that we have to end the public funding of this because of the great threat that this poses to our democracy.

How could we possibly let the Cookie Monster run rampant like this? Where was everybody? How did it take so long?

However, the supreme commander was able to figure it out, and his willing partners joined with him in making sure that “Sesame Street” was banned. I congratulate him. We are nominating him for Profiles in Courage.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 24 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

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

#### PRAYER

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

God of grace and peace, in Your mercy speak into our hearts this day with words of both challenge and encouragement, that we would be neither paralyzed by our pride nor stymied by our despair.

For You have commanded us to live in harmony with one another. This is a

hard directive to follow. In our hubris, we are inclined to do what is wise in our own sight, failing to appreciate the value of the opposing voice.

But in our hopelessness, we look for ways to undermine our adversaries, repaying their evil with our own.

Only with Your intervention can we choose to do what honors all people. Only by yielding to Your judgment can we give up our desire for vengeance.

Break into our inclinations for discord and teach us how to live in harmony. Teach us patience and humility that even here we could find ways toward a shared purpose, a purpose established in the peace to be found only in You.

In the unity of Your name, we pray. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

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

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

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania 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.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

#### HONORING JONATHAN NABAVI

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today, I proudly rise to honor former Penn State football player and Academic All-Big Ten honoree, Jonathan Nabavi, as he takes his next steps in his professional career.

As the son of Rosemary Nabavi and Dr. Abbey Nabavi, Jonathan spent his childhood growing up in beautiful State College, Pennsylvania, watching Penn State football games and learning the game. He didn't have to travel too far as he went on to play for the Nittany Lions at Beaver Stadium and graduated from Penn State in 2004. He then attended the George Washington University Law School, where he earned his degree and later developed a career here on Capitol Hill.

Jonathan's passion for one of America's most popular sports carried into

his professional life, supporting our largest sport, football in the NFL.

As Jonathan takes the next steps in his career, I wish him; his wife, Catherine; their two beautiful daughters, Layla and Eloise, the best of luck in the next chapter of his incredible career. We are Penn State.

#### CHILDREN IN TEXAS ARE GOING HUNGRY

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because there are children in Texas going hungry, and Governor Greg Abbott just made it worse.

This week, he vetoed \$60 million in State spending for a summer food program that would have helped feed children while school was out. With that one decision, he turned his back on our most vulnerable kids and walked away from \$450 million in Federal funding that could have helped struggling families across Texas.

Texas has the second-highest rate of food insecurity in the Nation. One in four children in our State face hunger. That is 25 percent of our children.

Let's be clear: How can you claim to be pro-life and then just let children starve?

To paraphrase Matthew: For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.

Our job is simple: Take care of our kids, feed the hungry, and lift up the families who need us most. I will never stop fighting for them, and I will always put people over politics.

#### BIG, BEAUTIFUL BILL IMPACT ON BORDER SECURITY

(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 today on behalf of the Tennesseans I represent who overwhelmingly support President Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act. The bill delivers for the American people in many ways, not the least of which is border security.

Under the last administration, 1,504 Iranians were caught crossing the border illegally. Nearly half of them were released into the country. We still don't know how many of them were on the terrorist watch list. Let's think about that.

Last month, zero illegal immigrants were released into the U.S., compared to 62,000 a year ago in May.

Indeed, President Trump secured the border in record time, a master class in leadership, without a blank check from Congress.

Now, it is on the Senate to pass the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and give the President the resources he needs to keep the border secure. The bill will

fund more boots on the ground, more deportations, and the critical border wall.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MIKE ROTKIN

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the life and the legacy of Mike Rotkin.

Mike was a tireless public servant, a principled activist, and a beloved educator in Santa Cruz.

As a professor at UCSC, he inspired generations of students to give back to their communities. As a leader, he served five terms as mayor and nearly 25 years on the city council, more than anyone in the history of Santa Cruz. Yet Mike's impact cannot be measured in titles nor terms.

He stood on picket lines, marched for civil rights, fought to save libraries, protected our coastline, and never stopped showing up for our neighbors. He did it all with civility and hard work. He was a competitor, but always compassionate and considerate. If you disagreed with him, he was never confrontational. Instead, he took the high road, worked hard, and always found common ground.

I was proud to have not just his political support, but I was also so pleased that I could call Mike a personal friend. Although we in the Santa Cruz community are moved by his loss, I stand here today, just as we stand together in Santa Cruz, inspired to serve by the legacy and the spirit of Mike Rotkin.

#### SUPPORTING OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the EMS Counts Act, a bipartisan, commonsense solution to a critical and longstanding oversight in how we value our first responders.

Prior to serving in Congress, I spent decades as a volunteer firefighter and EMT. I recognize and value the commitment these individuals have to their communities.

Currently, the Bureau of Labor Statistics fails to count firefighter EMTs and firefighter paramedics as part of the EMS workforce, which skews the data, masks staffing shortages, complicates funding decisions, and hinders emergency preparedness.

Correcting outdated classifications is important because without an accurate count of the number of EMTs, paramedics, and other emergency service providers, it creates a challenge to adequately meet the health and safety needs of our communities.

Accurate workforce data is not just numbers. It is the foundation for equitable funding, targeted training, disaster responsiveness, and enhanced workplace safety. It empowers us to stand behind the men and women who respond to more than 22 million emergencies each year.

Mr. Speaker, passing the EMS Counts Act is a decisive step toward recognizing and strengthening this indispensable part of our public safety infrastructure. I urge my colleagues to join me in support.

#### HIGHLIGHTING THE VOICES OF OUR LOCAL FARMERS

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight the voices of our local farmers.

During a tour of Brown Family Farms and Produce, we met with fourth-generation farmer Patrick Brown, former United States Representative Eva Clayton, a group of local farmers, agricultural leaders, and advocates to discuss the future of farming in eastern North Carolina.

Brown Family Farms was established in 1865 and is a family-run operation rooted in rich tradition and innovation.

During the tour, we discussed the challenges farmers are facing and the importance of passing the farm bill. Our farmers deserve to be heard. Their voices must guide us to meet the needs of the American people.

#### WE NEED NUCLEAR POWER

(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, nuclear power is almost an untapped source from what it could be in this country. It is just under 20 percent of the power grid. Yet, when we are talking about trying to eliminate CO<sub>2</sub> to get our numbers down from 0.04 percent of CO<sub>2</sub>, nuclear power presents one of the best ways we can accomplish that. Nuclear power also has a baseload power that you can rely on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week instead of waiting for the Sun to come up or for the wind to blow.

It is, indeed, something that needs to be embraced much more, but we all have other things to do. In just a couple years, imported uranium from Russia is going to be cut off. Therefore, 20 percent of our uranium stocks are going to go down when it is no longer being imported from Russia.

What does that mean for us? We need to get to mining in this country again. We need to produce it here in the USA. We need to get cracking on making uranium a useable part of our power grid because power is going to increase in its demand with data centers and

with California trying to electrify everything. We will need a heck of a lot more power, and nuclear power is going to be a very important component for baseload reliable power to do so.

#### CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I recognize Caribbean American Heritage Month, celebrating the culture, contributions, and history of Caribbean Americans in Michigan's 12th Congressional District and across the country.

Caribbean American Heritage Month, first recognized in 2005, was established after years of global efforts to uplift our Caribbean-American neighbors. Their vibrant culture and contributions to our country and throughout the 12th Congressional District has uplifted many of our communities.

The Caribbean communities in northwest Detroit, as well as in the city of Inkster and throughout western Wayne and Oakland County, have created powerful legacies through food, beauty businesses, fresh markets, and nonprofits working to care for our families and new immigrants.

Caribbean Community Services in my district, a nonprofit organization, has done an outstanding job in uplifting Caribbean history. Through their engaging events, Mr. Speaker, they have celebrated the rich cultural heritage of the Caribbean and its significant impact on our communities. Please join me in ensuring that our Caribbean-American neighbors throughout our country are recognized as we celebrate this month.

#### RECOGNIZING WTOC-TV IN SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding team from Savannah, Georgia, the dedicated staff of WTOC-TV and congratulate them on their recent Emmy Award win at the 2025 Southeast Emmy Awards.

This remarkable team was honored with the award for best morning newscast in a smaller market, recognizing their exceptional coverage of Savannah's 200th Saint Patrick's Day celebration, a signature event in the city's history and culture.

WTOC-TV represents the very best in local journalism, combining heart, hustle, and hometown pride. Covering Savannah's Saint Patrick's Day is no small task. It is an all-hands-on-deck event that calls for early mornings, late nights, and unwavering dedication.

Everyone involved in that broadcast played a vital role. From producers and anchors to editors, photographers, and

technical staff, it was truly a team effort and it showed. These individuals displayed incredible skill in their respective professions, but also in communication and collaboration with each other.

WTOC's achievement stands as a shining example of professionalism, collaboration, and a deep commitment to fostering a well-informed community.

It is an honor to recognize and congratulate this team today.

□ 1215

#### WILMINGTON POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

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

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, last week I had the privilege of visiting the Wilmington Police Athletic League, a place where community and opportunity are shaping the next generation of Delawareans.

For 23 years, the Wilmington PAL has served as a safe haven for young people in Wilmington and New Castle County, supporting more than 42,000 youth with after-school programming, summer enrichment, and early childhood education.

Their mission, "building brighter futures, engaging with public safety and empowering families" is more than a slogan. It is a daily practice. Through their work, the Wilmington PAL supports children from infancy through high school, ensuring every child they serve has the tools to grow, thrive, and contribute to our State of neighbors. Recently, they expanded their work to support seniors in Delaware.

Organizations like the Wilmington PAL remind us that public safety and public opportunity go hand in hand. I am proud to stand with them, and I will keep working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to expand the resources that make their mission possible.

#### WAR SURVIVOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

(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 with great honor to recognize War Survivor Remembrance Day.

From 1941 to 1944, Imperial Japanese soldiers occupied Guam and forced our ancestors through hardship and unspeakable violence that has left scars long after the war. In the face of darkness, it was our people's quiet resistance and sense of community that enabled us to survive.

I thank our Greatest Generation for preserving and rebuilding our community on the foundation of family and cultural virtues. Words will never fully

capture the severity or intensity of their experience, but know our gratitude is immense.

As we honor this day, let us not dwell on the horrors of war, but rather celebrate the unwavering spirit and strength of the generation that carried our people through a truly difficult time. May this inspire future generations to do the same in the face of unspeakable hardship.

#### OUR DESTINIES ARE TIED

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

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the traumatic loss of life around the world and to reaffirm a simple truth: Our destinies are tied.

Too often, in moments of crisis, we are bombarded with abstract numbers and detached headlines describing casualties and missiles, but behind every number is a name. Behind every headline is a story: a story of a little girl whispering prayers beneath her blanket hoping the night sky stays quiet or a story of a father digging through rubble, his hands bloodied, desperately searching for his wife and child.

Nations are not just governments and regimes. They are people. They are mothers, sons, teachers, taxi drivers, people whose stories echo our own because they are us. No matter where someone is born or what language they speak, our grief over losing a loved one is the same.

We are bound together by that shared humanity, so we must be relentless in our commitment to peace: peace rooted in diplomacy, peace that is sustained with dialogue, and peace that insists, without exception, that every single life matters.

From Boston to the Middle East, our destinies are tied, and everyone deserves to live free from fear and know peace.

#### CUTS TO PELL GRANTS

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

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, on May 22, House Republicans passed their budget bill, which would make major cuts to the Pell Grant program in order to finance tax breaks for the ultra-wealthy. This will be one of the largest transfers of multigenerational wealth in the history of the country.

Pell grants are awarded to help low-income students afford the cost of higher education so that they can focus on their coursework. Republican changes would force students with disabilities, students with jobs, and primary caregivers to increase their course load or risk losing their Pell grant awards.

Over 5,000 students in the district I represent in northern California receive Pell grants. A study by the Cen-

ter for Economic and Policy Research found that the average income in a community rises by 2½ percent for every 1 percent increase in Pell grants.

We should focus on making education more accessible and doubling the maximum Pell grant, not cutting off support for students who need it the most for people who need support the least.

#### HAPPY 96TH BIRTHDAY TO RAMON LUIS RIVERA

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

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ramon Luis Rivera on his remarkable 96th birthday.

Ramon Luis was the transformative mayor of Bayamon, Puerto Rico, from 1976 to 2000. A member of my opposition party, he won the hearts of voters across party lines as he led his city for nearly three decades.

I offer my congratulations to the mayor.

Mr. Speaker, I will speak in Spanish very briefly, for ease of my constituents.

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

Hoy, me paro aquí para honrar la vida de Ramón Luis Rivera padre en su cumpleaños número 96. Ramón Luis Rivera fue el alcalde transformador de Bayamón, Puerto Rico, desde 1976 hasta el 2000. Un miembro del partido de oposición al mío, se ganó el corazón de electores y constituyentes más allá de líneas partidistas mientras conducía los destinos de su ciudad por alrededor de tres décadas.

Felicidades, señor alcalde.

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

#### JEREMY AND ANGEL SEAY AND SERGEANT BRANDON MENDOZA PROTECT OUR COMMUNITIES FROM DUIS ACT OF 2025

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 530, I call up the bill (H.R. 875) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been convicted of or who have committed an offense for driving while intoxicated or impaired are inadmissible and deportable, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 530, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary, printed in the bill, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 875

*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 "Jeremy and Angel Seay and Sergeant Brandon Mendoza*

Protect Our Communities from DUIs Act of 2025”.

**SEC. 2. INADMISSIBILITY AND DEPORTABILITY RELATED TO DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED OR IMPAIRED.**

(a) **INADMISSIBILITY.**—Section 212(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(J) **DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED OR IMPAIRED.**—Any alien who has been convicted of, who admits having committed, or who admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of an offense for driving while intoxicated or impaired, as those terms are defined under the law of the jurisdiction where the conviction, offense, or acts constituting the essential elements of the offense occurred (including an offense for driving while under the influence of or impaired by alcohol or drugs), without regard to whether the conviction or offense is classified as a misdemeanor or felony under Federal, State, tribal, or local law, is inadmissible.”.

(b) **DEPORTABILITY.**—Section 237(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1227(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(G) **DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED OR IMPAIRED.**—Any alien who has been convicted of an offense for driving while intoxicated or impaired, as those terms are defined under the law of the jurisdiction where the conviction occurred (including a conviction for driving while under the influence of or impaired by alcohol or drugs), without regard to whether the conviction is classified as a misdemeanor or felony under Federal, State, tribal, or local law, is deportable.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Alabama (Mr. MOORE) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. MOORE).

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 875.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today we consider a simple, commonsense bill that says if you are a guest in our country and you drive drunk, you should, in fact, be deported.

To the average American, passing this bill is a no-brainer. Even in a polarized time, Democrats should be able to join Republicans to unanimously support such reasonable legislation. After all, deporting dangerous criminals is a rational, normal, and coherent step that this House should take. Unfortunately, I am skeptical that we will see such agreement from my Democratic colleagues on this bill.

Regardless, I am thankful the House is considering H.R. 875, the Jeremy and

Angel Seay and Sergeant Brandon Mendoza Protect our Communities from DUIs Act, a bill that I introduced last Congress and again this Congress.

Every 45 minutes, that is how often someone in the United States dies in a crash involving an alcohol-impaired driver.

In 2022 alone, there were 13,524 alcohol-impaired driving fatalities. In 2020, drunk driving crashes led to nearly 400,000 injuries.

Those crashes do not discriminate, Mr. Speaker. The victim could be me, it could be you, it could be anyone in our families or in our communities.

This issue hits close to home for me. There was a newlywed couple from my hometown of Enterprise, Alabama, named Angel and Jeremy Seay. I knew this couple personally. I knew their family. I played ball with their dad. Angel and Jeremy were riding a motorcycle together when, out of nowhere, an illegal alien under the influence of alcohol collided into the newlyweds with his pickup. Their lives were cut short by this senseless act.

Tragedies like this are not uncommon across this country. In December of 2023, an illegal alien killed a 46-year-old woman and her 16-year-old son in Broomfield, Colorado, when he drove his truck up to 100 miles an hour and ran into the victims' vehicle, causing it to then crash into a tree. Despite having five previous DUI convictions, a Boulder, Colorado, county judge sentenced this illegal alien to probation, community service, and work release on December 8, 2023, in relation to two of those convictions, just 4 days before the drunk driver crashed and killed the mother and her son.

Another case to consider is from Florida, where just earlier this year an illegal alien from Mexico was arrested for his third DUI after he hit and killed a kindergartner. In Texas, in December of 2024, an illegal alien killed a 7-year-old girl after he drove drunk, crashed into a car that was being driven by the girl's mother.

Just months earlier, under the Biden-Harris administration, ICE had lifted a detainer which had previously been lodged against this illegal alien after he was arrested for assaulting a family member in June of 2024.

H.R. 875 makes commonsense changes to immigration laws to make an alien who is convicted or who admits driving under the influence inadmissible. It also makes an alien convicted of doing so removable. In fact, 59 Democrats voted in favor of this legislation when I brought it to the House floor last February.

If you are a guest in our country and you drive drunk, you should be removed from this country, period.

Drunk drivers are involved in 31 percent of all crash deaths in this country. On average, drunk driving killed roughly 11,000 people in the United States every year between 2012 and 2022. Yet, current immigration law does not make aliens inadmissible or

removable if they drive drunk and recklessly break our laws.

My colleagues across the aisle will undoubtedly argue that this bill is unnecessary because current law already makes DUI inadmissible and a deportable offense. However, if that is the case, then why would they oppose this bill? Even more, their claim that this bill is redundant could not be further from the truth.

Although some aliens who commit DUIs, such as those who kill or injure innocent victims, may be found inadmissible or removable, but the vast majority of the aliens with DUI convictions escape immigration consequences. In fact, on its website just last year, the Biden-Harris administration's U.S. Customs and Border Protection clearly stated: “A single driving under the influence (DUI) conviction is not grounds to deny entry into the United States.”

Moreover, the Board of Immigration Appeals has held that a “simple DUI offense” is not a crime involving moral turpitude that would make an alien removable from the United States. Yet, as we know, any drunk driving event can lead to death, with consequences that are far from what they call simple.

We shouldn't have to wait for repeat drunk drivers to injure someone or kill before they are deported. That is why H.R. 875 is so imperative. It creates safer streets and safer communities for all of us.

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

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

With this strained legislation, we are bumping into two major social problems: deadly drunk driving on our roads and a broken immigration system. Alas, we are not doing anything to solve either problem. The bill pretends to do something about both of them, but it really does little or nothing about either of them.

We lose 11,000 people a year to drunk driving crashes. More than a million people are arrested on DUI charges every year, Mr. Speaker. I lost a beloved cousin of mine in Florida who was in the prime of her life just after graduating from college when she was killed by a drunk driver while she was riding a bicycle on the roads of Florida.

I take this issue of drunk driving very seriously. I have worked on it fastidiously for a long time in my career. There is a lot we could do in Congress to improve safety on the streets, including imposing a nationwide mandatory ignition interlock device on the cars of all convicted drunk drivers. We did that in my State of Maryland after fighting the liquor lobby for a long time, but we finally got that done.

We could also pass my bill, the Sarah Debbink Langenkamp Active Transportation Safety Act, which would support State and local government efforts to build safer transportation networks for bicyclists and for pedestrians.

□ 1230

Unfortunately, this bill does not do anything like that. Indeed, it is hard to see how it will reduce drunk driving at all.

It is obviously not a serious attempt to address the social problem of drunk driving. It does not increase criminal penalties for DUI anywhere in the country. It does nothing to promote public education about the dangers of drunk driving. It will, sadly, improve nothing on the roads.

As an immigration law, it does nothing to make it more difficult for undocumented people to enter our country unlawfully, nor does it make it easier for people to acquire the documents to enter the country legally.

It is a purely punitive measure, and it is both radically underinclusive and radically overbroad.

It only targets the very tiny fraction of all DUI violations in the country committed by noncitizens and does nothing to crack down on drunk driving by citizens, who are responsible for the vast majority of it.

Immigrants who drive drunk are already covered by the criminal law, and the undocumented ones are already categorically deportable. They don't need to drive drunk to be deported. They are deportable now because they are not in the country lawfully.

Additionally, because of the breadth of DUI statutes around the country, this legislation will render deportable people who never drove drunk at all without any opportunity for judicial discretion or waiver. Under current immigration law, undocumented people are already both inadmissible and deportable. Furthermore, conviction for serious DUIs already render even lawful permanent residents who have been in the country for decades potentially deportable and inadmissible in the first instance.

Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, any noncitizen who is convicted of or who admits to a crime involving moral turpitude, a so-called CIMT, is generally inadmissible to the country. Likewise, any noncitizen who is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude where a sentence of 1 year or longer may be imposed is deportable from the country. Serious DUI offenses are already deportable crimes under current law.

The following DUI offenses are all considered crimes involving moral turpitude: any DUI where the maximum possible penalty is a year or more and where there is serious bodily harm, hit-and-runs, any aggravated DUI, and any DUI involving driving with knowledge of having an invalid, suspended, or revoked license.

This bill goes far beyond even this very stringent current law by making permanent resident green card holders deportable for a single infraction even where no one is hurt and no property is damaged. This will lead to some very harsh results.

In Arizona, sleeping in your car while drunk without even starting the car

can get you convicted of a misdemeanor DUI. Under this bill, a single conviction for even that offense would make a 20-year permanent resident of America, a green card holder, deportable from the country.

That person is rightfully deportable if they engage in an act of drunk driving that hurts someone or kills someone or if they drive drunk without a license, but that is the law today.

An undocumented alien is, of course, deportable in all cases. You don't need a statute to deport them for falling asleep drunk in their car.

Today, there are nearly 13 million green card holders, permanent residents, in the United States. These are people who have followed all the rules. We are not talking about undocumented people, the people who are here unlawfully. They are already taken care of.

There are 13 million green card holders in the United States with 9 million eligible to become citizens now. Categorically deporting individuals who are convicted for any DUI offense without any regard for the severity or consequence simply defies common sense. This legislation on a tiny subset of criminal events distracts from the real problem.

My distinguished colleague has invoked several terrible drunk driving incidents by repeat offenders who are undocumented. They should have been deported from the country long ago. My colleague is talking about people who drive drunk and kill people. That is already a deportable and inadmissible offense. That is not what the meaning of this legislation is.

Let's look at a tiny slice of the criminal events we are talking about and ask whether, in fact, that is something that advances public policy. I don't think it does. Let's work together to impose compulsory ignition interlock devices on the cars of all convicted drunk drivers, including the overwhelming majority who are U.S. citizens. Let's really make the roads safer and stop the repetitive scapegoating of immigrants.

We can address DUIs in a serious way here in Congress if we are serious about the issue. That is what I did as a State senator in Maryland. We could do that across the country, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), my good friend.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 875, the Jeremy and Angel Seay and Sergeant Brandon Mendoza Protect Our Communities from DUIs Act of 2025. This piece of legislation is crucial to restoring common sense to our Nation's judicial system.

Over the past 4 years, the Biden administration has allowed millions of

undocumented immigrants to pour into our country. Along with zero oversight and accountability for the crisis, the Biden administration allowed illegal immigrants to stay in the country even after committing horrible crimes.

This piece of legislation would give the courts the ability to deport illegal aliens from America and bar them from reentry if they are convicted of a DUI or a DUI-related charge.

This issue hits home for me. In my district, a 15-year-old girl and her grandmother were killed by an illegal alien who was driving drunk. This was a terrible, avoidable tragedy. Sadly, true justice was not served. The assailant received only 15 years per death and will be out to roam free in America by the time he is 67 years old.

Madam Speaker, this was in Nahunta, Georgia, in Brantley County, in my district. I met with the other grandmother of this child, who shared with me the grief that this family has gone through since that time.

There is no reason at all that this should have happened. There is no reason for the American taxpayer to have to fund the incarceration of this person or any other programs to help him get back on the streets of Georgia.

Though my example is the worst outcome possible, illegal aliens should not be able to stay in America with a minor penalty for driving under the influence in the first place. This legislation would close this loophole.

I thank the gentleman from Alabama for bringing this forward. It would close that loophole that allows illegal aliens to get off lightly when committing fatal acts, such as vehicular manslaughter under the influence.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of this legislation to help bring back common sense to our immigration and legal systems after these 4 years of pure chaos.

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

Madam Speaker, the distinguished gentleman from Georgia has just offered us a vivid demonstration of what is wrong with this bill and how the rhetoric supporting it doesn't support the bill. He describes an indescribably tragic, terrible case where an undocumented alien is driving a car and kills people in the gentleman's district.

First of all, that person already could be deported just by virtue of being undocumented.

Secondly, under current law, having killed someone, he would be immediately deportable. He was convicted of his offense, sentenced to jail, and he would be deported immediately upon leaving. In fact, the President could commute his sentence, which is what he has been doing, and have him deported right now. You don't need this bill in order to make that happen.

That is a demonstration of why this is superfluous legislation. All it does is to say in a case where, say, nobody is hurt at all, the case of somebody who is asleep in their car in Arizona, for example—there are statutes like that



where you don't even have to be in a moving vehicle. If someone is drunk inside a vehicle, nobody is hurt, and there is no property damage, that person could be deported as a permanent resident even if they have been here for 20 years with kids in school and nothing else on their record.

That is all this bill is doing. It is an opportunity to get up and make speeches about how we are going to get rid of people who kill people in their cars as drunk drivers. That is already the law.

What I am saying is if we are going to take the time on the floor to deal with the problem of drunk driving—and, again, I take this very seriously because I lost a cousin to a drunk driver who is a U.S. citizen, not a noncitizen. The vast majority of drunk driving incidents occur because of citizens, not because of noncitizens, because the vast majority of the people in the country are here legally as citizens.

Let's do a serious thing. Let's say anybody convicted in the country—a U.S. citizen, a permanent resident, or an unlawful person who is somehow still in the country—must have a permanent ignition interlock device put on their car.

Obviously, the undocumented person is going to be deported. Fine. Now, what about everybody else? Should convicted drunk drivers be able to just go back out on the road?

This is the fight I had with Republicans in Annapolis when I was a State senator. They were the ones saying that is too harsh a punishment. I am saying to them, no. Maybe it is painful that you have to go through the ignition interlock device, which says you do the Breathalyzer in your car before you can drive again. They say that it is painful to have to do that every morning and going back from work. That doesn't compare to the pain of someone who loses a mother, a father, a son, a daughter, a cousin, an uncle, an aunt, or what have you.

If we want to deal with drunk driving, let's seriously deal with drunk driving. This legislation is not the way to do it.

Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL).

Ms. JAYAPAL. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 875.

I, too, take DUIs extremely seriously. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, approximately 37 people die in drunk driving incidents every day in the United States. As the ranking member has just been noting, there are many things that we can and should do to prevent driving under the influence.

Also, as the ranking member has pointed out, all of these truly horrifying and tragic stories that we are hearing about from the other side are stories that already render an immigrant deportable right now. If you kill somebody right now, you serve your time and then are deported.

We just had a hearing this morning on how the Trump administration is literally dismissing cases for people who are in a legal process for immigration just so they can deport them. They can certainly also do that for somebody who has been convicted of drunk driving and is serving out their sentence. They could take that case and deport that person immediately if they wanted to.

Scapegoating immigrants is what this bill does. It scapegoats immigrants by making a single misdemeanor DUI subject to the extremely serious punishment of deportation. It is simply not an appropriate response.

The bill also applies to all immigrants, including lawful permanent residents, people who Republican colleagues across the aisle have claimed to like, the ones that they said came here the right way. It gives no recognition whatsoever to the patchwork of differences and overbroad statutes of what actually constitutes a DUI across the country in different States.

It is important to recognize first that serious public safety threats are already deportable offenses. We have been talking about this, but it is important to say it again. Again, the cases that are being brought up are cases where those people are already deportable under current immigration law.

Many serious DUI crimes are considered what is called a crime involving moral turpitude and, therefore, already make someone removable or inadmissible. This bill does not recognize how widely DUI laws differ across the country and the extremely low bar that is set to receive a DUI conviction in some States.

For example, in Arizona, the DUI statute allows people to be charged with a DUI if they are intoxicated and have "physical control" of their vehicle. This issue came to a head in the Ninth Circuit, which, in reviewing an appeal of a removal case for a noncitizen who was charged under this law, found that the physical control language meant that under this statute: "One may be convicted under it for sitting in one's own car in one's own driveway with the key in the ignition and a bottle of beer in one's hand."

While the person in this case had been ordered deported because his conviction under Arizona law constituted a crime involving moral turpitude, the Ninth Circuit overturned that ruling because the actions covered by the law could not all reasonably be seen as crimes involving moral turpitude.

As the court put it: "Drunken driving is despicable. Having physical control of a car while drinking is not."

□ 1245

Madam Speaker, if this bill had been law at the time, the case would have never reached the Ninth Circuit because no judge would have had the discretion to rule whether this so-called crime merited deportation. This bill

would prevent judges from being able to decide if the punishment fits the crime.

In my home State of Washington, we have a similar law where someone can be convicted of a misdemeanor DUI without actually driving a vehicle. While Republicans might wave away our concerns by saying that prosecutors have the discretion to not bring charges under these circumstances, we know about this case precisely because prosecutors chose to file charges and it went to court.

This bill does not recognize under these overbroad DUI statutes the individuals who have made a conscious choice not to drive. They have gone to a party. They have had a couple of beers. They realize they should not drive. They go and sit in their car to sleep it off.

Under this bill, those people who have made that conscious choice not to drive impaired may be charged with DUIs simply for sleeping in their car.

I ask my Republican colleagues: How many of them have constituents or friends or neighbors who have sat in their cars after leaving the bar to stay warm? We know how cold Midwest winters get. Should we really criminalize people for staying warm in their cars and sleeping off a hangover? Under this bill, people would now be subjected to deportation.

During markup and at the Committee on Rules, I submitted an amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Washington.

Ms. JAYAPAL. During markup and at the Committee on Rules, I submitted an amendment to ensure that immigration judges have the discretion to decide if a DUI conviction actually merits deportation for green card holders and others here lawfully.

It would have allowed judges to merely consider mitigating factors, such as if anyone was harmed or the length of time since they were convicted of a DUI. This is a commonsense amendment that would have made the bill substantially fairer. Unfortunately, the amendment was rejected.

There are Members and former Members of this body right here in Congress who have been arrested and convicted of a DUI, and I would just ask that the charity and the grace that we extend for second chances to those people would extend also to those green card holders, including those who have been here for decades. Let's just give a judge the chance to determine whether their conviction merited deportation, let alone that second chance.

Madam Speaker, this bill does nothing but scapegoat immigrants for so-called DUIs, and I urge my colleagues to reject the bill.

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK).



Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, this bill presents a very simple proposition: Should someone who is a guest in this country and who endangers Americans, while driving drunk, be allowed to stay in this country?

Republicans say: Of course, not.

The Democrats say: Sure, why not.

This ought to be a no-brainer, especially after so many incidents of preventable DUI traffic deaths involving foreign nationals.

Then gentleman from Alabama (Mr. MOORE) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) mentioned a few of the cases of aliens with multiple drunk driving offenses released time and time again and not deported, while the butcher's bill steadily grows.

Why are such people allowed to remain in our country? The Democrats want it that way. In 2020, Joe Biden said that illegal aliens with DUI convictions should be allowed to stay in the United States. He said: "You only arrest for the purpose of dealing with a felony that's committed, and I don't count drunk driving as a felony."

When Republicans tried to enact this law in 2021, then Democratic Committee on the Judiciary Chairman JERRY NADLER opposed any limit to DUI convictions. He said that whether someone has 2, 6, 10, or 20 convictions for DUI 30 years ago, someone can change. Of course, that begs the question: How many have to die before they change?

Through some of these debates, the Democrats have consistently supported open borders, sanctuary laws that shield violent criminals, and even modest measures like this one that say we shouldn't have to tolerate guests in this country who recklessly endanger our families.

In fact, now they are telling us that in order to stop their riots, we have to stop enforcing our existing immigration laws.

Madam Speaker, the American people need to take note of debates like this because none more clearly differentiate the two political parties today.

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

Madam Speaker, one can only regard with amazement the high indignation with which the previous gentleman speaker just mobilized against the Democrats in Congress. He accuses us of not taking DUIs seriously, and nothing he said could provide a more striking contrast between the parties.

I am afraid I have to go there. I was hoping not to have to go there. I seem to remember when we met in joint session at what would have been the State of a Union address in this year of 2025.

We left the Chamber after several years of—it seemed like years—several hours of President Trump's speech. We got outside. Then a car plowed into the back of a parked police cruiser. The police descend on this situation. The door opens up. The driver staggers out. It turns out it is the chief of staff to Speaker MIKE JOHNSON.

He is then administered the Breathalyzer test. He got a DWI. He is driving while drunk. Maybe it is a DUI, driving under the influence, in the District of Columbia. Speaker JOHNSON immediately said that everybody deserves a second chance and we should forgive him. We didn't make a big deal out of that.

We have a law right now which allows for the deportation and the inadmissibility of anybody who goes out and drives drunk and injures somebody. If they are here unlawfully, they are kicked out anyway. We are talking about permanent residents to the country. If they go out and get a DUI and injure somebody, they are immediately deported from the country.

They talk about all those cases. Those cases are already covered. We are talking about those cases where somebody is not injured at all and there is no property damage at all. They want to deport those people, even if they have family and even if they have been in the country for 15 or 20 years. They don't even want to give any discretion to the judge to decide.

That is what the disagreement is about. It is about this very small matter in a small number of cases where nobody is injured.

If the distinguished gentleman and his colleagues are really interested in doing something about drunk driving in America, let's use this as the occasion to do it. We have a bill, which is a bipartisan bill, called the End Driving While Intoxicated Act. It has been introduced by Mr. MANN, my colleague from Kansas; my colleague from New Hampshire, Mr. PAPPAS, who is in my party; my colleague from New Jersey, Mr. SMITH, who is in the Republican Party; and by myself.

We are the lead cosponsors. What it says is if a State is going to get Federal funding for highways and then if somebody is convicted for drunk driving in their State, there must be a compulsory ignition interlock device installed in the car.

What does that mean? For a period of time after someone has been convicted for drunk driving, they have to breathe into a Breathalyzer machine before their car will start. Some of our colleagues say that is too much or that it is too painful for them to go through that. No, it is too painful for us to lose thousands of people on the streets every year to drunk drivers.

If we are serious about the problem and the gentleman invites us to be serious about it, let's be serious about it. Let's do what a majority of the States have done. Let's make this a nationwide program. A compulsory ignition interlock device is saving lives across the country. I think it is in 31 States now and in the District of Columbia.

Why don't we do that? Why don't we do something real, rather than talk about cases that have nothing to do with the bill? Already if a person goes out and kills somebody in their car, they will be deported from the country.

Whether they are a lawful permanent resident or an undocumented person and they could have been deported anyway, that is already taken care of.

I know that those are the lurid episodes that we want to invoke for this legislation, but that is not what this legislation is about.

In any event, it doesn't do anything to reduce drunk driving in America. Let's reduce drunk driving in America. Could we get behind that bipartisan legislation?

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

Madam Speaker, forgive my emotion. For those of us whose families have experienced it and who have lost people on the roads, drunk driving is a problem of immense magnitude and seriousness. It changes the lives of families all across the country all the time.

I wish our colleagues on the House Committee on the Judiciary would bring out the End Driving While Intoxicated Act legislation to spread the compulsory ignition interlock device around the country. A majority of States and jurisdictions are using it right now. It is working. It should be nationwide.

We can save literally thousands of lives by doing that because it is a very, very small percentage of the population that engages in the profoundly antisocial act of driving drunk. For those who are undocumented, they are already covered, and they are already gone. For those who go out and seriously hurt people or kill people, they are already gone. That is already deportable. That is already inadmissible.

In an effort to try to find another way to go out and demonize and vilify immigrants, this legislation is now picking on people who are permanent residents of the country and could have been here for decades with their families. They get a DUI, which is a terrible thing regardless. They get a DUI, nobody is hurt, and there is no property damage. Then they want to deport those people from the country.

They want to kick those people out of the country. I presume they have got their votes together. They will vote for it. I presume it passes. It doesn't do anything to deal with the problem of drunk driving in America.

The vast majority of drunk driving episodes have nothing to do with a permanent resident who drives drunk and doesn't hurt anybody. That is not where we are losing lives. We are losing lives because there is a small percentage of people who drive drunk repeatedly. The vast majority of them are citizens.

We are not taking that seriously enough, but a lot of States are. In fact, a majority of the States have now imposed the compulsory ignition interlock device on people who have driven drunk and are convicted of it.

That is what we should be working on. That is something that will actually effectuate a change and make a difference. Why can't we do that? That is all I say to my colleague.

I hope they will join us in this legislation. It is bipartisan legislation that comes from the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MANN) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH). I am on it. We have Republicans. We have Democrats. Why don't we do something real to make the roads in America safer?

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

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

Madam Speaker, I would remind our colleagues that 59 Democrats voted for this legislation last February when I brought it. We cannot wait until an illegal driving drunk kills a family member or a member of our community.

Time and time again, Mothers Against Drunk Driving say that on a DUI, normally it is 80 times they have driven drunk before they are actually caught. Statistics show that it is at least a dozen times that people drive drunk before they are caught.

In Florida, that is why we saw the third time an illegal had a DUI was when he killed a kindergartner. The fifth time in Colorado, the judge released him 4 days before an illegal killed a mother and her 16-year-old son.

□ 1300

A friend of mine, a judge who is no longer on the bench, texted me the other night and thanked me for this piece of legislation. He said that in the last administration, he knew in the courtroom when that illegal got the DUI and he turned him over to ICE, they went out, they got in a white van, and they drove off. They did not detain him.

Time and time again, our communities are suffering because we are not taking these people and holding them to account and getting them out of this country.

I encourage my colleagues to get behind this legislation. Americans look to Congress for solutions to real problems. Despite what my colleagues on the other side have argued today, drunk driving by aliens is an issue in this country that must be addressed. This bill does so.

Making guests in our country inadmissible to and removable from the United States, because they have endangered our communities by driving drunk, is just plain common sense.

The Jeremy and Angel Seay and Sergeant Brandon Mendoza Protect Our Communities from DUI Act of 2025 is straightforward.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 530, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

#### SPECIAL INTEREST ALIEN REPORTING ACT OF 2025

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 530, I call up the bill (H.R. 275) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to publish on a monthly basis the number of special interest aliens encountered attempting to unlawfully enter the United States, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 530, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Homeland Security, printed in the bill, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

#### H.R. 275

*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 "Special Interest Alien Reporting Act of 2025".*

#### SEC. 2. PUBLICATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY OF THE NUM- BER OF SPECIAL INTEREST ALIENS ENCOUNTERED.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than the seventh day of each month beginning with the first full month that begins after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall publish on a publicly available webpage of the Department of Homeland Security and submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the total number, and an identification of the nationalities or countries of last habitual residence, of special interest aliens encountered by the Department during the immediately preceding month. Each such report shall also include the following:

(1) *Such number disaggregated by geographic regions of such encounters.*

(2) *Specifications relating to whether such encounters were made at land, air, or sea ports of entry, between ports of entry, or in the interior of the United States.*

(3) *Identification of any such nationalities or countries of last habitual residence that are covered nations.*

(b) *INCLUSION.*—The first report required under subsection (a) shall also include the mat-

ters described in such subsection for the time period from January 20, 2021, through January 19, 2025.

(c) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

(1) *ALIEN.*—The term "alien" has the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

(2) *COVERED NATION.*—The term "covered nation" has the meaning given such term in section 4872(d)(2) of title 10, United States Code.

(3) *SPECIAL INTEREST ALIEN.*—The term "special interest alien" means an alien who, based on an analysis of travel patterns, potentially poses a national security risk to the United States or its interests.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 275.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 257, the Special Interest Alien Reporting Act of 2025.

This legislation is a critical step toward enhancing transparency and ensuring the Department of Homeland Security provides accurate and timely reporting to the American people regarding encounters with special interest aliens attempting to illegally enter the United States.

As chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, I fully support this effort to strengthen oversight and accountability within DHS and safeguard our national security.

Under the Biden-Harris administration's dangerous open-borders policies, droves of special interest aliens, nearly 2 million, and many of them leveraging illicit smuggling networks and irregular migration patterns, flocked to our borders and exploited catch and release policies to access the interior of our country.

The American people deserve to know not just how many entered our country and when, but where they came from.

Fundamentally, this bill simply requires DHS to publicly report on how many special interest aliens were encountered, their countries of origin, and their last country of residence before trying to enter the United States illegally.

The genius of this bill is that DHS can simply add it to the statistics it already reports on a monthly basis. This

avoids any burdensome or duplicative reporting requirements for the department.

Also, by simply reporting the number and nationality of SIA encounters at our borders, it has no impact on the integrity of ongoing anti-terrorism investigations and efforts of Federal law enforcement.

Moreover, access to accurate information is critical for Congress to effectively conduct proper oversight, promote national security measures, and protect our American communities from the threats that special interest aliens pose.

I simply cannot overstate the importance of passing this legislation, especially given the recent activity in the Middle East.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill, and I am grateful to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE) for bringing forth this important piece of legislation and for the support of the following cosponsors: Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. GUEST, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. CRANE, and Mr. BRECHEEN.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill is not good for national security. That is plain and simple.

This bill would require Customs and Border Protection to publish sensitive detailed national security information on a monthly basis. This information would give the bad guys around the world real-time updates on DHS operations and targeting.

Let's be clear. A special interest alien, an SIA, does not mean someone who is a terrorist. It just means that someone's travel patterns indicate a need for further scrutiny. It means they need more detailed questioning to determine what is going on.

During markup and during the Rules Committee meeting, we heard from my Republican colleagues how the Department already publishes information about known and suspected terrorists. That is true. However, this bill demands that DHS post far more detailed information about special interest aliens than DHS publishes about known suspected terrorists.

Today, DHS publishes suspected terrorist information on a monthly basis, broken down by Border Patrol and ports of entry. No other data is published.

Here, my colleague from Georgia wants DHS to publish more information about special interest aliens than they publish about suspected terrorists. For special interest aliens, she also wants information published in real time about where they are from and where they are encountered.

If Ms. GREENE's bill mirrored what we report on known and suspected terrorists, I would be happy to support it. However, that is simply not the case here. By publishing this information in real time, bad actors would be able to

tell who is getting advanced screening from CBP. They will also be able to tell which locations have been the most successful in interdicting those migrants that need enhanced screening.

Bad actors will adjust their operations in response and try to avoid extra screening, which will only hurt our national security.

Please note, Mr. Speaker, DHS has never publicly released these numbers on a real-time basis because this information, these numbers, are essentially sensitive data we don't want to be made public. As the chair just stated, DHS already has the ability to publish these numbers if they were to choose to make these numbers public.

Mr. Speaker, if it is safe to do, then why isn't DHS already doing it?

I would say, Mr. Speaker, let the security professionals decide what to publish and when. That is their job, not ours. Ours is to legislate. They have the ability to make decisions now. Let them make these decisions.

I ask my colleagues to let the Secretary, again, make the decisions and publish the information they deem safe and correct.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE), who is the author of this piece of legislation.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in favor of my bill, the Special Interest Alien Reporting Act of 2025, an essential piece of border security transparency legislation.

A special interest alien, or SIA, is a non-U.S. person who, based on a DHS analysis of travel patterns, may pose a national security risk to the United States or its interests. My bill would require the Department of Homeland Security to publicly release monthly reports on the number of special interest aliens encountered at our borders, their countries of origin, and where they were encountered. This bill would be retroactive to January 20, 2021, so that we can get a better sense of the catastrophic national security impacts of the Biden-Harris administration's open-borders policies.

I will say that is likely why Democrats are fighting this bill so hard.

DHS publicly reports detailed information on encounters and seizures, including CBP encounters of individuals on the terrorist screening dataset, better known as the terrorist watch list, which is an even more targeted and specific number than the number of SIAs. However, missing from DHS reporting is information on SIA encounters. Instead, Congress and the American people have been left only with random, incomplete announcements periodically released by DHS officials, or through leaks to the media.

Similar to the information released on the terrorist screening dataset, my bill would require DHS to report gen-

eral encounter information on special interest aliens and would not include any personally identifiable information.

No matter how many times my Democrat colleagues say it, there is no personal information released.

In fact, senior DHS officials, like the former Border Patrol chief, have occasionally put out some of these numbers on social media and elsewhere.

Public reporting of SIAs will increase the transparency and accountability that are critical to the health of our constitutional Republic. Congress has the authority and responsibility to provide transparency to the American people, which is exactly what my bill does.

I would argue the American people pay our paychecks, so they deserve to know the truth.

The Biden-Harris administration's disastrous policies placed the United States in an extremely vulnerable national security position. Under Biden and Harris, our sovereign borders became revolving doors for illegal aliens, including an untold number of murderers, rapists, and potential terrorists who hate our country and want to cause harm to our people.

Over the past 4 years, CBP faced an unprecedented number of special interest aliens from the 26 countries that the Department of Homeland Security has determined pose the greatest national security and counterintelligence threat. Those encountered included individuals from adversarial nations, including the People's Republic of China, Iran, Afghanistan, and Syria.

The Biden-Harris administration's intentional disregard for our laws and breakdown of national security resulted in U.S. Customs and Border Protection encountering over 1.7 million special interest aliens. Many of these individuals were swiftly processed and released into the interior under the Biden-Harris administration's catch and release policies. The American people deserve to know who our government is encountering at the border and where they came from while they are attempting to invade our country illegally.

Given the ongoing events in the Middle East, this legislation is essential for Congress to conduct congressional oversight over the special interest aliens encountered invading our borders. During the Biden-Harris administration, the Border Patrol apprehended over 1,500 Iranian nationals illegally crossing the Southwest border between ports of entry.

Of those, Biden and Harris admitted 729, almost one-half. We don't know where they are now, and we don't know what they may do.

□ 1315

With Iran threatening Americans with retaliatory strikes on our homeland, President Biden and border czar Kamala Harris created an opportunity for our adversaries to gain access to our Nation and wreak havoc when called upon.

I am proud that the Trump administration supports this important piece of legislation, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to please support this increase in transparency and accountability within our government.

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

This legislation simply puts our national security at risk by forcing DHS to hand over parts of its playbook on how it stops potential actors from entering the United States. It is all going to make us less safe.

This bill would require Customs and Border Protection to publish sensitive national security information on a monthly real-time basis. We are not talking about personal identifiable information, despite the author's claim. We are talking about releasing who CBP is looking for, targeting, and where those advance interviews are actually happening in real time.

This essentially gives the bad people the opportunity to coordinate, triangulate, and take advantage of the situation, essentially to know what our playbook is.

We all support transparency and accountability at DHS—that is our job here in Congress—but not at the expense of tipping off terrorists or criminal organizations as to what our playbook is.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), the ranking member of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) for yielding and for his leadership on the Border Security and Enforcement Subcommittee of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Homeland Security already vets everyone it encounters entering the United States. Most of these encounters are routine, but some of these encounters require more investigation based on a dynamic assessment of the security situation.

Now, DHS does not publicly release who is getting enhanced screening or where it may be happening right now, simply because: First, merely being singled out for enhanced screening does not necessarily mean an individual poses a threat or has done something illegal; and, second, doing so would let bad actors know who DHS is on the lookout for. That information, in other words, is law-enforcement sensitive.

H.R. 275, Representative MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE's tipping off terrorists act, requires DHS to make public information it has long deemed law-enforcement sensitive. That is because this bill requires Customs and Border Protection to publicly report who is getting extra screening and where that screening occurs in real time, which tips off terrorists and other bad actors.

Under administrations of both parties, DHS has never regularly published

who it has considered a special interest alien. That is because who is considered special interest changes regularly based on DHS' security assessments.

This bill lets bad actors know in real time which nationalities are more likely to get enhanced screening and exactly where CBP has been stopping these migrants. Criminal organizations could then use this information to adjust their operations and try to avoid enhanced CBP inspections.

However, Democrats are for transparency, as Mr. CORREA has already said, and there is nothing stopping DHS right now from publishing these numbers.

The Trump administration also could publish this data right now if they wanted to but continue to choose not to because the folks on the ground understand that security threats posed by such public reporting is bad.

If Republicans want the administration to publish information on who is getting enhanced screening, they should work with DHS to do so in a way that does not jeopardize Homeland Security, not with a messaging bill, which, if signed by the President, could tip off terrorists.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this dangerous bill.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS).

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, what is it that the Democrats don't want the American people to know? It is a legitimate consideration that the citizenry from sea to shining sea should ask themselves right now. What exactly is the problem?

They say again and again, oh, DHS could do this if they wanted to. They already report to us. We are saying exactly that: The special interest alien data should be reported to Congress along with the rest of the data.

Why would the Democrats take a big stand? This is the former chairman of Homeland Security and current ranking member, who has been on the committee for a long time. This is a rare appearance on the House floor to push back against about this.

Americans should think about this. Democrats are pushing back on this because they don't want the citizens of America to know what special interest aliens, who participated in suspicious travel patterns, came into our country illegally in 2021, '22, '23, and '24. Because you know how many are coming in in 2025? Zero are coming in. That is how many. That is because we have an executive branch that has been enforcing American law since January 20 of 2025.

We, the people, demand to know what is the data of so-called special interest aliens. These are suspicious-travel-pattern, illegal immigrants coming into our country. We want to know: Where did they come from? How did they get here? Where were they before? We want to know all the data that we allegedly collected. Congress has a right to know.

Why would DHS need Congress to codify their authority to give us this data? It is because of activist radical judges that stop the executive branch. Every day Americans have to read about that garbage, a radical judge stopping the elected President from performing his role as Commander in Chief and President of the United States.

The executive branch needs Members of Congress to perform like my friend and colleague, Ms. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE, has done by presenting this law. I am a proud original cosponsor. The President needs this legislation to mitigate against the radical judges that will try to stop him from releasing through Congress to the American people the data from 2021, '22, '23, and '24 of what suspected illegal aliens came into our country that fit this category.

Now, across the country and in this body, most Americans know I am very plugged into law enforcement. I get calls every day from these guys, boots on the ground across the country, including deep in Federal law enforcement, and they support this law. Don't tell me that Federal law enforcement doesn't want to do this or it is bad for the country in some way. That is smoke. That is smoke that is being put out by Democrats to protect themselves from the impact of the reveal of the truth of just what kind of people that fit this category were allowed into our country. They were waved in for 4 years. It was stopped almost immediately in January of this year.

I am clearly in full support of the bill. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of the bill. We are going to bring this bill to the floor, and they are going to call for a recorded vote. I am glad they will. I hope you do call for a recorded vote because I want you on the record pushing a red button.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it also.

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

I am listening to this debate, and we are not debating. We are just talking. Again, for the third time I am going to say: We support transparency. We support this information being made public if the Secretary so deems it to be made public in the interest of our national security. That is all we are saying.

We are Members of Congress. We believe in transparency, accountability, and oversight. That is why folks on this side of the aisle are writing countless letters right now to the Secretary of Homeland Security demanding information so that we can do our job. That is transparency.

I don't know when the last time was that my colleagues were at the border. I was just in San Ysidro a couple weeks ago. I can tell you I went to the secondary inspection. Fentanyl is still coming through that border. People were still breaking through that border. The fact is that border is not secure. That is why you have 2,000 U.S.

border agents and 20,000 Mexican border agents trying to work on this issue.

This opposition to this legislation is based on national security. We are saying if this is information that the author thinks is not sensitive, let the Secretary of Homeland Security make that decision to present it. This legislation isn't necessary. You don't want to mandate it. You want to let the anti-terrorist experts make that decision.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ), a leading member of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, of course I rise in opposition to H.R. 275.

Before I get into the conversation of the bill that we are debating today, I want to respond to this whole thing about transparency that I continue to hear my colleagues talk about. They talk about smoke on this side, and they are all about transparency.

Well, if Republicans are really all about transparency, why is it that Members of Congress can't show up to a detention center and do their congressional oversight and see what is going on in those detention centers?

It seems like Republicans are okay with transparency when it is convenient to them, but when it is about Members of Congress, regardless of their party that they are a part of, going to one of these detention centers or holding centers, they are not okay with transparency. We have heard that pregnant women are sleeping on the ground being starved and people are wearing the same clothing for days because they are at a holding center where they should have been going through due process.

Unfortunately, there is no transparency there because what they end up saying is, send an email or transparency only works when it is convenient to the Republicans.

I just want to say it is really hypocritical to hear my colleagues here talk about transparency when they seem to be hiding violations of human rights every single day.

I want to be honest about the bill we are debating right now. This is not a bill of national security. If it were, it wouldn't propose to make sensitive security information public.

No, this bill is just Republicans' latest attempt to give the Trump administration another anti-immigrant tool so that they can continue to do the fear-mongering that they know how to do so well. It is just another list that Donald Trump and Kristi Noem and Republicans and the sponsor here can use to justify their unlawful, abusive actions.

You want to disappear people from California? Just say that new members of the latest criminal organization were found crossing the southern border. You want Americans to surrender their rights? Well, fearmonger and tell them that a special interest alien from

a criminal organization is operating a cell in their neighborhood.

□ 1330

The Trump administration has already demonstrated to us that they are comfortable, under the guise of national security and protection, abusing every tool and system that we have. The administration has weaponized every well-intentioned tool that this body has authorized to make immigration more humane. What makes us think that this list will be any different?

I refuse to hand over greater authority and power to DHS given all the ways that they are running rampant through our States and cities, breaking down doors and kidnapping mothers, children, and law-abiding neighbors who have contributed to our communities for years.

They have proven to be completely untrustworthy and downright hostile to oversight, accountability, and compliance with the rule of law, so they can't be trusted with additional tools and mandates with which they can violate our rights.

Let me be very clear: For Trump and Noem, today's report is tomorrow's anti-immigrant, fascist tool.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I will address some of the comments that I have heard from my colleagues and shine a little bit of light of truth on some of this.

My colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA), mentioned that this would serve as an incentive or intelligence to the bad guys. This reports where they are from and the country they came in from. There are no methodologies discussed on how we are apprehending people. We are not giving away national security information about how our agencies operate.

Reporting that an SIA is coming from a particular country or has a particular nation of origin that they started from is not an incentive to anyone. In fact, it is a disincentive to those individuals. For those governments to know that we have an eye on it is a good thing, not a bad thing.

As far as a playbook, it was mentioned earlier, I think, Mr. Speaker, that we were giving away our playbook. Again, not a single method is reported. Not a single process is reported. None of that information is out there. We are not talking about releasing how we do business. We are talking about whom we have apprehended.

It is ridiculous to suggest that this is somehow a threat to national security. I spent 24 years of my life as an infantry officer, a physician, and a special operations physician with our Nation's highest tier-one level assets. I can tell my colleagues that I now sit on the Committee on Foreign Affairs and have for years. I have served on HASC. No

one cares more. I was prepared to give my life. My son currently serves defending this country.

This is not a threat to national security, and I suggest that people take the word of people like me over that of some activist.

This incredible mantra about starving people at detention facilities, well, I have been to these detention facilities. I have seen the stacks of snacks and crackers, the meals, and the healthcare that they get, and this after subjecting themselves willfully to, in many cases, an arduous trek, while wearing the same clothing, I will add. The travesty of that was pointed out earlier. Mr. Speaker, I can't tell you how many days I sat in the same set of BDUs downrange for the country.

Let's look at what is really happening at these ICE detention centers. It is absolutely a liberal, Democratic mantra to just throw that out there as somehow a reason not to support a piece of legislation like this. It is absurd.

Do you know what? The American people are waking up to this, and that is a beautiful thing. I agree with my colleague Mr. HIGGINS. I hope my Democratic colleagues do call for a vote.

I don't know how many times we can correct the record on this kidnapping of a mother and children with cancer. The mother elected on two occasions when offered the opportunity—she had a court order saying that she had to go. Yes, she had been here a while. The process is long. It takes a while to get the court to do it.

When the court decides, that is due process. Due process has occurred. The court has ordered her removal. They were offered: Do you want your child to have healthcare here, or do you want to take them? We will take them with.

It is false to suggest, in this image that is being painted by the left, that ICE burst down the door, grabbed a child with cancer, and deported them.

Again, the American people are a lot smarter; hence, the results of the last election.

I just wanted to make a few comments, Mr. Speaker, about the stuff I have heard today that just infuriates me and infuriates the American people.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I will make it clear to my colleagues and those who are watching this that the Secretary already has the power to disclose this information. All we are saying is to let the Secretary and the terrorist expert decide what should be disclosed in real time. What goes on at the border in real time is the key here.

We support full transparency and accountability of the Department of Homeland Security. That is why a lot of us, including yours truly, were going to those ICE detention centers in my district for the last 2 weeks. I could

walk in, and I had a good relationship with those individuals. Then, about a week ago, I was told: You can't come in anymore. You need a 7-day notice.

According to the law, there is no notice that Members of Congress need to give to do an inspection of an ICE holding facility.

They are not doing anything wrong? Okay, so then what is wrong with me coming in and looking at the ICE facility? Transparency, Mr. Speaker, all we are asking for is transparency.

The chairman talked about those cases and due process. I can't speak to those specific ones, but I can speak to what is going on in my district right now. The reason we want more transparency is because I want to make sure that the President of the United States knows what is going on. He promised to go after criminals, those visa overstays, those individuals with orders of deportation, and those individuals who came in, in the last 2 years.

That is the minority, the smallest number, of the people who are actually being apprehended. I say that because the President came out last week and said that we don't want to go after farmworkers, dairy farm workers, and hospitality workers. The President said that we don't want to go after these individuals. We want to go after those three categories.

Mr. Speaker, I will tell you that, back home right now, most of the people who are being rounded up are workers in factories and workers in farms who are picking our crops.

That is part of the American economic strength. The President needs to know that his immigration policies, as being implemented right now, are not what he is saying and not what he deems is good for this country.

That is what transparency and accountability is about, oversight, making sure what they are saying up top is what actually is happening at the ground level.

My colleagues may have seen this story just last week. A gardener at Home Depot gets picked up. He has been in the United States for 25 years. He didn't even have a traffic ticket.

Do you know what the sad part is, Mr. Speaker? Three of his sons are marines in the U.S. Marine Corps.

The President needs to know that he is deporting individuals of mixed households whose children are in the U.S. military.

I am not quite sure—actually, I am certain that is not what the President wanted to happen. That is what our oversight is, to let him know and the public know exactly what is going on in our districts.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I will close with this. The American people deserve to know where the special interest aliens entering the United States are coming from and where CBP is encountering them.

This legislation proposes transparency that is vital to the public's awareness while maintaining the confidentiality of the individuals encountered and the strategies used by CBP.

My colleague mentioned the term "real time." Wouldn't it have been nice to know in real time about the Iranians who are now in this country?

The administration has, I think, successfully removed well over 100 in just the past 7 days, 1 of whom turned out to be a sniper from the Iranian special guard, the Quds Force. Just open the door and let everybody in.

Wouldn't that have been great to know? That would have been nice to have some real-time information for the American people.

What is interesting is—it is almost laughable—I actually saw a Democratic pundit on television talking about how President Trump shouldn't bomb or shouldn't have bombed Iran because the terror cells that are here might get activated. Well, Democrats let them in.

Those are the same folks who say that Americans shouldn't have guns to defend themselves, but I digress.

This legislation is especially prevalent following the Biden administration's failure to secure the border and protect the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this effort to defend the American people and maintain transparency, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 275, the Special Interest Alien Reporting Act.

This bill requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to publish monthly reports on the number of special interest aliens attempting to unlawfully enter the U.S., including specifications on the encounter location and the alien's country of origin.

During President Biden's tenure, we saw an unprecedented number of special interest aliens from China, Iran, and Russia.

A special interest alien is a person who poses as a potential threat to the United States. This is alarming and a national security risk.

Last Congress, I asked the Biden Administration to be transparent about encounters with known or unknown terrorists entering our country. Their answers were unsatisfactory.

Publishing the number of special interest aliens who have been granted entry to the U.S. would educate the public on the risks the U.S. Government is subjecting its citizens to. It would also allow the public to hold the government accountable for its actions.

Border Patrol had produced small iterations on this data for 2016 to 2018 and it would be helpful to re-start this publication at a more frequent cadence.

I urge you to support H.R. 275.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). All time for debate has expired. Pursuant to House Resolution 530, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

## RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 43 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. BOST) at 3 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:

Passage of H.R. 875; and,

Passage of H.R. 275.

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.

## JEREMY AND ANGEL SEAY AND SERGEANT BRANDON MENDOZA PROTECT OUR COMMUNITIES FROM DUIS ACT OF 2025

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 875) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been convicted of or who have committed an offense for driving while intoxicated or impaired are inadmissible and deportable, 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 passage of the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 246, nays 160, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 183]

YEAS—246

Aderholt	Barr	Biggs (SC)
Alford	Barrett	Boebert
Allen	Baumgartner	Bost
Arrington	Bean (FL)	Bresnahan
Auchincloss	Begich	Buchanan
Babin	Bentz	Burchett
Bacon	Bergman	Burlison
Baird	Bice	Calvert
Balderson	Biggs (AZ)	Cammack

Carey  
Carter (GA)  
Carter (TX)  
Case  
Ciscomani  
Cline  
Cloud  
Clyde  
Cole  
Collins  
Comer  
Conaway  
Crane  
Crank  
Crawford  
Crenshaw  
Cuellar  
Davids (KS)  
Davidson  
Davis (NC)  
De La Cruz  
Deluzio  
Diaz-Balart  
Donalds  
Downing  
Dunn (FL)  
Edwards  
Ellzey  
Emmer  
Estes  
Evans (CO)  
Ezell  
Fallon  
Feenstra  
Fine  
Finstad  
Fischbach  
Fitzgerald  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Flood  
Fong  
Foxy  
Franklin, Scott  
Fry  
Fulcher  
Garbarino  
Gill (TX)  
Gillen  
Golden (ME)  
Goldman (TX)  
Gonzales, Tony  
Gooden  
Gosar  
Gottheimer  
Gray  
Green (TN)  
Greene (GA)  
Griffith  
Grothman  
Guest  
Guthrie  
Hageman  
Hamadeh (AZ)  
Harder (CA)  
Haridopolos  
Harrigan  
Harris (MD)  
Harris (NC)  
Harshbarger  
Hern (OK)  
Higgins (LA)  
Hill (AR)

Himes  
Hinson  
Houchin  
Hudson  
Huizenga  
Hunt  
Hurd (CO)  
Issa  
Jack  
Jackson (TX)  
James  
Johnson (SD)  
Jordan  
Joyce (OH)  
Joyce (PA)  
Kaptur  
Kearney  
Keating  
Kelly (MS)  
Kelly (PA)  
Kennedy (UT)  
Kiggans (VA)  
Kiley (CA)  
Kim  
Knott  
LaHood  
LaLota  
LaMalfa  
Landsman  
Langworthy  
Latta  
Lawler  
Lee (FL)  
Lee (NV)  
Letlow  
Levin  
Loudermilk  
Lucas  
Luttrell  
Lynch  
Mace  
Mackenzie  
Malliotakis  
Maloy  
Mann  
Mannion  
Massie  
Mast  
McCaul  
McClain  
McClintock  
McCormick  
McDonald Rivet  
McDowell  
McGuire  
Messmer  
Meuser  
Miller (IL)  
Miller (OH)  
Miller (WV)  
Miller-Meeks  
Mills  
Moolenaar  
Moore (AL)  
Moore (NC)  
Moore (UT)  
Moore (WV)  
Moran  
Morelle  
Mrvan  
Murphy  
Nehls  
Newhouse

Norcross  
Norman  
Nunn (IA)  
Oberholte  
Ogles  
Onder  
Owens  
Palmer  
Patronis  
Perez  
Perry  
Peters  
Pfluger  
Reschenthaler  
Riley (NY)  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rose  
Ross  
Rouzer  
Roy  
Rulli  
Rutherford  
Ryan  
Salazar  
Scalise  
Schmidt  
Schneider  
Scholten  
Schweikert  
Scott, Austin  
Self  
Sessions  
Sewell  
Shreve  
Simpson  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smucker  
Sorensen  
Spartz  
Stanton  
Staubert  
Stefanik  
Steil  
Steube  
Strong  
Stutzman  
Suozi  
Taylor  
Tenney  
Thompson (PA)  
Tiffany  
Timmons  
Turner (OH)  
Valadao  
Van Drew  
Van Dyne  
Van Orden  
Vindman  
Wagner  
Weber (TX)  
Webster (FL)  
Westerman  
Whitesides  
Wied  
Williams (TX)  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman  
Womack  
Yakym  
Zinke

## NAYS—160

Adams  
Aguilar  
Amo  
Ansari  
Balint  
Barragán  
Bell  
Bera  
Beyer  
Bishop  
Bonamici  
Brown  
Brownley  
Budzinski  
Bynum  
Carbajal  
Carson  
Casar  
Casten  
Castor (FL)  
Castro (TX)  
Cherfilus-  
McCormick  
Chu

Cisneros  
Clark (MA)  
Clever  
Clyburn  
Cohen  
Correa  
Costa  
Courtney  
Craig  
Crockett  
Crow  
Davis (IL)  
Dean (PA)  
DeGette  
DeLauro  
DelBene  
DeSaulnier  
Dexter  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Elfreth  
Escobar  
Español  
Evans (PA)

Fields  
Figures  
Fletcher  
Foster  
Foushee  
Friedman  
Frost  
Garamendi  
Garcia (CA)  
Garcia (IL)  
Garcia (TX)  
Gomez  
Gonzalez, V.  
Goodlander  
Green, Al (TX)  
Hayes  
Hoyer  
Hoyle (OR)  
Huffman  
Ivey  
Jacobs  
Jayapal  
Jeffries  
Johnson (GA)

Johnson (TX)  
Kamlager-Dove  
Kelly (IL)  
Kennedy (NY)  
Khanna  
Krishnamoorthi  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latimer  
Lee (PA)  
Leger Fernandez  
Liccardo  
Lieu  
Lofgren  
Magaziner  
Matsui  
McBath  
McBride  
McClain Delaney  
McClellan  
McCollum  
McGarvey  
McGovern  
Ryan  
Meeks  
Menendez  
Meng  
Mfume  
Min  
Moore (WI)

Morrison  
Moskowitz  
Moulton  
Mullin  
Nadler  
Neguse  
Ocasio-Cortez  
Olszewski  
Omar  
Pallone  
Panetta  
Pappas  
Pelosi  
Pettersen  
Pingree  
Pocan  
Pou  
Pressley  
Quigley  
Ramirez  
Randall  
Raskin  
Rivas  
Ruiz  
Salinas  
Sanchez  
Scanlon  
Schakowsky  
Schrier  
Scott (VA)

Scott, David  
Sherman  
Simon  
Smith (WA)  
Soto  
Stansbury  
Strickland  
Subramanyam  
Takano  
Thanedar  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Titus  
Tlaib  
Tokuda  
Torres (CA)  
Torres (NY)  
Trahan  
Tran  
Underwood  
Vargas  
Vasquez  
Veasey  
Velázquez  
Wasserman  
Schultz  
Waters  
Watson Coleman  
Williams (GA)  
Wilson (FL)

## NOT VOTING—25

Amodei (NV)  
Beatty  
Bilirakis  
Boyle (PA)  
Brecheen  
Carter (LA)  
Clarke (NY)  
DesJarlais  
Fedorchak

Frankel, Lois  
Gimenez  
Goldman (NY)  
Graves  
Horsford  
Houlahan  
Jackson (IL)  
Kustoff  
Luna

Neal  
Sherrill  
Stevens  
Swalwell  
Sykes  
Tonko  
Walberg

□ 1527

Ms. GOODLANDER changed her vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. GROTHMAN, BAUMGARTNER, and ZINKE changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So 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. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 183.

Stated against:

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 183.

SPECIAL INTEREST ALIEN  
REPORTING ACT OF 2025

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 275) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to publish on a monthly basis the number of special interest aliens encountered attempting to unlawfully enter the United States, 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 passage of the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 231, nays 182, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 184]

## YEAS—231

Aderholt  
Alford  
Allen  
Arrington  
Babin  
Bacon  
Baird  
Balderson  
Barr  
Barrett  
Baumgartner  
Bean (FL)  
Begich  
Bentz  
Bergman  
Bice  
Biggs (AZ)  
Biggs (SC)  
Boebert  
Bost  
Bresnahan  
Buchanan  
Burchett  
Burlison  
Calvert  
Cammack  
Carey  
Carter (GA)  
Carter (TX)  
Ciscomani  
Cline  
Cloud  
Clyde  
Cole  
Collins  
Comer  
Conaway  
Crank  
Crawford  
Crenshaw  
Cuellar  
Davidson  
Davis (NC)  
De La Cruz  
Diaz-Balart  
Donalds  
Downing  
Dunn (FL)  
Edwards  
Ellzey  
Emmer  
Estes  
Evans (CO)  
Ezell  
Fallon  
Feenstra  
Fine  
Finstad  
Fischbach  
Fitzgerald  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Flood  
Fong  
Foxy  
Franklin, Scott  
Fry  
Fulcher  
Garbarino  
Gill (TX)  
Gillen  
Golden (ME)  
Goldman (TX)  
Gonzales, Tony  
Gooden  
Gosar

Gray  
Green (TN)  
Greene (GA)  
Griffith  
Grothman  
Guest  
Guthrie  
Hageman  
Hamadeh (AZ)  
Harder (CA)  
Haridopolos  
Harrigan  
Harris (MD)  
Harris (NC)  
Harshbarger  
Hern (OK)  
Higgins (LA)  
Hill (AR)  
Hinson  
Horsford  
Houchin  
Hudson  
Huizenga  
Hunt  
Hurd (CO)  
Issa  
Jack  
Jackson (TX)  
James  
Johnson (SD)  
Jordan  
Joyce (OH)  
Joyce (PA)  
Kaptur  
Kearney  
Keating  
Kelly (MS)  
Kelly (PA)  
Kennedy (UT)  
Kiggans (VA)  
Kiley (CA)  
Kim  
Knott  
LaHood  
LaLota  
LaMalfa  
Langworthy  
Latta  
Lawler  
Lee (NV)  
Letlow  
Loudermilk  
Lucas  
Luttrell  
Lynch  
Mace  
Mackenzie  
Malliotakis  
Maloy  
Mann  
Massie  
Mast  
McBride  
McCaul  
McClain  
McClintock  
McCormick  
McDonald Rivet  
McDowell  
McGuire  
Messmer  
Meuser  
Miller (IL)  
Miller (OH)  
Miller (WV)  
Miller-Meeks  
Mills  
Min

Moolenaar  
Moore (AL)  
Moore (NC)  
Moore (UT)  
Grothman  
Moran  
Moskowitz  
Murphy  
Nehls  
Newhouse  
Norman  
Nunn (IA)  
Oberholte  
Ogles  
Onder  
Owens  
Palmer  
Patronis  
Perez  
Perry  
Pfluger  
Reschenthaler  
Riley (NY)  
Rogers (AL)  
Rose  
Rouzer  
Roy  
Rulli  
Rutherford  
Ryan  
Salazar  
Scalise  
Schmidt  
Schneider  
Scholten  
Schweikert  
Scott, Austin  
Self  
Sessions  
Shreve  
Simpson  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smucker  
Spartz  
Staubert  
Stefanik  
Steil  
Steube  
Strong  
Stutzman  
Suozi  
Taylor  
Tenney  
Thompson (PA)  
Tiffany  
Timmons  
Turner (OH)  
Valadao  
Van Drew  
Van Dyne  
Vindman  
Wagner  
Walberg  
Weber (TX)  
Webster (FL)  
Westerman  
Whitesides  
Wied  
Williams (TX)  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman  
Womack  
Yakym  
Zinke

## NAYS—182

Adams  
Aguilar  
Amo  
Ansari  
Auchincloss  
Balint  
Barragán  
Bell  
Bera  
Beyer  
Bishop  
Bonamici  
Boyle (PA)  
Brown  
Brownley  
Budzinski  
Bynum

Carbajal  
Carson  
Carter (LA)  
Casar  
Case  
Casten  
Castor (FL)  
Castro (TX)  
Cherfilus-  
McCormick  
Chu  
Cisneros  
Clark (MA)  
Clarke (NY)  
Clever  
Clyburn  
Cohen

Correa  
Costa  
Courtney  
Craig  
Crockett  
Crow  
Davids (KS)  
Davis (IL)  
Dean (PA)  
DeGette  
DeLauro  
DelBene  
DeSaulnier  
Dexter  
Dingell  
Doggett



Elfreth	Liccardo	Ruiz
Escobar	Lieu	Salinas
Espallat	Lofgren	Sánchez
Evans (PA)	Magaziner	Scanlon
Fields	Mannion	Schakowsky
Figures	Matsui	Schrier
Fletcher	McBath	Scott (VA)
Foster	McClain Delaney	Scott, David
Foushee	McClellan	Sewell
Frankel, Lois	McCollum	Sherman
Friedman	McGarvey	Simon
Frost	McGovern	Smith (WA)
Garamendi	McIver	Sorensen
Garcia (CA)	Meeks	Soto
Garcia (IL)	Menendez	Stansbury
Garcia (TX)	Meng	Stanton
Gomez	Mfume	Stevens
Gonzalez, V.	Moore (WI)	Strickland
Goodlander	Morelle	Subramanyam
Gottheimer	Morrison	Swailwell
Green, Al (TX)	Moulton	Sykes
Hayes	Mrvan	Takano
Himes	Mullin	Thanedar
Hoyer	Nadler	Thompson (CA)
Hoyle (OR)	Neguse	Thompson (MS)
Huffman	Norcross	Titus
Ivey	Ocasio-Cortez	Tlaib
Jacobs	Olshewski	Tokuda
Jayapal	Omar	Torres (CA)
Jeffries	Pallone	Torres (NY)
Johnson (GA)	Panetta	Trahan
Johnson (TX)	Pappas	Tran
Kamrager-Dove	Pelosi	Peters
Keating	Peters	Underwood
Kelly (IL)	Pettersen	Vargas
Kennedy (NY)	Pingree	Vasquez
Khanna	Pocan	Veasey
Krishnamoorthi	Pou	Velázquez
Landsman	Pressley	Wasserman
Larsen (WA)	Quigley	Schultz
Larson (CT)	Ramirez	Waters
Latimer	Randall	Watson Coleman
Lee (PA)	Raskin	Williams (GA)
Leger Fernandez	Rivas	Wilson (FL)
Levin	Ross	

## NOT VOTING—18

Amodei (NV)	Gimenez	Lee (FL)
Beatty	Goldman (NY)	Luna
Billirakis	Graves	Neal
Brecheen	Houlihan	Rogers (KY)
DesJarlais	Jackson (IL)	Sherrill
Fedorchak	Kustoff	Tonko

□ 1536

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 183 and NAY on Roll Call No. 184.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes because of an important family matter. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 183 and NAY on Roll Call No. 184.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I missed a series of votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 183 and YEA on Roll Call No. 184.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 183, H.R. 875, and YEA on Roll Call No. 184, H.R. 275.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BRECHEEN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained due to illness and was not able to cast my vote on Roll Call No. 183 and 184. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 183 and YEA on Roll Call No. 184.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

## DIRECTING THE CLERK TO MAKE CHANGE IN ENGROSSMENT OF H.R. 275, SPECIAL INTEREST ALIEN REPORTING ACT OF 2025

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Clerk be directed to make the change in the engrossment of H.R. 275 that I placed at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARIDOPOLOS). The Clerk will report the change.

The Clerk read as follows:

In section 2(c)(2) of the bill, strike “4872(d)(2)” and insert “4872(f)(2)”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the change is agreed to.

There was no objection.

## REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1329

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 1329.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is granted.

## AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR A CEREMONY TO PRESENT THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS AWARDED UNDER THE HARLEM HELLFIGHTERS CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 39, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

## H. CON. RES. 39

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

## SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR CEREMONY TO PRESENT CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS AWARDED UNDER HARLEM HELLFIGHTERS CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used on September 3, 2025, for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medals awarded under the Harlem Hellfighters Congressional Gold Medal Act (Public Law 117–38).

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

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1540

## MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE CAROLYN MCCARTHY

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

Ms. GILLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise, together with my colleagues from the New York delegation, to honor the memory of former Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy from New York's Fourth Congressional District.

She was a trailblazer in Congress and a visionary leader who turned an unimaginable tragedy into a lifelong mission to protect others.

Carolyn was a tireless advocate for the South Shore of Nassau County on Long Island and a fearless champion in the fight against gun violence. After the heartbreaking loss of her husband and the injuring of her son in a horrific shooting, Carolyn could have retreated into grief, but instead she chose action.

She ran for Congress as a mother, a nurse, and a voice for families devastated by the senseless scourge of gun violence. Her courage helped shape the national conversation and inspired a generation of advocates whose work is saving lives in communities across our country every day.

She also advocated for America's children as a member of the Education and Workforce Committee, working to fund school lunch programs. She was also key in drafting the watershed No Child Left Behind Act in 2001, which aimed to make our schools more accessible for students with disabilities.

My family, all of us on Long Island, the New York delegation, New York State, and our Nation mourn her passing. We are praying for her loved ones and for all the lives who were touched by her decades of service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join us now in a moment of silence in memory of the Honorable Carolyn McCarthy.

## BILL CODY RANCH CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL

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

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable Wyoming institution, the Bill Cody Ranch, as it celebrates its centennial. For 100 years, the Bill Cody Ranch has welcomed guests from across the country, giving them a taste of the American West.

As a flagbearer of Wyoming's dude ranch community, the Bill Cody Ranch is truly a remarkable testament to the enduring cowboy spirit that we hold near and dear to our hearts in Wyoming.

The Bill Cody Ranch continues as a living legacy of stewardship, hospitality, and dedication to our way of life. Please join me in congratulating the ranch and the many families who have called it home on reaching this marvelous milestone.

Their commitment to preserving Wyoming's heritage is something that we are all proud of. I thank them, and congratulate them once again on this historic milestone.

#### FOLLOW THE MONEY

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I have repeatedly told people, when asked about the rationale for actions of this administration, to follow the money.

Yesterday, in the House Budget Committee, we heard alarming testimony from expert witness Robert Gordon. He reminded us of those motives in the Republicans' reconciliation bill when he explained the lucrative opportunities for powerful private contractors to profit off of the red tape the bill creates in Medicaid.

Republicans' beautiful bill for billionaires requires increased work check-ins for people to retain that Medicaid. For employment data, States are likely to use the work number from Equifax, which costs over \$20 per person per search. Under the bill, more than 18 million people would have to be checked every month. That equates to \$360 million per month, and that is \$4.32 billion per year or roughly \$43 billion over the bill's 10-year budget going to the vendors who are going to be making money to be processing this. Follow the money.

#### RECOGNIZING SUHINA MITRA

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

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Suhina Mitra, a remarkable high school student from Brevard County, who has shown an incredible commitment to service in our community.

While attending West Shore Junior and Senior High School, she became youth ambassador for the Children's Home Society of Florida. She has volunteered with groups like Who We Play For and HOSA Future Health Professionals.

Through a web-based campaign, Mitra raised over \$20,000 to enhance STEM education activities at Endeavour Elementary School and even served as her senior high class president. For her efforts, she earned the national Peter R. Marsh Silent Servant Scholarship Award.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Ms. Mitra for her leadership and her service to community.

#### RECOGNIZING LOCAL NAACP LEADERS

(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, the vibrant African-American community in the Bronx and Westchester County have had a tireless advocate on their side for decades, the NAACP, fighting for reform and social progress, the rights of residents who want a fair shot in life and a better today and tomorrow for their children.

We are all familiar with the effective advocacy of the NAACP, including the lifetime achievement of Dr. Hazel Dukes, who recently passed away, but there are local heroes, too, who do exceptional work in our hometown neighborhoods.

Let me recognize some of these key branch leaders:

In Co-Op City, Leslie Peterson and Brenda Brown;

In New Rochelle, Aisha Cook and Jareca Lee;

In Yonkers, Kisha Skipper and Karen Edmonson;

In Williamsbridge, Laura Rhodan and Shirley Fearon;

In Mt. Vernon, Kathie Brewington and A.J. Woodson;

In White Plains-Greenburgh, Janice Griffiths;

In Port Chester-Rye, James Hender-son III.

I also recognize other leaders such as Minister Mark McLean, Reverend Frank Coleman, and Reverend Margaret Fountain-Coleman.

Their hard work and principled advocacy for equal rights, economic justice, and education warrants recognition on the floor of the House of Representatives.

#### MADISON WASMER EARNS EAGLE SCOUT AWARD

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

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Madison Wasmer.

Madison is a junior at Jackson High School and has recently earned the Eagle Scout Award, becoming the first female in Jackson County to earn this distinction. To achieve this, Madison obtained 21 merit badges, showcasing fundamental skills she learned as a Scout and commitment to her community.

Madison is a true leader who has served on her school's student council, engaged in local cleanup initiatives, and assisted special needs students.

A member of Troop 7056, Madison embodied the spirit of the Scouts, which is to make ethical and moral choices that contribute to the well-being of society, ultimately fostering civic engagement and love of community.

Southern Ohio is proud of Madison's accomplishments, and we are happy to

call her one of our own. I look forward to seeing how she continues to create positive change in Ohio's Second Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, I also recognize Madison's grandmother and her Scoutmaster, Ryan Pelliter, for their role in this process. Without them, this achievement would not have been possible. I congratulate Madison.

#### PRESIDENT TRUMP'S PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE FEMA

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

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with grave concerns about Donald Trump's proposal to eliminate FEMA.

In September 2024, western North Carolina was ravaged by Hurricane Helene, the most devastating storm in our State's history. We lost over 100 lives, and countless communities were changed forever.

In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Helene, FEMA provided indispensable support to save lives, clear debris, and house families who lost everything.

As hurricane season begins, it is a disgrace that Donald Trump and his administration are proposing the elimination of FEMA. This scheme is nothing less than a slap in the face to the western North Carolina communities that he pledged to support.

If Trump really cares about effectively managing disaster response, then he should submit a funding request to Congress to replenish the disaster fund. Eliminating FEMA is not the answer. It will put lives in jeopardy across the United States and severely hamper ongoing disaster efforts.

□ 1550

#### CONGRATULATING JIM DUNCAN

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

Mr. DOWNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my dear friend, Jim Duncan, on his well-earned retirement as president of the Billings Clinic Foundation.

For three decades, Jim served the great folks of the Treasure State, advocating tirelessly for rural healthcare access and the expansion of community wellness programs. Jim grew the foundation's endowments from \$3 million to an astounding \$150 million, funds that will benefit the community for generations to come.

Jim also played a key role in introducing innovation and excellence in Montana health services, helping to bring new cancer, cardiac, pediatric, psychiatric, and trauma care to eastern Montana.

Jim's advocacy will be missed, but I know the foundation will be left in

good hands with Nichole Mehling at the helm.

Jim led with integrity, vision, and compassion. I wish him and his wife, Heidi, a well-deserved, adventure-filled retirement.

#### AMERICA IN DECLINE UNDER REPUBLICAN ECONOMIC POLICIES

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

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, under the economic policies of Donald Trump and Republicans, America is now in decline. For the first time in 3 years, we have negative GDP growth. That means our economy actually shrank this year.

It takes a special kind of stupid to take 12 consecutive quarters of positive economic growth and make it go negative. We also know inflation has increased, and Trump Republicans want to make it worse. They want to pass the big, ugly bill that is going to cut off healthcare for over 16 million Americans, all in service of massive tax breaks to billionaires.

Tell them to take their heads out of the sand and stop harming the American people. Trump and Republicans should be working for the American people, not for billionaires.

#### REMEMBERING JOHN W. GROTKE

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

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to the extraordinary life and dedicated service of John W. Grotke, a proud resident of Eden, New York, who recently passed away on June 19, 2025.

John proudly served in the United States Marine Corps, where he dedicated several years of his life to upholding the values of honor, courage, and commitment. During his time in uniform, his service exemplified a deep sense of patriotism and dedication to our country.

After serving in the military, John also served as the commander of the Hamburg American Legion Post 527, where he played a leading role as a voice for the organization and representing his members effectively. He devoted his time advocating for veterans in the community and ensuring their families receive the care they deeply deserve.

John was not only an exemplary marine but a strong leader and wonderful husband, father, and friend. He was the beloved husband of Karen Grotke; loving father of Matthew, Keith, Gregory, and Joshua; and the cherished grandfather of six grandchildren.

John W. Grotke leaves behind a legacy of service and unwavering dedication to his community and his country. His accomplishments and leadership

leave a lasting impact and set a gold standard that will continue to inspire generations to come.

The western New York community was blessed to have such a remarkable resident. May he rest in peace.

#### CLOSURE OF QUARTZ HILL POST OFFICE

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

Mr. WHITESIDES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to sound the alarm on the impending closure of the Quartz Hill Post Office and who knows how many other contract postal units across the country.

On June 1, Stan Boylan, a veteran and the owner of the Quartz Hill Post Office, received a written termination notice informing him that his post office was scheduled to close.

My family loves the Quartz Hill Post Office. My wife was devastated to hear this news. We are not alone. It has been a staple of our community for over 70 years and services tens of thousands of my constituents.

I say we do not know the scale of closures because, even after I submitted an inquiry to the Acting Postmaster General, we have not yet been given a straight answer. What we do know is that the White House has been trying to absorb this historically independent agency and has given DOGE the green light to cut USPS staff and gut services.

Let me be clear. The United States Postal Service does not use taxpayers dollars for operating costs. Reducing post office locations will lead to slower service, longer wait times, and delays in receiving packages, medications, and other necessary deliveries.

I urge the Postmaster General to reverse the decision to terminate the Quartz Hill Post Office contract.

#### NO TAX DOLLARS FOR RIOTS ACT

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

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, this week I am introducing the No Tax Dollars for Riots Act, a bill that will assure that public funding is not used to create the sort of horrifying scenes that we just witnessed in Los Angeles.

In the wake of the L.A. riots, we have learned that a group claiming nonprofit status known as CHIRLA received \$34 million in State funding and some Federal funding, as well. This group played a central role in organizing the riots, providing real-time locations to the rioters of where Federal officers could be found. Several of these Federal officers were subsequently assaulted with bricks and Molotov cocktails.

My bill will assure that an organization like this, whose officers are con-

victed of assaulting, resisting, or impeding Federal officers, or of organizing, promoting, encouraging, participating in, or carrying on a riot under sections 111 or 2101 of title 18 of the U.S. Code loses their nonprofit status and is ineligible for Federal funding going forward.

This is a commonsense step that will prevent the sort of lawlessness that we saw in Los Angeles from reappearing in our State or elsewhere in the country.

#### STUDENT VISA PROCESS

(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 talk about an issue that is hurting our country that we aren't talking about enough, and that is the uncertainty of this administration's student visa process.

We have students doing groundbreaking research that are being forced to leave the country, students that last academic year contributed \$43 billion to the U.S. economy. The administration is trying to prevent institutions from enrolling top international students altogether.

The United States has welcomed international students for decades. Some of them include world leaders, founders of billion-dollar companies here, and over 40 percent of the founders of the American leading AI companies, just as a few examples.

We are shooting ourselves in the foot. Instead, why don't we go back to being a place that welcomes students to dream big and conduct groundbreaking research no matter where they are coming from?

Why don't we become a place that unites people of all backgrounds and welcomes the best and brightest? That is something that makes our country great.

#### TRINE UNIVERSITY 2025 WOMEN'S SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Angola, Indiana's, Trine University women's softball team on winning the 2025 NCAA Division III softball championship. Under the leadership of head coach Donnie Danklefsen, the Thunder gave the championship game their all.

This game was a nail-biter, as the team was down by one run throughout most of the game. On top of that, the team's star pitcher, Alexis Michon, pitched the entire game despite an injury early on.

Even with this adversity, the team rallied together and kept their determination to win. Everything turned around for the Thunder in the sixth inning when Emma Lee crushed a three-

run homer and this team sailed to a 3-1 victory.

Trine University women's softball has continued to make Indiana's Third District proud, as this is their second national title in 3 years. Their perfect post-season is a testament to the hard work and talent of this team.

These women have set an example for all of us as to the achievements that are possible with unwavering dedication and strong leadership.

To the 2025 Trine University softball team, congratulations on this monumental accomplishment. I know each of you will continue to pursue excellence and set an example for others.

#### RECOGNIZING SISTER TERESA LYNCH

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Sister Teresa Lynch, who will be retiring from Santa Ana's Saint Anne School.

She served as a teacher for 31 years and principal for 19 years at Saint Genevieve and Saint Anne School. She also worked to improve the lives of incarcerated prisoners at the California Institute for Women in Chino, California. She also co-directed the Get on the Bus program that connected children with their incarcerated parents.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Sister Teresa for showing us all what it means to care for the community. I thank her for her friendship.

I congratulate Sister Teresa on her retirement. I suspect now, as a retiree, she will be busier than ever.

□ 1600

#### CELEBRATING NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH

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

Mr. FONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of National Dairy Month and to honor the hardworking dairy farmers of California, our Nation's leading dairy producer.

In my district, which encompasses Tulare, Fresno, Kings, and Kern Counties, we are proud to be the epicenter of dairy production. Tulare County alone holds the title of the largest dairy-producing county in America. It is home to 500,000 dairy cows, 222 dairies, and some of the largest dairy-processing plants.

Most of these dairies are family-owned enterprises. I myself personally know the effort it takes to operate these family businesses. I am proud of the legacy of my own family members who are in the dairy industry and who brought their farms to the Central Valley.

Even our region's large-scale operations remain rooted in family tradi-

tions, reflecting the dedication and perseverance of our agricultural communities.

Together, these dairies contribute one-fifth of our Nation's milk supply, producing everything from butter to ice cream, nourishing families and bringing joy to countless households across America.

To our dairy farmers, I thank them for their tireless efforts to feed our Nation. Their work sustains us, and it is an honor to stand in their corner.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF MARZIE THOMAS

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Ms. Marzie Thomas. Ms. Thomas served as my district director in my Memphis office since 2013.

She came to my office first in 2007. She was an outstanding human being who cared about everybody that came into her office and who needed constituent services. She was a special person in Memphis because she represented what people in Memphis do, who are really good people and who care about others.

She cared about her family, Alonzo Thomas, her husband who passed away in 2024; her two children; her grandchild; and her sister who survives her.

She cared about her church, East Trigg Baptist Church, a famous church where the Reverend Brewster was known for his gospel songs that he wrote and sang. She was in the choir and had a beautiful voice. She was very dedicated to her church and Pastor Beasley.

She was concerned about our country, serving for a long time in my office. She was just a wonderful person. She was a great friend to me. She cared about me greatly, and I miss her much. She had a life well-lived, and I was thankful and fortunate to have her work with me in the office.

#### ADDRESSING IMMIGRATION INEFFICIENCIES

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, just days ago, a Hawaii veteran, Sae Joon Park, said goodbye to his family which included his elderly mother with dementia, his two adult children, and his home.

Mr. Park was shot twice in combat, earning a Purple Heart for his bravery. Yet despite his sacrifice, ICE officers gave him no choice but to deport himself back to South Korea after nearly 50 years.

Mr. Park served. He fought. He belonged. Yes, he made mistakes, as many veterans struggling with PTSD do, but he turned his life around. That

is the reality for many veterans. They fight hard for this country and still face battles back home and, too often, alone.

Republicans are now pushing a funding bill that would abandon even more veterans like Mr. Park. It shifts critical care from the VA to private corporations and makes it harder for women and immigrant veterans to get the services they need.

This bill isn't efficiency. It is cruelty. I will not stand by while Republicans turn our veterans into bargaining chips.

When we fail our veterans, we are not just breaking a promise. We are breaking our people.

#### FIGHTING FOR LGBTQ RIGHTS

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago today, our Nation made a remarkable step toward equality with the legalization of gay marriage. This was a day that came after decades of advocacy by individuals and organizations across the country, including Garden State Equality in my home State of New Jersey.

The rights of our friends and neighbors are under continuous attack from the Trump administration including by cutting HIV treatment and prevention and rolling back antidiscrimination protections.

More than 1.3 million Americans have sought lifesaving help by making the call to 988. Yet this administration has eliminated funding for those specialized services. These are blatant attempts to harm the LGBTQ community that has already overcome so much and made incredible strides towards equality.

It is here in this Chamber that we should be standing beside them and fighting for them. When we are elected here to serve here in the people's House, it is our obligation to fight for everyone that we have the privilege of representing.

Mr. Speaker, that is what I will always do and what I urge my colleagues across the aisle to do, as well.

#### STOP BATHING IN FOLKLORE AND START BATHING IN MATH

(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, we are having a really exciting discussion with my buddy of how CBO actually does scoring on things. I was trying to explain that some of the things we consider absurd are actually our fault because it is the law that we have passed to tell CBO how to do the scoring.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make an apology to everyone because this one will

go a little longer than normal. Yes, I know. Everyone can grab a cup of coffee or something. Hopefully, the Sergeant at Arms—we are apparently not allowed to drink coffee on the floor. Whatever happens, don't get caught, right?

Mr. Speaker, I am going to try three things tonight. I will upset a number of folks. I am sorry. My math will be accurate because we have spent the last couple of days double-checking it.

I am going to try to do something a little insane. I am going to walk folks through the Social Security actuary report. We are just going to do some of the most basic parts of it so folks understand what the reality is.

Number two, I am going to walk through actually something that really bothers me because I have a number of politicians on the left and the right who spend day and night making up math. Mr. Speaker, can you believe that?

They attack the CBO. They attack the Joint Committee on Taxation, this and that. I am going to walk us through parts of the accuracy and what we call the variance report done by the Congressional Budget Office and try to demonstrate—yes, there are mistakes. They are actually more accurate than most of the outside groups.

That is uncomfortable because one of the other things I am going to touch on—and this is tough—is we have aspirational documents coming from the White House and from our own folks here on what growth can be. We can actually do remarkable growth, but we have to do very difficult policies to make it work.

Are we going to do talent-based immigration? Are we going to do incentives to automate, to modernize, to use technology, or to even use AI? My fear is we want to take credit for very high growth numbers, as in GDP grows this, but we are not willing to do the hard lift with the policy.

With that, I will explain why that is so important. The growth of debt, the drivers of debt, is the thing it is hard to tell the truth about.

I am going to show some charts in a little bit, Mr. Speaker, that show over the next 10 years interest is the number one driver of debt and then healthcare, Medicare, almost exclusively.

It is hard to explain that it is actually like 65-35 now. The some \$22 trillion dollars that are baseline and then stack everything else on it that is going to be borrowed over the next 10 years, about 60 or 65 of that is just interest.

Whether we like it or not, the reality of it is this country, our Federal Government, is an insurance company with an Army. We don't have enough cash in the bank to pay for all the promises we made as part of that insurance coverage.

Let's have at it, Mr. Speaker. I keep bringing this chart because it is a really simple visual. Think of the people

who almost attack us in our hallways and say: How can you want to cut spending?

We show them this chart that says baseline spending. It is \$86 trillion over the next 10 years. All we are talking about on the House reconciliation budget—and my understanding is the Senate, our good friends down the hallway, their cuts and spending are even more anemic.

□ 1610

It is 2.3 percent. \$86 trillion is the baseline spending for the next 10 years. We are trying in the House reconciliation budget to cut \$2 trillion. That caused absolute panic because Washington, D.C., is about one thing. It is about money. When so much of America makes its money off D.C. policy, this has caused absolute panic, but it is a fraction. Mr. Speaker, when you see the new data on what is happening in healthcare costs—we have got some new data today that the numbers are even worse. Almost no one has actually started to do the math—the fact that the Social Security Medicare actuary report from 4 days ago actually has an 11 percent cut coming in the Medicare trust fund in 2033. That is not actually in the baseline debt numbers.

Mr. Speaker, are we just going to pretend that we didn't get older as a society?

Let's actually walk through.

Mr. Speaker, I have done this chart for a decade. About 74 percent of all spending is on autopilot. It is what we call mandatory. It is interest, it is Social Security, it is Medicaid, it is Medicare, and it is other promises that are built into the formula. Members of Congress almost never ever get the chance to vote on any of this red. The only time it will ever really come up is if we have a reconciliation budget.

All the blue, defense and nondefense, is 25, 26 percent of our spending. Every dime of it is borrowed. Please, anyone who cares, get this in your head: Every dime—other than some of the things in the reconciliation budget, every dime a Member of Congress will vote on, many for their entire careers, is borrowed money.

Mr. Speaker, you see this 26 percent that is in blue, that is defense and non-defense discretionary.

This year we are on track for every dollar we bring in in tax receipts—that is corporate taxes, that is individual taxes, that is everything—we are going to spend \$1 in, \$1.39 out the door.

Does anyone see a math problem?

Mr. Speaker, 1 month ago, Moody's actually downgraded U.S. debt, so now the three big rating agencies have lowered our credit. We actually have 18 States in America that have a higher credit rating than the Federal Government.

If anyone bothered to actually read it, it was actually really well done. There were a lot of details. Mr. Speaker, you would have had to have gotten it through a Bloomberg Terminal or

pay a subscription. We are blessed to have a Bloomberg Terminal.

Yes, they got attacked by people who want to keep spending money who said: Stop. You can't downgrade U.S. sovereign debt.

The other two rating agencies had done it years earlier. The punch line in there is that in less than 9 years—and this was assuming interest rates stayed stable—in 2034, 30 percent of all tax receipts just covered interest. If interest rates went up 1 percent, Mr. Speaker, 1 percent, in 2034, then 45 percent of all U.S. tax receipts pay interest.

Are we paying attention?

Yet, the first words I will get from my brothers and sisters on the left are: Well, just raise taxes.

I will show over and over here, Mr. Speaker, that if you look at times when we had high marginal tax rates, low marginal tax rates, we basically always get about 17 to 18, sometimes 18½, percent of the economy in tax receipts.

There is our problem, it is that split. Right now if we are sitting in the almost 18 percent of the economy we are taking in in taxes, but we are spending 24—and understand, over the next few years it goes from 24, to 25, to 26—that gap is the annual deficit that gets piled on to the debt.

I have lots of charts here that actually start to show—let me see if I can find my favorite one here—that when we actually raise—well, actually, I hid it in the back so we will do that as a whole section.

How many understand we borrow \$6 billion a day?

How many understand in 9 years we are borrowing over \$10 billion a day?

Right now that means we borrow \$72,000 a second. In 9 years we are functionally borrowing over \$100,000 a second. The reason I try to break it down like that, is I am trying to find a way to make numbers like this, absolutely crazy numbers, work.

Mr. Speaker, so you have that.

My Democrat brothers and sisters have legislation they have introduced over the years. They have never actually brought it to the floor even when they controlled this body and controlled the White House. It gives you a sense, Mr. Speaker.

Economic study, go on Manhattan Institute, Riedl, it is about 1 year, 1.5 years old, they did the scoring on all the Democrats' tax proposals.

Here is the problem: Increasing taxes, Mr. Speaker, when you did actually all of them—and I am going to do this in a couple of fashions—you basically got to the point that when you did all the corporate, the estate, the individual, and then you did the economic effects, you got about 1.5 percent of the economy.

All the taxes hikes—every time we have someone over on that side saying: Just raise taxes—if we do every one of their tax proposals, then we get 01.5 percent.

Hopefully, everyone knows what the joke is.

We are going to borrow 7.3 percent of the economy this year, and in 9 years we are borrowing 9 percent of the economy.

How do we tell the truth to the American people that we are going to have to embrace things that are actually hopeful?

The cost of healthcare—it is always fascinating, I always thought I would get beaten up for saying this behind the microphone, and, shockingly, we have had people being remarkably kind to us.

The economist in my Joint Economic Committee—and it was a hard report to write—a couple years ago wrote a major study saying: What does obesity cost America?

That is not Republican or Democrat. It is just what we are. It means, every time you say that, Mr. Speaker, did you make all the people who make money off certain foods, off of certain healthcare, and other things, nervous?

We came up with a number 2 years ago. It was \$9.1 trillion of additional healthcare spending over 10 years.

Now this one is a few years old. Milken did a study, he said that 47 percent of all U.S. healthcare spending was associated with obesity.

Is that Republican or Democrat?

It is just the math. It is something we could do together around here.

How do we help our brothers and sisters be healthier so they live longer? How do we help them so they could maybe have more family formation, live a life, participate in the economy, and use a hell of a lot less healthcare?

Mr. Speaker, you know the perversity around here. When we start talking about maybe we need to modernize how we do agriculture in America, what we grow, because we concentrate functionally on like five crops.

What should we do? This is a question—and I have been attacked by Democrats on this—is it moral to give an EBT card, modern food stamps, to someone to go buy onion rings?

I love onion rings. It is one of my addictions. I am working on getting off of it.

Is it moral with taking hard-earned money, rare resources—remember, it is borrowed money now—and say: Go eat crap.

Now the people who sell onion rings come lobby us and come attack us and say: People should have the choice. They should with their own money.

The fact of the matter is, when we looked at some of the data of the 7 million prime-age males who are missing in America, we have a data set that says about one-half of that population may be missing from the labor force. They are missing from the American labor force not because of drugs and not because of video games but because of health, because of obesity.

Are we allowed to talk about it?

Mr. Speaker, a bit of trivia. Let's do something I consider wonderfully funny and amusing.

In the last 20 years, what is the only success that has happened in the

United States of helping young people get healthier?

Remember, under Michelle Obama's initiatives with President Obama, I think we spent, it was \$16 billion or \$36 billion, but some number like that, and it had absolutely no success. This was the dietary issues and the food issues, trying to get young people to go exercise. Can anyone guess?

Come on, this is a play-at-home game. It was Pokemon GO. I know it sounds crazy, but the gamification actually was the one great example of success for the last couple decades of helping young people get healthier.

What if we took that knowledge of, hey, these incentives do work, and actually legalese that and made that part of how we deliver healthcare services or how we allow insurers to provide incentives because the ACA ObamaCare is a finance bill.

□ 1620

It is who gets subsidized and who has to pay. You have three age groups and smoking. You could be creative enough to add a fifth category that says you can provide a series of these sorts of incentives, so when you wear the digital ring, wear the smartwatch on your wrist, or walk 5,000 steps, at the end of the month, we are going to give you something. Is that Republican or Democratic? Or is it just using data to try to keep our brothers and sisters healthier?

The stock answer is to just raise taxes on rich people. The math doesn't get you anywhere close. It may make you feel better. It may make you feel better, but I am going to show you numbers that should scare you half to death.

Let's continue to try to run through healthcare expenses. We are going to have to update our charts because we got one just a couple of hours ago and didn't have a chance. It actually had the spending growth on healthcare over the next decade actually accelerating again.

Here is part of my problem. Nominal, which means before inflation, we actually have domestic productivity growing at 4.3 percent over the next decade. We have healthcare growing at 5.8 percent. It is geeky, but that margin keeps separating and separating. Unless we are willing to do policy, whether it be technology or incentives to stay healthy, these sorts of things, if that separation continues, the debt picture is actually worse.

Mr. Speaker, at some point, I am going to show a slide here that if you actually take some of the policy we are working on, the baseline between now and 2035 of the \$22 trillion we are supposed to borrow, some of the potential financing costs of what the Senate is doing right now, the higher interest rates, we are not exactly there, but we come close to doubling U.S. sovereign debt over the next decade. That took us 240 years, and we functionally double it in the next decade.

Let's get to the really uncomfortable stuff. I have to admit that I am only two-thirds through the Social Security actuary report. I have one on my desk that has highlights and little questions and things that I have to get my economists to go back to help me understand. For some, I actually don't like some of the math I see.

I am going to try something, and we are going to try to build a chart on this. This is crazy math, but we see it in the report.

You will have lots of activists say to just open up immigration. That will take care of the Social Security shortfall. Remember, the report says, in 2033—so, what is that? Seven or 8 years from now, there is a 23 percent cut coming in Social Security checks. That means we will double—we have had witnesses that explained this to us. We will double senior poverty after 2033.

Are we ready to do that? Is that moral?

Yet, I will get folks who will say that if we just open up immigration—it turns out that is actually not the math because one of the real reasons they moved up the date of the exhaustion of the Social Security trust fund was actually flattening of wage growth. It turns out there is no free option here.

We have some charts that show some things. Here are people who are undocumented in America. They are working under stolen Social Security numbers. They are giving into the system, but they are never going to get anything out. Then, you look at the suppression of wage growth. I know this is geeky, but I sort of need to lay a marker on the suppression of wage growth. When you bring in millions of people across the border who have similar skill sets, and they are often willing to sell their skill sets for even less money, Social Security actuary reports are now modeling a flattening of wage growth. That is one of the things that has actually shortened the life of the Social Security trust fund by a year.

The next time someone says that we just need to open up the borders, that that will take care of the Social Security trust fund, it turns out that it doesn't work that way. You actually didn't get anything from it. You did a suppression of working people's wages, and this one takes us out about a decade.

I don't know why people don't think, don't understand, these almost basic economic—we all went to our high school economics class, right? Here is what is coming. You have the 23 percent cut coming in 2033. If you are watching this and don't plan to be around in 2033, you don't have to care. The one that we have had almost no discussion about is that the Medicare trust fund is gone in 2033. That means if it lives off its income, its tax receipts from the FICA taxes, it is still an 11 percent cut.

The next time we get someone here saying that we need more money for

our hospitals, outpatient surgeries, and hospice care, point out to them that, in 7 years, there is an ugly cut coming. This 11 percent shortfall isn't even in our long-run CBO projections yet because a year ago, to give you an idea of how these numbers eroded in 1 year—I think 2054 was in last year's actuary report for when the trust fund was gone.

How many people over the last week, because this has been out for almost a week now, have you seen come behind these microphones and say maybe we should all work together, do something that is mathematically honest, or just even tell our voters the truth that, in 7 years, you are getting a 23 percent cut in your Social Security check and, by the way, another 11 percent cut in your hospital coverage and other things because the Medicare part A trust fund is gone.

For those who don't understand, and that is most of us, of the portion of your payroll tax that goes to Medicare, about 38, 40 percent of it is covered by the trust fund. That is the hospital portion, as we typically refer to it. The rest of it actually comes out of the general fund.

One of the most difficult numbers I have in my dataset here—because this is the one that I see people get upset about—is the primary driver of U.S. debt. Interest? It is healthcare. For every dollar you put into Medicare, you are getting \$6 to \$7 back. That delta is uncomfortable to talk about, but it turns out to be that and interest are the primary drivers.

All right, you start to actually look at some more—and I put this chart together just because I thought it was really interesting. We finally actually have really good data that has been designed on what happened during the Biden administration having the border open. We got some direct effects of, hey, we got a little bit more tax receipts and potential effects over time, but it turns out its deficit effects are more than two times because of the consumption of services.

It turns out that when someone tells you this is going to grow the economy, it is not in the economic literature. It may be in your aspirations, in your heart, or how you feel, but it is not in the economic literature. Tell the truth about the math.

National health expenditures as a percentage of GDP—remember, a couple of moments ago, I told you we are trying to figure it out. We just got another report that we expect the growth of healthcare spending to pop almost 3 percent more than modeled. That is a lot of money. Here is the punch line: We estimate that this year, right now, we are right here. We are spending about 18 percent of the entire economy on healthcare.

□ 1630

In 9 years, it is over 20 percent. Those differences are monstrous. That is functionally a 12.8 percent growth in

the cost of delivering healthcare in that 9-year span. This is going to tie into why I am talking about some of our growth rate projections.

How do you hit these folks who are running around saying: "David, we are going to grow at 3, 4, 5 percent GDP growth." At the same time, interest and expenditures are chewing up everything around us. How does that math work?

Then, I am going to show you some of the demographics. I am going to probably say this twice just so it starts to bleed in.

Today, we have the same number of 18-year-olds as we had 20 years ago. We have doubled the number of people 65 and up. So, functionally, we have the same number of 18-year-olds—it is no one's fault. It is not Republican and Democratic. Starting in 1990, U.S. fertility rates rolled over. We have a shortage of young people in America.

Tell me how I grow the economy if you are not going to let me do things like automation of ports, automated rail, AI, technology, allowing AI when it has the right data to be able to prescribe, and people go: "Oh, I don't like that." Fine. Tell me how much poorer you are willing to live.

It is economics. If I can't grow the economy, yet I am being buried in debt service and increased costs for providing the services, tell me how I am to pay for it.

There is a path where I can make this math—I can't pay it off. I can stabilize it and make this another American century, but, damn it, how do I do it in a body that is just terrified of telling the truth about math or just basic economics?

This is the reality. This is our latest report. In 2033, 20.3 percent of the economy will just be healthcare. Considering government is functionally the primary payer, I think we are well over half of all healthcare spending coming out of the trust fund and the general fund.

Does anyone see a problem? Do you remember, a moment ago, I showed you that the Social Security and Medicare actuary report said that there is an 11 percent cut coming in 2033? Are we going to let that happen? Probably not. Are we going to reach into the general fund to pay for it? Probably. It is not in the debt projections yet. The scale of this is off the charts.

Back to the math problem. If I am making someone unhappy, be mad at the math, not me. Be mad at all the people who have never told you the truth with a calculator.

How do I save my future? Remember, my little boy turned 3 years old yesterday. I have a 9-year-old. Yes, they are adopted. It is a miracle. My wife is my age. Yes, we have screwed up my retirement. It is the most fun I have ever had in my life.

My child will be the first generation to live poorer than his mommy and daddy. Great job, America. This is our morality.

People will say: "No, it is going to be great." Great. Okay. I hope it is great. Tell me how I do it in the math. Walk me through the economics. Walk me through what we are going to do to maximize GDP growth or what we are going to do to change productivity.

People will say that we are going to just grow. Okay, tell me how. That is our problem right now. We are using these wonderful, aspirational words, and we are not doing any of the policy.

The reality of it is that Social Security, Medicare, and net interest account for 80 percent of the spending growth.

If you are a Member of Congress, how many protesters did you have in your office this last couple of days? "You can't review. You can't go after waste and fraud and Medicaid." Medicare Advantage, The Wall Street Journal has done a five-part series that, if you add it all up, is \$1 trillion to \$2 trillion of waste and fraud over 10 years. "That is hard. You can't actually talk about that."

If we can't do the work, how do you save the country? How do you save my kids' future? How do you save your own retirement? Maybe we can just keep lying to each other and the public because the public really doesn't want to hear these things.

There is a path to make this math work, but you keep telling me that we are going to take off on productivity, but then you see the charts of available young people to participate in the labor force. The number keeps falling and falling.

Remember, we have the smallest group of 18-year-olds as a percentage of population in U.S. history, and next year is even smaller, and the year after that is even smaller, and the year after that is even smaller. "David, we are going to grow like crazy." We can, but you have to do policies that maximize productivity. "Productivity might cause creative destruction." We are not allowed to do free-market economics anymore. Remember, we are populists now.

If you embrace that you are going to drive this country—we will still be greater than any country on Earth, but we are going to give up so much.

Prosperity is moral. The growth is moral. We are killing ourselves, but we are making promises that aren't in the data. They are not on the charts.

You have an idiot like me who gets behind the microphone week after week—I am not smart, but I am good at math—and tries to explain by saying that there are ways to make it work.

Mr. Speaker, 1 month ago, after almost a year's worth of work—I chair the Joint Economic Committee. I am number four in the Committee on Ways and Means. I chair the Subcommittee on Oversight. It is public now. The press broke the story. We have been doing investigations after The Wall Street Journal did that major series on Medicare Advantage—the amount of fraud, the people being diagnosed with



diseases they don't have, people being dumped on VA even though they had the Medicare Advantage insurance, and people being dumped in hospice care. If you don't know about it, grab your computer and google: The Wall Street Journal MA.

The MedPAC report—I have come to this floor year after year. I am sometimes thinking, Mr. Speaker, that I am the only idiot here who reads the MedPAC report. It is like this, but it is not a hard read.

In there, it will say that when we started Medicare Advantage in 2005, it was designed to come in at 95 percent of the cost of fee for service, but its model was that we were going to incentivize the folks who manage the care to make money by helping you be healthier. The incentive was that we were going to help populations be healthier.

The MedPAC report for the beginning of this year, today, comes at 120 percent of fee for service. Just that delta from the 95 to 120 percent over 10 years is like \$2 trillion.

Think about it. We are knifing each other right now, trying to figure out how to finance as much of this reconciliation budget as we can. I am an idiot, as I have been told by my wife over and over, because I thought we cared. We spent 6 months writing the modernization to Medicare Advantage to make it so it incentivizes to help our brothers and sisters who are 65 and up who choose Medicare Advantage, which is 55 percent of the population, to get services so that they are healthier.

The Joint Economic Committee economists say that, over 10 years, it is \$1.76 trillion of savings over 10 years. The preliminary score from our conversations with CBO—it is not in writing, but preliminary—is \$1.84 trillion, making it the largest savings bill in U.S. history. It doesn't take away a single service. It fixes the misalignment in the system.

Mr. Speaker, how many cosponsors do I have? The bill has been introduced for 1 month. Remember, we are tough. We are going to help stop this borrowing. We are going to take on the debt. I have zero cosponsors. We have visited almost 100 Members of Congress in their offices. "David, this is uncomfortable. It has big words. David, it has the word 'Medicare.'"

I beg of you, understand the scale of this debt. I have people now who won't even look me in the eye as they walk down the hallway because they are fearful that I might ask them again and again: "Will you sponsor this? You tell me you care. Help us. Help us do the right thing."

Yet, if I try to show what is going on—remember our baseline. Over the next 10 years, we expect to spend \$14.67 trillion on Medicare Advantage. It is not Medicare but just the Medicare Advantage portion. All we are trying to do is save about 10 percent of that. That is the alignment of incentives.

□ 1640

Stop telling me how much you care. Stop telling me you are a budget hawk. I am a budget hawk. I care about the budget. But God forbid, I am not putting my name on something that actually does something because that is hard.

I am the guy in the 50/50 district. I am in one of the most competitive districts in America, and yet I am willing to stand up behind this microphone and tell the truth and actually put it on paper.

My economists did a model over the next 10 years with what is happening demographically in America. We have a shortage of young people. President Trump said something that was brilliant on the campaign trail. He said: It is insane we educate people, then we send them home with their degrees from the American universities to compete with us. That sparked an idea, and then we got our economists to do the modeling.

It creates about \$150, \$160 billion of additional tax receipts in the 10-year window, but in the second 10-year window, it explodes. We wrote an immigration reform bill, moving the American immigration system to a talent-based system, but it has the word "immigration" in it so that scares the hell out of the political class because reporters will lie about it. The activists on Twitter or X, whatever it is, will lie about it, but the economics are incredibly important.

If you are going to move this country to raise its productivity so we can raise wages so we actually can survive what is happening in the actuarial reports of Medicare and Social Security, guess what? You almost can't close the numbers unless you do something like this.

The reason I am doing this is, we added the President's Gold Card, but it is skills based. I get people saying: I don't know how I feel about that. How many of you have a Dr. Patel? It was meant to be funny. I am from Scottsdale. It is one of the greatest medical communities in America, and a bunch of our great, amazing talent has come in from all over the world.

Stop bathing in folklore and start bathing in math.

Our third bill to pay for the reconciliation budget is less of a cut. This is using data to find where the hell is all the cash. It turns out if you add it all up, there is \$1.5 trillion sitting in accounts up and down government. It was appropriated 3 years ago, but they never built it.

There is a great example of hundreds of millions of dollars that were set aside for one State. It is in the account to build a bridge. They chose not to build that bridge. Cash is still sitting there. We call it Total Discretionary Balances Subject to Rescission. We call it forgotten funds. We are paying interest on that money. Almost every dime of this was borrowed money, and some of it has been sitting in accounts for years.

Why is it so hard? We have the legislation. I have introduced the legislation line item by line item saying let's just grab that cash, even if you just went back to know your money, or maybe the ones that are just a couple years out, it is a half a trillion dollars. Grab that cash and bring it back and put it under Treasury.

If we as Members of Congress want to appropriate it again, appropriate it again. I just gave you three pieces of legislation: I gave you fixing Medicare Advantage, alignment of the incentives. Moving to a talent-based immigration system, which, in the long run, is one of the most powerful things we can do for GDP growth for productivity. And capturing the forgotten funds. I just paid for most of the reconciliation bill.

Wouldn't that solve a bunch of our problems around here? Wouldn't that solve a bunch of the fighting? Wouldn't that solve a bunch of the stress when we are saying: We are going to borrow how much?

This year, we are going to borrow \$2.2 trillion. At the end of 2026, if we do what I think and the Senate is going to try to jam us, that is \$2.5, \$2.6 trillion of borrowing that year. But DAVID, we are going to have all this magical growth.

Look, I accept I am a senior Member. I have staff. I have really smart economists. I just brought you three bills without cutting a service to anyone. I found \$3.3 trillion of savings and not a single cosponsor in Congress.

I am going to try to do this next little section here. I don't want to be a jerk. I am going to hurt some people's feelings. The math is important. Why the math is important is because there are solutions. The reason I am doing this is, I think it was Monday or Tuesday, I had a Member I was talking to, great Member, brilliant in their area of specialty, really smart. I have spent my whole life doing budgets and healthcare finance and a few other weird things.

They said: DAVID, CBO is always wrong, the Congressional Budget Office. They make up things. It is way off.

Okay. For anyone that keeps telling you that, this is what you call a variance report. CBO puts it out every year. I know every staffer and every Member of Congress grabbed it in January and actually read the data.

If you look at the calculations—and I didn't actually bring one of the boards, which probably is good because it was really obnoxious. What did happen to that board?

CBO projected when we did the 2017 tax reform, 2018, 2019, just before the pandemic, they were like 99.5, 99 percent accurate. Don't tell anyone because it will make it harder for us to lie around here. Then you get Members saying: But over the next 5 years, they weren't accurate at all.

Does anyone remember there was this little thing called COVID? Does

anyone remember what Congress and the world actually did? We dumped how much cash into the world market. You are accurate to here, and then all of a sudden, we dumped how much cash? Do you think there is a chance when you borrow trillions and trillions of dollars, pump it out into the economy, you don't have your tax collections go up? Oh, but DAVID, they didn't project that. They didn't predict that. Come on, people. Stop it.

Because even now, when we get back to baseline after we got beyond COVID, they were still remarkably accurate. I found the chart. It was hidden back there. It is on the smaller board.

The fact of the matter is, what they projected and what actually happened—and this is actually 2018, not 2016, so I found a printing error—99.5 percent accuracy.

Mr. Speaker, they are not always accurate. Of what they projected for the clean energy tax credits and inflation reduction, they missed by miles because they didn't actually pay enough attention to the fact that they were uncapped. There are a number of things where they absolutely screwed up, but the fact of the matter is on tax collections, the numbers have been good, and we need a scorekeeper.

My grandfather used to have this saying: It doesn't matter how you play the game. It is who keeps score. He thought that was hysterical.

How do we convince the American people we are serious about economic growth, productivity, taking on the debt and deficits, and not bankrupting their future when we spend almost every day saying: Well, we don't like the scorekeeping.

Then you look at every outside group, the Tax Foundation, Yale Model Foundation, all these others, and it turns out CBO was more accurate than they were.

I am not standing here to be a defender of them. I am actually being a defender of my brothers and sisters here. Please, I know it makes our lives easier when we can attack the scorekeeper. We can say the scorekeeper didn't get it right, therefore, pay no attention when they say we are trying to add \$3, \$4 trillion of debt.

We are better than that. There is a reason so much of the economic press is just mocking us and making fun of us. I understand it is good politics. You get to go home, get in front of the audience that is not reading the Economic Press and say, they didn't get the it right. Let's treat our voters like they are adults. They understand what is going on.

□ 1650

These are the scores from Yale Budget Lab, from Penn Wharton, from Congressional Budget Office, from Joint Tax, Tax Policy Center, American Enterprise Institution, Tax Foundation, and then here is what we are telling people.

Is every other Ph.D. economist wrong?

It becomes an excuse not to do the things I was just complaining about when an idiot like me comes and says: I found you \$3.3 trillion in savings.

DAVID, we don't have to do those hard pieces of legislation. We don't have to explain those bills to our constituents. We don't have to take on the lobbyists who are going to be all upset with us. We will just tell people that it pays for itself.

So everyone else is wrong because it makes our life as policymakers easier. Somehow, we are going to have magic growth, magical thinking when just today parts of the latest census data came out. The population 65 and older rose by 3.1 percent in the last year, while the population 18 years old—under 18 decreased by 0.2 percent.

I am trying to make an argument that—I love the partisanship. I love a good fight with my Democratic brothers and sisters, but what happens when the debt and deficits are demographics? If we can blame the other side, we will just do this ping-pong back and forth—they are in charge, we are in charge, we are in charge, they are in charge—and we will blame each other. Then we are going to have a failed bond auction, and interest rates are going to explode.

Remember, there are datasets—I presented them here on the floor—that just a single point of interest going up over the next decade wipes out almost all the good we are trying to do extending the tax reform of 2017.

Mr. Speaker, there is a way to make this work, and I am mentally just exhausted. Maybe I need to consume more coffee or maybe I need to stop caring so much because I am really worried. There is a way to make this work. There is hope, but what happens when no one will hear a word you are saying because it requires doing hard stuff and pisses off some lobbyists or some group or some group that is in our office that wants us to regulate their competition's business or give them something?

We used to be the party of fiscal sanity. I still think we are. We can get there. We can do it. Maybe we just need to understand the math.

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

#### CENTRAL BANK DIGITAL CURRENCY

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

##### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to talk about central bank digital currencies.

A lot of people don't necessarily know what a central bank digital currency is, so we will start with a definition. A central bank digital currency begins with the central bank. The central bank in the United States is the Federal Reserve. The Federal Reserve manages our currency. They also manage settlement between banks, so when banks have to pay each other, they do it directly, but a lot of times they manage it through the central bank.

Central banks around the world, whether in the United States or the European Union, China's central bank, most countries have a central bank. Switzerland has the Bank for International Settlements. Their central bank is essentially the central banker to the central banks, so when central banks pay each other, they broker the transaction through the Bank for International Settlements.

What is the digital currency? Digital is sort of self-explanatory. Currency is a means of payment. Traditionally, you think of money, the system of money is as old as people. The right to transact predates any government. People would transact with one another before we had a government. It is an inherent natural right. As our Founders recognized, we are endowed by our creator with certain inalienable rights, that among them are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

One of the ways we pursue happiness is by transacting with each other: We buy things, or we make money from selling things. In the natural order, there is nobody between you and the person you want to do business with. In cash, that is still the case. When you hand a \$20 bill to somebody for sweeping your driveway or a \$100 bill for shoveling your driveway in the snow or things like that, that is between you and maybe the high school kid who came and shoveled your driveway. There is no third party to get in between you and the other person.

When you think about a lot of other transactions, we have sort of migrated to a digital payment system of sorts today that involves third parties, like Visa or Mastercard. They dominate the payment system in the United States. Banks are behind the credit cards, so they are in the scene, too, but fundamentally when you transact with a credit card people think, well, that is digital, and you are using a credit card company.

What they do really is amazing. For a relatively small fee, they guarantee that it really was you who made the transaction. If it was fraudulent, they insure the transaction, they will make you whole on a credit card if you didn't pay it. They establish the identity and say this really is you, and you really do have the credit available. Then they establish the person who you are buying from as a store and say this is really a credible transaction, and they approve it or deny it.

What they do with an amazing frequency in volume of transactions is incredible. That is a third party, and it is

a private party. They don't necessarily collect the data between you and Walmart, what did you buy while you were at Walmart. They will be able to say, hey, Walmart is a credible place, you really were there, you really did spend \$100 at Walmart. They don't necessarily know what you bought there. They might be able to recover that at some point. If they are forensically discovering what did you buy when you were at Walmart, they might be able to work with Walmart to figure that out, but Visa doesn't necessarily cover that. That is our current state of payments.

In a central bank digital currency, they would be able to know with a digital identity who you are because they have got a digital ID. When you look at the state of privacy and the amount of data the government has on you, they know who you are, they can have access to all kinds of information. Even the private sector has a lot of information.

If you look at what is being done today to aggregate that data, it is not formally being done to establish a digital ID in the United States, but it is being done in lots of places around the world. In China, they have done this digital identification. They have tied it with your facial recognition features, your geolocation data, all your transaction data that they can discern and everything else they can find about you in a government database in China, and they build what is known as a social credit score.

If you attend events with people who support the government, your social credit score might go up. If you attend events and your geolocation data is associated with people who have been critical of Xi Jinping, your social credit score goes down. If it goes down enough, you can't even travel in China.

They are linking this digital ID with the payment system, the digital currency, and in that sense, they are kind of essential components to the way that it works. The way that Visa or Mastercard establishes who you are has its own system. Here in the central bank digital currency, digital ID is a critical component to how it works. The last information I had, in four provinces this is the payment system.

You think, well, China, I mean, they are a Communist government. They have a very authoritarian leader in Xi Jinping. Surely, Western civilization wouldn't be doing this.

□ 1700

The reality is that 100-plus countries around the world are developing a central bank digital currency. They are not developing what you would think of in America with freedom and free markets. They are developing essentially the same kind of central bank digital currency that China is.

In fact, the Bank for International Settlements in Switzerland is telling people how to do it. They are facilitating central banks—not just random central banks, our central bank. They

are not working directly with the Federal Reserve entirely.

They are saying they are working with this independent private entity, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. This is a quasi-public-private kind of dynamic in the U.S. central bank with the Federal Reserve.

They are building it. Literally, multiple components of the Federal Reserve are actively recruiting people to write code to develop a central bank digital currency.

For "Star Wars" fans, this is a depiction of the Death Star. I don't want to give away the plot, but the evil empire builds this Death Star that is like a moon-sized place, and it can destroy entire planets with one giant laser beam. Just boom and the planet is gone.

It is an amazing amount of power that the empire has built for themselves in "Star Wars," and, of course, it is fiction. The central bank digital currency is kind of the equivalent. The central banks are saying: Don't worry. We would need permission from the legislature before we could establish a central bank digital currency. We are just designing it.

In the movie, they didn't really get permission to turn it on. They were just designing it. Then, they were just building it, and it wasn't yet complete. Then, they were just testing it. Once you demonstrate the capability, you have all the power.

The reality is that in the fall, I traveled with fellow Financial Services Committee members to the Bank of England. I met with them, and they are developing a central bank digital currency. They know that their legislature would have to act to impose it on the citizens of the United Kingdom. They know that it is not popular with their citizens. Nevertheless, they are developing it, just designing it and testing it.

Then, we traveled to Brussels and met with the European Central Bank. They, too, are designing, developing, and testing how a central bank digital currency could work. They know that before they could impose this on the European Union, they would need not just support from the European Parliament but from the member states of the European Union. Nevertheless, they are working to build it.

Then, we traveled to Basel, Switzerland, which is the base of operations for the Bank for International Settlements. We met with them. They, too, said that they are just studying this, not really proposing that everyone do it.

The reality is that when you talk to everyone who is developing it, who is helping coordinate it? The Bank for International Settlements. Again, there is no country that we found anywhere that is developing a system that protects privacy, that protects identity, and that protects the transaction data. They are all doing it the same way China is, and they are designing it to be interoperable around the world.

The reality is that a system of money is as old as civilization. Like I said, the right to transact predates any government. The government doesn't give you that right. Governments around the world have adopted a very similar approach. In the United States, we have the Bank Secrecy Act, anti-money laundering laws, and know your customer laws.

The United States, every Western democracy, and dictatorships around the world have similar features for banking. If you spy on your customers, you are allowed to operate a financial services business. They don't state it that way. I mean, it is not that creepy inherently in the United States. For the most part, you are supposed to get a warrant. They don't always do that. They have been found to violate it on occasion in the United States. In certain other governments, it is very creepy.

As we were working to protect secrecy, the Canadian Government was literally imposing a shutdown on bank accounts for Canadian truck drivers who were protesting COVID policies in Canada. It wasn't that they were stacking SWAT teams or special operators outside the door of houses. The one ring to rule them all, the massive amount of power, was your access to your own money. You can't even buy groceries. You can't pay rent. You have no means of payment.

That is why it is essential that we protect the power to transact and protect privacy so that it really has the same kind of characteristics as cash.

As a citizen, without probable cause and due process, no one should see your transaction data. Without being guilty of something, no one should limit your ability to transact. That is the system of government our countrymen have.

Around the world, they don't have the same protections, so why is our government and our central bank working on the exact same plan? When you look at dystopian fiction, whether it is "Brave New World" or "Nineteen Eighty-Four," or what I and billions of people around the world consider Scripture, the Book of Revelation, the money is always corrupted.

It is taken from its proper use as a store of value and an efficient means of transaction, and it is corrupted into a tool for surveillance, coercion, and control. Unless you comply with the regime, whoever that is, then you don't get the right to transact.

Everywhere it is depicted, whether it is fiction or Scripture, it is evil, so we should rightly resist this future. It is dystopian. "Nineteen Eighty-Four" was meant to be fiction, not an instruction manual. Unfortunately, you see people working to build this very future around the world. That is what a central bank digital currency is.

Let me tell you what it is not. People often associate every kind of digital money with central bank digital currency. Bitcoin may be the most widely known form of crypto, certainly the

biggest share of the market value. If you look at the Bitcoin white paper—you can look it up out there. In just the abstract, the whole point is to preserve the characteristics of cash, permissionless peer-to-peer transactions where there is no third party that goes through it. This is why Bitcoin became popular.

The ability to do this depends on the architecture. There is no corporate headquarters, no CEO. It is really math and computer programming.

How does this work? They establish trust in a different way. They assume they trust no one. The transactions are approved in blocks. With blockchain, that is the way it is done. It is done very securely.

Governments around the world initially didn't like it. They wanted to ban it. After a while, they decided that they couldn't really ban it, so they were not going to be able to stop it. The checkdown position is to just keep it account-based.

Account-based crypto is pretty harmless. It is about like banking. I mean, cash isn't technically illegal. When you go to the bank and ask for any significant amount of it, they always ask questions. That is because of the Bank Secrecy Act, the anti-money laundering laws, the know your customer laws. "What are you going to do with all that cash?" "It is my cash. Why can't I have it?"

Sometimes they will tell you. Sometimes they won't. I have to fill out this report. "Who gave you all that cash?" In fact, if you deposit more than \$10,000, it creates a cash transaction report.

When that was first passed in the early 1970s, it was \$10,000. Today, that number adjusted for inflation is over \$81,000. That is who they were looking for. If you look at the last Presidential administration under Joe Biden, they wanted to know about your bank account if you had ever had \$600 of transactions in your bank account, so they were going the other way.

The reality is that they want to monitor every single transaction. That is how they know whether you had a transaction over \$10,000. They look at everything. There is already a lot of surveillance in it. To me, maybe too much.

The question is, what can you do with it? Once you create a central bank digital currency, you have empowered the central bank to see every side of every transaction.

In fact, the former director of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Giancarlo, talked about digital dollars. He has gone around for a long time talking about it and touts the features. They call it programmable money.

If you wanted to put stimulus into the economy like we were doing during COVID, you could put money in and say it expires. If you don't spend it by this date, it is gone. You can say it can be used only for these things.

When we did stimulus checks during COVID, a lot of people went out and bought flat-screen TVs from China. That didn't exactly help the U.S. economy. Proponents of programmable money were saying they could make it so you could spend it only on these things and not those things.

Climate change alarmists—climatologists, as I refer to them—could program the money so that if you are driving a hybrid vehicle but still need to buy gas from time to time to keep your hybrid internal combustion engine running, you could pay \$2 a gallon for gas. If you are driving a pickup truck that is considered a gas guzzler, you could pay \$10 a gallon.

It is programmable money. You could design any feature in it you want because the central government controls it.

□ 1710

Mr. Speaker, the central government controls it.

That is why central bank digital currency is truly a threat to Western civilization. It puts the government between us and our money.

In the United States, the pursuit of happiness has been defined as protection for private property and property rights. There is no more basic thing than the property right to a bank account and to the money we earn. We have a right to the paycheck that gets deposited into a bank account.

Mr. Speaker, if that is not really yours, if it is really programmable money and if it is conditioned upon whatever the government wants to condition it upon, is it really yours?

That is exactly the future that people want to create out of crypto. If we look at the Bitcoin White Paper and many of the other use cases, Crypto is designed to somewhat separate money from the State. This future is pretty creepy.

It is quite literally Orwellian. It is described as one of the characteristics in Orwell's famous book "1984." Dystopian is another synonym for Orwellian. It gives the government a massive amount of power, coercion and control over the public. Yes, perfect surveillance could, if in the hands of benign, good actors, protect us and keep us safe from bad people.

In our country, we can easily see people who suffer from what I label as Trump derangement syndrome. These are people who are alarmed that Donald Trump would have access to information. Imagine if Donald Trump could control this money. A lot of people in our country would be scared to death. On the other hand, we can imagine maybe somebody from the political left who would control this money. We could say that that is pretty creepy.

Just like in "The Lord of the Rings" where they had the one ring to rule them all. The only good thing to do with the one ring to rule them all is destroy it.

Actively, right now, the Federal Reserve is hiring coders to write code and

develop a central bank digital currency. Actively, right now, our allies are working to develop this.

Actively, right now, just as the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) who spoke right before me addressed, the United States has a massive debt problem. So does a lot of the rest of the world.

The last time the planet had this much debt was at the end of World War II. The main difference is at the end of World War II, we knew we had to spend less money, and we did. Our debt-to-GDP ratio, the amount of money we owe versus the size of our economy, is about the same size as it is right now.

Instead of spending less, right now we can't even agree to cut off \$9.4 billion in DOGE cuts. That is 0.13 percent of what our United States Government is going to spend this year. It passed the House with no support from Democrats and four Republicans voting against it, but it can't get a floor vote in the Senate yet.

Think about this. At the end of World War II, we knew we had to spend less. Even then, they did a monetary reset. Some people might have heard of this idea of a great reset. One of the core components of it is resetting the money system.

The money system they have in mind is the central bank digital currency. When a crisis occurs, they might say that, well, there are all kinds of things we could do, but here is what we can do now. It would take forever to develop every other alternative. What we could do now is what we have been working on for a decade. We could launch this central bank digital currency. It will solve everything. It will keep us safe. It will catch the tax evaders, the money launderers, and the illicit finance.

In the hands of a good leader, it could. The reality is we know, as our Founders recognized in Federalist Paper after Federalist Paper and in the very structure of our government, eventually somebody who isn't benign is going to have the power.

For "The Lord of the Rings" fans, they know that even the best person, when they put the ring on, it is tempting to do evil things. That is what is going to happen with this.

We have to stop it right now. When he came into office, Donald Trump's executive order, among digital assets, banned central bank digital currency.

That is why my colleague from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER) has moved a bill to ban central bank digital currency. Unfortunately, it hasn't gotten a vote on the floor of this House this term in the House of Representatives, and it doesn't have a clear path through the Senate.

While it is the creepiest surveillance tool I have ever seen, I can't get my coalition of Republicans and Democrats to oppose it. Last Congress, I had a coalition of 123 Republicans and 96 Democrats who voted to end the evasion of the Fourth Amendment.

The Fourth Amendment is supposed to protect our privacy. The government is supposed to get our data only with probable cause or a warrant or a subpoena from a court. They are buying our data. They are creating a market for data, and they are buying their way around the Fourth Amendment. We wanted to turn that off.

The Fourth Amendment doesn't regulate private entities, but it does regulate the government. In part, the government has a power that no private-sector body does. They can put us in jail. They can deprive us of life, liberty, and property.

I am glad that we have this bipartisan coalition, but I don't understand why Democrats are more concerned about the ability to monitor our transactions than they are about the invasion of privacy. I hope we restore that coalition on this and we can work together to ban central bank digital currency.

I truly believe this poses an existential threat to Western civilization. If this thing takes effect, it is a massive amount of power. It is the kind of power that the Death Star has over civilization. People think they would resist. A lot of people won't even go vote. How aggressively are they going to resist when the government shuts off access to their bank?

We had a trial run of this during COVID. Lots of people really objected to all sorts of things about COVID policies, like when their workplace imposed mandates and restrictions including shots that weren't really tested or proven. Now we find out that the data, there is a lot of concern about mRNA, in particular.

I talked to nurses who were crying in our office, but they felt like they

couldn't risk losing their job. They chose to get shots that they were concerned about. The coercive power of the access to earning a living is a massive amount of power. People can't afford it. They can't pay their way to live. They can't raise their family.

This power is way bigger than that. We have got to stop this. We have a President who wants to stop it. He issued an executive order, but we don't have a legislature that is doing the work to stop it.

We were talking about moving crypto bills today. The Senate passed the GENIUS Act in the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and on the floor of the Senate, which regulates stablecoin.

Stablecoins are about 7 percent of the crypto market. The rest is market structure. I have had a bill to regulate that since 2018. For over 7 years, I have been trying to stop this. I do not want to stop the good things. I do not want to stop the market from things like bitcoin, bitcoin ETFs, or all other kinds of use cases that are good. I do not want to stop self-custody but protect self-custody so that we protect the ability to do transactions.

We are trying to stop the counter to it, central bank digital currency, the one ring to rule them all. We have been trying to stop it for that long. The idea was maybe not even possible technologically when science fiction writers were writing "Brave New World" or "1984" or "Fahrenheit 451." In Scripture, how could this even happen, when we read Revelation through all time?

Today, we can see the technology that can do it. With artificial intelligence, it is even quicker. We are here, talking about an AI provision in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act that stays.

No matter what else they rule out, they seem to find a way for the AI provision to be there for more surveillance on more people.

We have got to stop this. We need the legislature to step up and do it. I plead with people everywhere I can, don't be fearful of all digital assets. For example, bitcoin is 180 degrees different than central bank digital currency.

□ 1720

Mr. Speaker, do everything you can to stop the government's power grab with this, or the superficial layer that is really just cosmetic where the big banks offer a cosmetic layer of stablecoins but on the back end it is effectively a central bank digital currency operated by not just the Federal Reserve, but the central banks around the world working together with the Bank for International Settlements to create this system.

It is a true threat to Western Civilization and maybe something that to some of my colleagues who couldn't be here tonight also is as big of a deal to them. I appreciate those people who have cosponsored and voted for TOM EMMER's bill. I hope we can vote on it soon in the House, and the Senate takes it up.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, June 27, 2025, at 9 a.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the second quarter of 2025, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DR. BRIAN MONAHAN, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 8 AND MAY 12, 2025

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Dr. Brian Monahan .....	5/8	5/12	Lithuania .....		705.27		(3)				705.27
	5/9	5/10	United Kingdom .....		1,344.25		(3)				1,344.25
Committee total .....											2,049.52

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

<sup>3</sup> Military air transportation.

HON. MIKE JOHNSON, June 12, 2025.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO ITALY, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 17 AND MAY 19, 2025

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Hon. French Hill .....	5/17	5/19	Italy .....		1,290.00		(3) 6,696.61				7,986.61
Hon. Nancy Pelosi .....	5/17	5/19	Italy .....		1,290.00		(3) 6,696.61				7,986.61
Hon. Rosa DeLauro .....	5/17	5/19	Italy .....		1,290.00		(3) 6,696.61				7,986.61
Hon. Michael McCaul .....	5/17	5/19	Italy .....		1,290.00		(3) 6,696.61				7,986.61
Hon. Joe Courtney .....	5/17	5/19	Italy .....		1,290.00		(3) 6,696.61				7,986.61
Hon. Mike Kelly .....	5/17	5/19	Italy .....		1,290.00		(3) 6,696.61				7,986.61
Hon. Ann Wagner .....	5/17	5/19	Italy .....		1,290.00		(3) 6,696.61				7,986.61
Hon. Nanette Barragán .....	5/17	5/19	Italy .....		1,290.00		(3) 6,696.61				7,986.61

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO ITALY, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 17 AND MAY 19, 2025—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Hon. Madeleine Dean	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(3) 6,696.61				7,986.61
Hon. Stephanie Bice	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(3) 6,696.61				7,986.61
Hon. Michelle Fischbach	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(3) 10,604.61				11,894.61
Hon. Andrew Garbarino	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(3) 11,023.61				12,313.61
Hon. Mariannette Miller-Meeks	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(3) 11,023.61				12,313.61
Hon. Jeff Hurd	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(3) 6,756.61				8,046.61
Chris Bien	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(2) 795.81				2,085.81
Eric Schmitz	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(2) 795.81				2,085.81
Jordan Dayer	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(2) 795.81				2,085.81
Brian Cress	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(3) 3,369.81				4,659.81
John Lanning	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(3) 3,369.81				4,659.81
Kate Knudson	5/13	5/19	Italy		3,225.00		(2) 795.81				3,990.81
Meghan McCann	5/13	5/19	Italy		3,225.00		(2) 795.81				3,990.81
Steven Bertolini	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(2) 795.81				2,085.81
Jamie Fleet	5/17	5/19	Italy		1,290.00		(2) 795.81				2,085.81
Committee total											152,164.63

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.  
<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.  
<sup>3</sup> Military air transportation.

HON. MIKE JOHNSON, June 18, 2025.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-1260. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (23-3.5e) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2023-0328; FRL-11825-02-OCSP] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received June 13, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1261. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Vadescana Double-Stranded RNA; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0561; FRL-12759-01-OCSP] received June 13, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1262. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Technical Amendment to the List of OMB Approvals Under the Paperwork Reduction Act [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2025-0224; FRL-12001-01-OCSP] received June 23, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1263. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (24-2.5e) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2024-0077; FRL-12348-02-OCSP] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received June 23, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1264. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Pepino Mosaic virus, Strain LP, Isolate VX1 and Pepino Mosaic Virus, Strain CH2, Isolate VC1; Exemptions from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0217; FRL-12767-01-OCSP] received June 23, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1265. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Envi-

ronmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Program: Partial Waiver of the 2024 Cellulosic Biofuel Volume Requirement [EPA-HQ-OAR-2024-0411; FRL-12015-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AW46) received June 17, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1266. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Delegation of Authority to Oklahoma [EPA-R06-OAR-2020-0086; FRL-12482-02-R6] received June 17, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1267. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's interim final determination — Air Plan Approval; Colorado; Interim Final Determination to Stay and Defer Sanctions in the Denver Metro/North Front Range 2008 Ozone Nonattainment Area [EPA-R08-OAR-2025-0233; FRL-12746-04-R8] received June 17, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1268. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources and Emission Guidelines for Existing Sources: Other Solid Waste Incineration Units Review [EPA-HQ-OAR-2003-0156; FRL-7547-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AU60) received June 18, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1269. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; New York; Fuel Composition and Use [EPA-R02-OAR-2021-0361; FRL-10180-02-R2] received June 18, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1270. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's interim final determination — Determination to Defer Sanctions; California; Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District; Stationary Combustion Turbines

[EPA-R09-OAR-2025-0060; FRL-12608-02-R9] received June 18, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1271. A letter from the Associate Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Fee Schedules; Fee Recovery for Fiscal Year 2025 [NRC-2023-0069] (RIN: 3150-AK95) received June 24, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1272. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to serious human rights abuse and corruption that was declared in Executive Order 13818 of December 20, 2017, 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-1273. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Hong Kong that was declared in Executive Order 13936 of July 14, 2020, 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-1274. A letter from the NPS Federal Register Liaison Officer, Division of Regulations, Jurisdiction, and Special Park Uses, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's temporary rule — National Capital Region; America250 Events [NPS-NCR-40383; PPNCNCRODO, PPMPASISY.T00000] (RIN: 1024-AF06) received June 24, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-1275. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison, CC:PA:01:PR, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Extension and Modification of Transitional Relief Under Sections 3403, 3406, 6721, 6722, 6651, and 6656 with Respect to the Reporting of Information and Backup Withholding on Digital Assets by Brokers under Section 6045 (Notice 2025-33) received June 18, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-1276. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison, CC:PA:01:PR, Internal Revenue

Service, transmitting the Service's notice — Notice of Intent to Remove 26 CFR 1.6011-18; Waiver of Penalties under Sections 6707A(a), 6707(a), and 6708; Withdrawal of Notice 2024-54 (Notice 2025-23) received June 18, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. AMODEI of Nevada: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 4213. A bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-173). 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 Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Ms. BALINT, Mr. FROST, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. TITUS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CASE, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. POCAN, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. CARSON, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. TONKO, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. HAYES, and Ms. SIMON):

H.R. 4151. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide equal treatment of LGBTQI older individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Ms. TLAIB (for herself, Ms. DELAULO, Mr. FROST, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CASE, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LIEU, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. McIVER, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. ROSS, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SIMON, Ms. STANSBURY, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, and Mrs. HAYES):

H.R. 4152. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to require a gun lock to be provided to every firearm purchaser; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ALFORD (for himself and Mr. WIED):

H.R. 4153. A bill to amend the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to increase the maximum loan amount for certain loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. ONDER, Mr. JACK, Mr. MOOLENAAR, and Mr. ROSE):

H.R. 4154. A bill to reform the labor laws of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently de-

termined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 4155. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to recognize centers of excellence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 4156. A bill to establish a pilot program to establish a pre-approval or pre-qualification process for direct farm ownership loans under subtitle A of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act in order to streamline the application process and provide greater certainty to borrowers; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. BALINT (for herself, Ms. CHU,

Mr. BEYER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DELBENE, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. McGOVERN, Mrs. McIVER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SIMON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SOTO, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TORRES of New York, and Mr. VARGAS):

H.R. 4157. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that all provisions shall apply to legally married same-sex couples in the same manner as other married couples, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BROWN (for herself and Mr. WIED):

H.R. 4158. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to make permanent the moratorium on SNAP benefit transaction fees; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. BUDZINSKI (for herself, Mr. BOST, and Mr. GOLDEN of Maine):

H.R. 4159. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to issue regulations requiring that optional combat boots worn by members of the armed forces wear be made in America, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CAREY (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 4160. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a pilot program to hire transitioning servicemembers to be Border Patrol agents; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CASTEN (for himself and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 4161. A bill to prohibit a court from awarding damages based on race, ethnicity,

gender, or actual or perceived sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for herself, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 4162. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to increase participation in community solar programs and the receipt of associated benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Ms. BALINT, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. FROST, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mrs. McIVER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Ms. SCANLON, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. OMAR, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. TONKO, Mr. CASE, Mr. McGOVERN, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. BEYER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. RANDALL, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. SCHRIER, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Ms. TITUS, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. NADLER, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ):

H.R. 4163. A bill to permit legally married same-sex couples to amend their filing status for income tax returns outside the statute of limitations, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that all provisions shall apply to legally married same-sex couples in the same manner as other married couples, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CISCOMANI (for himself, Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona, Mr. STANTON, Ms. ANSARI, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 4164. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 North Taylor Lane in Patagonia, Arizona, as the "Jim Kolbe Memorial Post Office"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CRENSHAW (for himself and Mr. SWALWELL):

H.R. 4165. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the inclusion of a biological attribution strategy, and an early warning strategy and implementation plan, in the National Health Security Strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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

H.R. 4166. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to define intimate partner to include someone with whom there is or was a dating relationship, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. MEUSER, Mrs. KIM, Mr.



VARGAS, Mr. TIMMONS, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 4167. A bill to provide the National Credit Union Administration Board flexibility to increase Federal credit union loan maturities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 4168. A bill to codify a national primary drinking water regulation for PFAS, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Ms. SCANLON):

H.R. 4169. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide an additional tool to prevent certain frauds against veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. BOST, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Ms. ELFRETH):

H.R. 4170. A bill to require that certain aspects of bridge projects be carried out by certified contractors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 4171. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to provide small issuers with a micro-offering exemption free of mandated disclosures or offering filings, but subject to the antifraud provisions of the Federal securities laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GILL of Texas (for himself, Mr. ROY, Mr. HARRIS of Maryland, Mr. PERRY, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. SELF, and Ms. GREENE of Georgia):

H.R. 4172. A bill to abolish the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations within the Department of Energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. FROST, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. NORTON, and Mrs. RAMIREZ):

H.R. 4173. A bill to ensure that the background check system used for firearms purchases denies a firearm to a person prohibited from possessing a firearm by a lawful court order governing the pretrial release of the person; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 4174. A bill to require the publication of data sets regarding firearm trace data; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York (for himself and Mr. CISCOMANI):

H.R. 4175. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify the offense pertaining to illegal gratuities concerning programs receiving Federal funds; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York (for himself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. SIMON, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. ANSARI, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. BELL, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. CORREA, Mr. MIN, Mr. TRAN, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. RIVAS, Ms. LEE of

Pennsylvania, Ms. BALINT, Mr. LANDSMAN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois):

H.R. 4176. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require law enforcement officers and agents of the Department of Homeland Security engaged in border security or immigration enforcement to display or wear certain insignia and provide identification, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas:

H.R. 4177. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent the use of explosive materials to assault, resist, or impede certain officers or employees; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GROTHMAN (for himself, Mr. BARR, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. ROUZER):

H.R. 4178. A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to provide for discretionary spending limits for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2029, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. HILL of Arkansas (for himself, Mr. KEAN, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER):

H.R. 4179. A bill to provide the United States Government with additional tools to deter state and non-state actors from wrongfully detaining United States nationals for political leverage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. COHEN, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. BROWNLEY):

H.R. 4180. A bill to prohibit the use of M-44 devices, commonly known as "cyanide bombs", on public land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. BAUMGARTNER, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. NEWHOUSE, and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 4181. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for wildfire prevention; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Mr. FROST, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois):

H.R. 4182. A bill to prohibit the criminalization of homelessness on Federal public lands; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, Natural Resources, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. EZELL, and Mr. CARBAJAL):

H.R. 4183. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Federal Maritime Commission

for fiscal years 2026 through 2029, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself and Ms. HOULAHAN):

H.R. 4184. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income certain compensation to clinical trial participants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia (for herself, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. PETERSEN):

H.R. 4185. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise the definition of the term clinical social worker services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. LAWLER, and Ms. BYNUM):

H.R. 4186. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to award grants to eligible entities to support the mental and behavioral health of elementary and secondary school students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce, 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. LIEU (for himself, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 4187. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify the causation element in the Federal hate crime statute, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MACE (for herself and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana):

H.R. 4188. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make certain contributions to local authorities to mitigate the risk of flooding on local property adjacent to medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 4189. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Navy to recognize certain aspects of the National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce, Florida, as a national memorial, national memorial garden, and national K9 memorial, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MAST (for himself and Mr. LALOTA):

H.R. 4190. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the definitions relating to humanitarian demining assistance and stockpiled conventional munitions assistance; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself and Mr. CRENSHAW):

H.R. 4191. A bill to improve coordination of Federal efforts to identify and mitigate health and national security risks through maintaining a list of essential medicines, conducting a risk assessment of essential medicine supply chains, and creating a monitoring system to map essential medicine

supply chains using data analytics; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. McDONALD RIVET (for herself, Mr. BERGMAN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H.R. 4192. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress an annual report on the funding and status of interim remedial actions of the Department of Defense relating to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MILLER of Ohio:

H.R. 4193. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue certain regulations to reduce the threshold in the definition of significantly delayed or changed flight, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself, Mr. LATTA, and Mr. TIFFANY):

H.R. 4194. A bill to make immune from liability any manufacturer of critical infrastructure for claims resulting from wildfire incidents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4195. A bill to modify the voluntary retirement requirements for members of the Foreign Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. OLSZEWSKI (for himself and Mr. HUIZENGA):

H.R. 4196. A bill to extend certain privileges and immunities to the Permanent Observer Mission of the African Union to the United Nations in New York; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. SYKES, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. TONKO, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. FROST, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. SHERMAN):

H.R. 4197. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit defenses based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RASKIN:

H.R. 4198. A bill to require the Attorney General to make publicly available a list of federally licensed firearms dealers with a high number of short time-to-crime firearm traces, and to prohibit Federal departments and agencies from contracting with such dealers; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RESCHENTHALER (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mr. ISSA):

H.R. 4199. A bill to clarify the Department of State's exclusive regulatory authority over the au pair cultural exchange program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. ROY (for himself, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. CRANE, Mr. CLOUD, and Mr. PERRY):

H.R. 4200. A bill to provide that no Federal funds may be used for the Deferred Enforced Departure Program, or any successor program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROY (for himself, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. CRANE, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. PERRY):

H.R. 4201. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to modify the procedure to designate a foreign state, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SALAZAR (for herself, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. GREEN of Tennessee):

H.R. 4202. A bill to direct the Secretary of State to establish a strategy for monitoring the general elections in the Republic of Honduras to take place on November 30, 2025, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT (for himself and Mr. BERA):

H.R. 4203. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow certain wearable devices to be purchased using health savings accounts and other spending arrangements and reimbursement accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMUCKER (for himself and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina):

H.R. 4204. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to allow Medicare beneficiaries to choose their physical and occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and chiropractors; 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 Ms. TENNEY (for herself and Mr. MORELLE):

H.R. 4205. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to annually publish certain data with respect to grape production, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 4206. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TIFFANY (for himself, Mr. WIED, Mr. MOOLenaar, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. CLOUD, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. CRANE, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. GOSAR):

H.R. 4207. A bill to require any convention, agreement, or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response reached by the World Health Assembly to be subject to Senate ratification; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 4208. A bill to prohibit the political punishment of donor States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and

Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 4209. A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to prohibit Federal financial participation under Medicaid and CHIP for individuals without verified citizenship, nationality, or satisfactory immigration status; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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

H.R. 4210. A bill to amend the CARES Act to extend the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee, and to require such Committee submit a report on the extension of statute of limitations for Paycheck Protection Program loans; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, 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. WALBERG:

H.R. 4211. A bill to provide that a project for the deployment or modification of a communications facility entirely within a brownfield site is not subject to requirements to prepare certain environmental or historical preservation reviews; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ANSARI, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. COHEN, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. LIEU, Mr. FIELDS, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. TITUS, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. FROST, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MENG, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. CHU, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 4212. A bill to direct the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a grant program for planting of qualifying trees in eligible areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CARSON (for himself, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FROST, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. HERNÁNDEZ, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. SIMON, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. PLASKETT, and Ms. CLARKE of New York):

H. Res. 547. A resolution recognizing the significance of "National Caribbean American Heritage Month"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. DAVIDSON:

H. Res. 548. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives to commend President Donald J. Trump for his successful diplomatic efforts in deescalating the recent armed conflict between India and Pakistan; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. DELBENE (for herself, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. NORTON, Mr.

PETERS, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. LEBER FERNANDEZ, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. PANNETTA, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. MCGARVEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. CASE, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. MCBRIDE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. HIMES, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. KEATING, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SIMON, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BERA, Mr. NEAL, Mr. TRAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Ms. BROWN, Ms. DEXTER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. LIEU, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. CHU, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. SOTO, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. BALINT, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. CARSON, Ms. RIVAS, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ):

H. Res. 549. A resolution expressing support for the designation of June 26 as "LGBTQI+ Equality Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. AMO, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. BALINT, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BELL, Mr. BERA, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BROWN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. BYNUM, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASE, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. CHU, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. COSTA, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. DEXTER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. HOYER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. IVEY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. LIEU, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCBRIDE, Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. MFUME, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PIN-

GREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SIMON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SORESENSEN, Mr. SOTO, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. STANTON, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. TRAN, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. TONKO, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ):

H. Res. 550. A resolution encouraging the celebration of the month of June as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LUTTRELL (for himself and Mr. CORREA):

H. Res. 551. A resolution expressing support for the designation of "National Stop SuiSilence Day"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. MOYLAN:

H. Res. 552. A resolution supporting the designation of Guam War Survivors Remembrance Day; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

## MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

ML-8. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Tennessee, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 98, urging the United States Congress to require the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to add COVID-19 treatments and anthrax vaccinations as pre-qualifying for care under the PACT Act; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

ML-9. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Tennessee, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 1, urging the United States Congress to enact legislation and request that the Veterans Administration work to expand and improve efforts to treat traumatic brain injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

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

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 4151.

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

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. TLAIB:

H.R. 4152.

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

Article 1, Section 1 of the Constitution

By Mr. ALFORD:

H.R. 4153.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 "The Congress shall have power to . . . provide for the . . . general welfare of the United States; . . ."

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 4154.

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. BACON:

H.R. 4155.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 4156.

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

Article 1 Section 8, Clause 3

By Ms. BALINT:

H.R. 4157.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. BROWN:

H.R. 4158.

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

Article I Section VIII

By Ms. BUDZINSKI:

H.R. 4159.

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

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. CAREY:

H.R. 4160.

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

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. CASTEN:

H.R. 4161.

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

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 4162.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution provides Congress with the authority to "provide for the common Defense and general Welfare" of Americans.

By Ms. CHU:

H.R. 4163.

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. CISCOMANI:

H.R. 4164.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CRENSHAW:

H.R. 4165.

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

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H.R. 4166.

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

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

H.R. 4167.

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

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 4168.

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

Article I, Section VIII, Clause 18

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 4169.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 4170.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 3

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 4171.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. GILL of Texas:

H.R. 4172.

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

8 of article I of the Constitution

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York:

H.R. 4173.

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

Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into the Execution for the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.”

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York:

H.R. 4174.

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

Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into the Execution for the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.”

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York:

H.R. 4175.

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

Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into the Execution for the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.”

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York:

H.R. 4176.

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

Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into the Execution for the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.”

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas:

H.R. 4177.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. GROTHMAN:

H.R. 4178.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. HILL of Arkansas:

H.R. 4179.

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

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 4180.

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

Article I, Section 8

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 4181.

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

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

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 4182.

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 of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 4183.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4184.

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

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Article I Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is: To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income certain compensation to clinical trial participants. [Page H687]

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:

H.R. 4185.

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

Article One Section Eight of the Constitution

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY:

H.R. 4186.

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

U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 4187.

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

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

By Ms. MACE:

H.R. 4188.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 4189.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 4190.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 4191.

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

section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Ms. McDONALD RIVET:

H.R. 4192.

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

U.S. Constitution, Article 1, section 8.

By Mr. MILLER of Ohio:

H.R. 4193.

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

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 4194.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4195.

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. OLSZEWSKI:

H.R. 4196.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PAPPAS:

H.R. 4197.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution states that “Congress shall have the authority to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.”

By Mr. RASKIN:

H.R. 4198.

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 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. RESCHENTHALER:

H.R. 4199.

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

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. ROY:

H.R. 4200.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. ROY:

H.R. 4201.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. SALAZAR:

H.R. 4202.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.R. 4203.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 4204.

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

Article I, Section VIII of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 4205.

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

Article I

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 4206.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, Necessary and Proper Clause

By Mr. TIFFANY:

H.R. 4207.

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

Article II, Section 2, Clause 2.

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 4208.

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

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: of the United States Constitution, this

bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 4209.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. VINDMAN:

H.R. 4210.

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. WALBERG:

H.R. 4211.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 4212.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

[The Congress shall have Power . . . ] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. AMODEI of Nevada:

H.R. 4213.

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

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . . ." In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: "The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States . . . ." Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 38: Mr. CAREY.

H.R. 210: Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 211: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ and Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 219: Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY.

H.R. 220: Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 284: Mrs. RAMIREZ.

H.R. 295: Mr. FITZGERALD.

H.R. 333: Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona.

H.R. 396: Ms. RANDALL and Mr. VINDMAN.

H.R. 403: Mr. MULLIN.

H.R. 433: Mr. FIGURES.

H.R. 722: Mr. MASSIE and Mr. BURCHETT.

H.R. 740: Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. MESSMER, and Mr. FINE.

H.R. 753: Ms. NORTON and Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 801: Ms. ROSS.

H.R. 842: Ms. SHERRILL and Mr. ADERHOLT.

H.R. 909: Mr. BELL, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mrs. FOUSHEE.

H.R. 929: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 979: Mr. NEWHOUSE.

H.R. 1013: Mr. NORCROSS.

H.R. 1046: Mr. GUEST.

H.R. 1078: Mr. HERN of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1094: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Mr. ALFORD.

H.R. 1193: Ms. BALINT.

H.R. 1227: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mr. ADERHOLT.

H.R. 1262: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.

H.R. 1285: Mr. HURD of Colorado.

H.R. 1288: Ms. BALINT, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. VAN DREW, and Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 1317: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 1319: Mr. BURCHETT.

H.R. 1330: Ms. PRESSLEY.

H.R. 1340: Mr. CLEAVER and Ms. MCBRIDE.

H.R. 1383: Mr. FONG.

H.R. 1436: Mr. DAVIDSON.

H.R. 1477: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.

H.R. 1488: Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 1492: Mr. BENTZ.

H.R. 1517: Ms. ROSS.

H.R. 1524: Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 1548: Mr. MCCORMICK.

H.R. 1564: Ms. POU.

H.R. 1585: Ms. ROSS and Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 1589: Mr. CASE and Mr. KENNEDY of New York.

H.R. 1652: Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. MEUSER, and Ms. DE LA CRUZ.

H.R. 1653: Mrs. WAGNER and Mr. MEUSER.

H.R. 1715: Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 1826: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.

H.R. 1841: Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 1918: Ms. BYNUM and Mrs. FOUSHEE.

H.R. 1970: Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 1987: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 1993: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. RILEY of New York, and Mr. CISCOMANI.

H.R. 2005: Mr. BERGMAN.

H.R. 2033: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 2049: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 2055: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 2075: Mr. HARRIGAN.

H.R. 2083: Mr. FRY.

H.R. 2089: Mr. KEATING and Ms. ROSS.

H.R. 2126: Mr. FEENSTRA.

H.R. 2175: Mr. FONG and Mr. GRAY.

H.R. 2213: Mr. GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 2328: Mr. BERGMAN.

H.R. 2334: Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona.

H.R. 2357: Ms. TITUS and Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.

H.R. 2385: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 2398: Mr. VAN ORDEN, Ms. PEREZ, and Mr. VASQUEZ.

H.R. 2436: Mr. CAREY.

H.R. 2531: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 2547: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.

H.R. 2548: Mr. SMUCKER and Ms. GILLEN.

H.R. 2565: Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona.

H.R. 2572: Mr. ALLEN.

H.R. 2574: Mr. HARRIGAN.

H.R. 2581: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.

H.R. 2678: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 2687: Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. KHANNA, and Mrs. KIM.

H.R. 2701: Mr. CISCOMANI and Ms. SCHRIER.

H.R. 2725: Ms. ESCOBAR and Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.

H.R. 2736: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon and Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 2741: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 2756: Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 2799: Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 2812: Mr. VINDMAN.

H.R. 2853: Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 2954: Mr. VAN ORDEN.

H.R. 3033: Ms. BOEBERT.

H.R. 3065: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 3112: Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. BUCHANAN.

H.R. 3131: Ms. BROWNLEY.

H.R. 3151: Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 3197: Mr. GARBARINO.

H.R. 3206: Mr. DAVIDSON.

H.R. 3223: Ms. SEWELL.

H.R. 3226: Mr. BOST and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 3286: Mr. COMER.

H.R. 3307: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 3335: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 3353: Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 3385: Mr. FITZGERALD.

H.R. 3392: Mr. GUEST.

H.R. 3420: Mrs. HOUCHIN.

H.R. 3506: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H.R. 3511: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 3515: Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona.

H.R. 3526: Ms. SEWELL.

H.R. 3564: Ms. McDONALD RIVET.

H.R. 3569: Mr. MOULTON, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. BERA, and Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 3604: Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. MATSUI, and Ms. BYNUM.

H.R. 3605: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 3617: Mrs. HOUCHIN.

H.R. 3630: Mr. CASTRO of Texas.

H.R. 3636: Ms. STEFANIK.

H.R. 3643: Mr. GUEST.

H.R. 3661: Mrs. MCIVER.

H.R. 3683: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.

H.R. 3694: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. BEGICH.

H.R. 3696: Ms. MCBRIDE.

H.R. 3699: Mr. FONG.

H.R. 3701: Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. HAYES, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.

H.R. 3779: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 3783: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Ms. ROSS.

H.R. 3811: Mr. BELL and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 3815: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 3820: Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 3876: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 3916: Mr. LEVIN, Ms. CHU, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, and Mr. LATIMER.

H.R. 3939: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 3961: Mr. JACKSON of Texas.

H.R. 3962: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 3978: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 3981: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY and Mr. BEGICH.

H.R. 3986: Mr. OLSZEWSKI.

H.R. 3997: Ms. ADAMS.

H.R. 4004: Ms. RIVAS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Ms. RANDALL.

H.R. 4008: Ms. LEE of Florida.

H.R. 4035: Mr. FROST.

H.R. 4041: Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 4065: Mr. SELF.

H.R. 4069: Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. FIELDS, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. LEGER

FERNANDEZ, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mrs. RAMIREZ, and Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 4081: Mr. SELF.

H.R. 4091: Mr. SELF.

H.R. 4104: Ms. ADAMS.

H.R. 4105: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. TRAN.

H.R. 4131: Ms. GREENE of Georgia.

H.R. 4133: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 4140: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 4145: Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Ms. LEE of Florida, and Mr. HUNT.

H.J. Res. 80: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Ms. ADAMS.

H.J. Res. 98: Mrs. HOUCHIN.

H. Con. Res. 38: Mr. GARAMENDI and Mr. BERA.

H. Con. Res. 40: Mr. MFUME, Mr. CASE, Ms. ELFRETH, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. BERA, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. SCHKOWSKY, Mr. NADLER, Ms. WATERS, and Ms. RANDALL.

H. Res. 105: Mr. BAUMGARTNER.

H. Res. 238: Mrs. MCBATH and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. RADEWAGEN, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. CISCOMANI.

H. Res. 540: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H. Res. 543: Mr. RASKIN, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. BALINT.

H. Res. 545: Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona, Ms. KING-HINDS, Mrs.

**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. 1329: Ms. GREENE of Georgia.



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

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

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No. 110

## Senate

(Legislative day of Tuesday, June 24, 2025)

The Senate met at 3:30 p.m., on the expiration of the recess, 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.

Creator of the universe, all loving, all wise, all powerful, move in our Nation and world. Your lawmakers need You for such a time as this, and You promised to supply their needs.

Today, supply their need for wisdom. Lord, illuminate their minds as they seek to do the right thing. Infuse them with supernatural power to make sense out of the riddles that baffle so many. May they be able to look back over today's work and know they have glorified You. Lord, astound them with new thoughts and fresh insights they could not conceive without Your omnipotence.

We pray in Your mighty 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. SCHMITT). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will pro-

ceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Kenneth Kies, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I come to the floor this very day to correct the public record. That public record has become so distorted by fanatical allegations of Republican tyranny that it no longer records actual history.

My Democratic colleagues have obscured the transcript with tales of a constitutional crisis, corrupt law enforcement, and Democratic knighthood defending the very rule of law that they abandoned for open borders not 1 year ago. Dare they pause in their breathless accusations, the historical record might reflect the consequences of Democratic leadership.

It was Democrats who threw open our southern border with foolish policies that paroled over 6,000 criminals and terrorists into the United States and lost track of over 2 million known "got-aways." Those same Democrats are now criticizing efforts to remove those threats.

They have hurled one-sided accusations of "masked agents acting with unnecessary force." This inflammatory rhetoric is a breeding ground for physical threats. As we have seen on TV, law enforcement have been pelted with rocks, assaulted with homemade explosives, and defamed and doxed by the far left.

At a hearing I just held, agents told the Senate Judiciary Committee of an officer whose photograph was taken during an operation and posted on Instagram with a message that the community needed to remind him

where he came from and where he was. The officer felt so threatened, he changed his appearance to protect his family. In another example, an FBI agent was threatened to back down from an investigation with photos of his children.

These men and women held the line against every national security threat while Democrat Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas and Director Wray of the FBI refused to appear for their annual congressional report on threats to the homeland because they didn't want to face the tough questions they would get on why they weren't enforcing the law.

Congress didn't make this Nation's laws subject to the whims of purported righteous indignation. Passionate protests don't justify laying hands on law enforcement, and bleeding hearts don't erase immigration laws critical to our national security.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

### ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk about the Republican plan for American prosperity in terms of why it is so popular.

That is because Republicans want to cut taxes. Democrats, they want to raise taxes. Republicans want to grow the economy. The Democrats, they want to grow the government. Republicans want to put working families first. Democrats continue to want to leave them behind.

Our Republican bill stops the largest tax increase in American history, and

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



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it means permanent tax relief. That means Americans can plan their futures with certainty. It means higher wages and more jobs. That means Americans have more money in their pockets, in their purses, and in their paychecks. The Council of Economic Advisers released new data this week. Here is what it shows: Our plan for American prosperity raises wages, lowers taxes, and grows the economy.

So let me just take a second to break down the benefits: \$10,000 more in take-home pay for American families; an extra tax cut for tipped and overtime workers; \$6,000 bonus deductions for seniors on Social Security; 7 million more jobs right here in America; \$100 billion in business investments in opportunity zones, including in rural America; an additional 4 percent in economic growth; more than \$2 trillion in deficit reduction so that the next generation isn't buried in debt.

Our plan for American prosperity will also create new savings accounts for every child. These tax-deferred investment accounts start with a \$1,000 contribution. Now, those early savings will grow over time. By the time the child becomes an adult, he can use the money to pay for college, to put down a downpayment on a home, or to start a small business. We call these Trump accounts. Trump accounts are an investment in our future generation. They are financial launch pads for the American dream.

Additionally, our plan for prosperity unleashes American energy. This will help working families who have paid for high energy costs under Joe Biden.

Now let's talk about what happens if Democrats are successful in defeating our bold Republican agenda.

If Democrats block this bill—and they say they are going to—taxes will soar; paychecks will shrink; and small businesses will get strangled. Every Democrat—every Democrat—in this Chamber has vowed to vote against our economic prosperity package. The vote of every Democrat in this Chamber will raise your taxes. If Democrats get their way, middle-class families will pay \$1,700 more in taxes next year. Small businesses will see their taxes go up by 43 percent. The standard deduction, which 90 percent of taxpayers use—well, that is going to get cut in half; so will the child tax credit. Yet that is what the Democrats are fighting for: higher taxes, fewer jobs, and heavier costs on working families.

Let's not forget why Democrats want to raise taxes. They want to continue to give free healthcare to millions of illegal immigrants.

Republicans are fighting so that waiters, nurses, police officers, seniors, and families keep more of what they earn and don't continue this Washington wasteful spending. Our comprehensive plan for prosperity is going to put America back on track.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. 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.

#### IRAN

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I just left the classified all-Senators briefing with the administration on Iran strikes.

One thing is very, very clear: The briefing raised more questions than it answered. It is why we need to enforce the War Powers Act.

I have always been clear: Iran must never acquire a nuclear weapon. A few days ago, President Trump claimed that Iran's nuclear program was "totally and completely obliterated." I asked what information exists to verify the President's claim, and I did not receive an answer to that question.

What was clear from today's briefing is that there is no coherent strategy, no endgame, no plan. What are we doing?

Anybody who sat in that meeting and is honest with themselves would recognize that we need to enforce the War Powers Act and force the administration to provide answers to some very important questions about Iran and our national security.

When the administration is forced to answer questions, we will get more clarity, and maybe they will get more clarity too. So it is an important thing to do.

#### WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE

Mr. President, let me talk about reproductive care and SCOTUS. Three years after Dobbs, the MAGA Supreme Court has once again doubled down on its war on women. The Court handed down a decision that immediately endangers funding for Planned Parenthood—one of the biggest organizations for affordable women's healthcare across the whole country. It is not just about reproductive care; it endangers women's healthcare altogether.

Clinics will close. Women will lose access to cancer screenings, contraceptives, physical exams for common illnesses, and so much more. For many women, Planned Parenthood is their only resource to get healthcare services at an affordable rate.

Make no mistake. Senate Republicans own the consequences of this loathsome decision. They packed our courts with extremists. They are the chief architects of the dismal state of women's healthcare in America. Senate Democrats will never, never relent in our efforts to ensure all women in America have high-quality healthcare.

Access to healthcare is a basic right, no matter what the radicals on the MAGA Court may think.

#### ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL

Mr. President, now on reconciliation. Everybody needs to understand exactly

what is going on with the Republican's so-called reconciliation bill. Their Big Beautiful Bill is buckling under its own weight. Republicans can't agree among themselves on just how devastating to make their own bill—should it be a lot devastating? even more devastating?

But don't be fooled. Republicans absolutely agree that one way or the other, they want Medicare cut to the bone. So now Republicans are scrambling behind closed doors trying to rewrite the bill just enough to keep their Medicaid cuts alive.

Why are they doing this? We know why. They want tax cuts for billionaires.

But here is a thought: Instead of finding new ways to pass the same old cuts, why don't Republicans keep promises they have been making for weeks not to cut Medicaid? The dissonance we are hearing from Republicans is head-spinning because, on the one hand, we have been hearing the same talking points for weeks that somehow they are not going to cut people's Medicaid; that they are "not in favor of cutting benefits regarding Medicaid"; that "no one's losing their healthcare"; that there "should not be any cuts."

These are real statements I just read from our Senate Republican colleagues in the last month—from Senators BLACKBURN and BOOZMAN and CASSIDY and CORNYN. And there is plenty more where that came from.

But their words, unfortunately, don't match their actions. The Republican bill does exactly the opposite of what they are saying. It doesn't save Medicare and healthcare; it eviscerates it.

Independent studies show the Republican bill would cut healthcare for 16 million Americans. It would decimate rural hospitals. It would harm nursing homes. It would kill nearly a million jobs. And it would raise healthcare costs for everyone, even those with private insurance. That is the bill the Republicans are working on right now, and that is what it would do.

Apparently, Republicans are OK with the consequences. Former Leader MCCONNELL shrugged off people's concerns, saying folks worried about Medicaid cuts will "get over it." They will have to get over it. Isn't that cruel?

Meanwhile, Senator ERNST told people to stop fussing because "We're all going to die."

What planet are they on? Is this how Republicans talk to people back home worried about seeing a doctor, taking care of their kids, and affording prescription drugs?

Now, a few Senate Republicans have shown some flickers of lucidity in closed-door meetings and in hallway conversations. A few, at least, claim they recognize what the rest of us already know: Their own bill would decimate their own constituents.

The senior Senator from North Carolina was handing out fliers at a recent Republican lunch detailing how his own State—and nine others—would

lose tens of billions in funding and see hundreds of thousands of people lose insurance.

The senior Senator from Missouri acknowledged:

It's just not the right thing to do to shut down a bunch of rural hospitals to pay for tax cuts.

The Senator from Wisconsin warned:

We are mortgaging [our children's] future. It's unconscionable. It's immoral. It has to stop.

These are all nice words, but they mean nothing if the only thing Republicans do over the next few days is find new ways to pass the same old cuts. New lipstick; same pig. That is what is going on right now with the Republican bill.

So Republicans have a choice to make: They can keep chasing arbitrary deadlines. They can keep making edits and changes in the hopes that some combination of Medicaid and SNAP and clean energy cuts will make it to the floor. They can keep rewriting a bad bill into a slightly different bad bill. Or they can ask the obvious question: Should we pass this bill at all?

The answer is no. They should abandon Donald Trump's so-called Big Beautiful Bill.

It makes no sense whatsoever for Republicans to pass a bill that even they admit will kick millions of hard-working Americans off health insurance. It makes no sense for Republicans to pass a bill that will kill good-paying energy jobs—most of them in Republican States—while surrendering American energy independence to China.

It is morally bankrupt to take food away from kids to give to the ultrarich and morally bankrupt to saddle future generations with insurmountable debt. And it is morally bankrupt to ask working and middle Americans to bankroll tax breaks for billionaires at a time they are struggling to pay for groceries and rent.

The Senate Republican bill is not just flawed, it is irredeemable.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUSTED). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, the Senate Judiciary Committee Democrats have successfully challenged several controversial Judiciary provisions from the Republican so-called One Big Beautiful Bill. One example: The Republicans included a provision that would have limited the ability of individuals to challenge the Trump administration's Executive actions by potentially putting them on the hook for millions of dollars when they try to defend their constitutional rights and go

to court. Fortunately, the Senate Parliamentarian struck this provision.

Now, I am proud of what we accomplished in eliminating some harmful provisions, but there are still a lot of problems with the Big Beautiful Bill. The more we learn about this bill, the worse it looks. Perhaps that is why there is a hurry to get this done before the Fourth of July and people can take a close look at the details. I cannot stand idly by as my Senate Republican colleagues try to steamroll this bill through Congress because the President wants to do something before the Fourth of July.

We all know the provisions relative to healthcare and what they mean. The version that came over from the House of Representatives would have stricken health insurance coverage for 16 million families in America. What a wonderful idea. What are the Republicans thinking? There must be some real emergency reason to take health insurance coverage away from 16 million families. Well, it turns out the reason is to give a tax break to the wealthiest people in America.

Oh, you Democrats; you always say that. It just can't be true.

Listen, it is true. If you take people making \$400,000 a year, the tax breaks that are being given by the Republicans—60 percent of them go to people making more than \$400,000 a year; and at the highest levels of income, the Elon Musk part of the world, \$346,000 a year in tax breaks.

I have to say, I have met Mr. Musk. I don't know him very well, but I don't think he will miss it if \$346,000 in tax breaks don't come his way. But I do think 16 million families will miss health insurance coverage. I know I would.

In 2021, when I was chairman of the Judiciary Committee, the Parliamentarian ruled against our efforts—Democratic efforts—to include immigration policy in a reconciliation bill even though the budget impact was more than \$100 billion. At the time, the Parliamentarian wrote:

The reasons that people risk their lives to come to this country . . . cannot be measured in Federal dollars.

That is still true.

Despite this precedent, Republicans' Judiciary title in the Big Beautiful Bill is a wish list of policy changes to help carry out mass deportations of immigrants who have lived in our country for years and pose no threat to our safety.

Let's get down to the bottom line here. If someone is living in this country, seeking citizenship, and they are dangerous, they commit a serious crime, as far as I am concerned, they are gone; they have forfeited any right to consider staying in this country or acquiring citizenship. But there are so many others who came to this country and overstayed a student visa, overstayed a tourist visa, and they are technically in violation of the law. What have they done with their lives?

Look around, America. They are everywhere. They are working in your hospitals. They are working in your hotels. They are working in your restaurants. They are living next door to you, and they are going to church with you and your kids. These are people who are making America a stronger nation, and to brand them as criminals or rapists or terrorists without any proof whatsoever is just plain wrong. It is a shame that we have reached this point.

Don't take my word for it. Listen to what White House Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller said: Wow. It is amazing what this bill, the Big Beautiful Bill, accomplishes—the full border agenda, the full immigration agenda.

These policies of mass deportation of immigrants are cruel and mean, and they go beyond any question of public safety.

This bill would impose exorbitant fees that would make it impossible for vulnerable immigrants to access humanitarian relief in the United States. This includes a \$1,000 fee on asylum and a \$5,000 bond for parents seeking to be reunited with their child. The fees also place barriers on due process: a \$900 fee for an appeal in an immigration court. These fees are not just unconscionable, they are unfair.

The Republican reconciliation bill increases State and local law enforcement grants funding. That sounds good, doesn't it? Well, you are wrong. This provision specifically prohibits using grant funds for community violence intervention and prevention programs, which are proven, evidence-informed strategies to reduce violence.

We have a gun violence epidemic in America. Currently, guns are the No. 1 cause of death for American children and teens. Let me repeat that. In America, guns are the No. 1 cause of death for American children and teens. Not auto accidents, not cancer—guns.

We need to support and strengthen community violence intervention and prevention programs. I have seen them, and I have seen them work in the city of Chicago and all around the State of Illinois to stop violent incidents before they happen. And we need to connect people with treatment and tools that decrease the risk of future violence.

But instead of supporting valuable public safety measures, the Republican Big Beautiful Bill removes taxes and regulations on certain rifles, shotguns, and gun silencers. That is just what we need in America, isn't it—cheaper guns.

Combating this epidemic takes ingenuity and funding, not the reversal of lifesaving gun violence prevention policies. But Republicans' reckless reconciliation bill will jeopardize the progress that has been made in our communities.

To make matters worse, Senator CRUZ of Texas has added a provision that would leave the U.S. AI—artificial intelligence—industry an unregulated Wild West. This provision would give

States the choice between regulating AI or accepting Federal funding under the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program. This means States would have to choose between freezing all regulations on artificial intelligence for the next decade or giving up specific Federal funding.

In addition to preventing new State regulations, it would make many of the laws already passed by States unenforceable regarding issues of AI, such as political deepfakes, face recognition, and algorithmic discrimination.

We are currently living with the results of our failure to regulate Big Tech when it came to social media. Let's not make the same mistake when it comes to AI.

This provision by Senator CRUZ will allow Big Tech and bad actors to prey on the lack of regulations in the AI space and develop deceptive, biased, and potentially dangerous tools that hurt ordinary Americans and diminish trust in technology.

Senator CRUZ claims the provisions would only affect a State's eligibility to receive a part of the \$500 million Federal investment, but as my Democratic colleagues Senator CANTWELL and MARKEY have pointed out, there is also a stipulation in the provision that would hold \$42 billion in essential broadband program funding hostage. This would force States to choose between protecting consumers from AI-related harm or expanding critical broadband.

Senator CRUZ's provision provides greater harm to the American people than good. And listen, it says that this will be for 10 years. I would like to say that I am confident the Federal Government would respond within 10 years, but there is still no guarantee.

I promise to support any amendment that will remove the AI pause provision from this bill, and I hope my Republican colleagues will do the same.

So now is the real test for my Senate Republican colleagues. Will they stand with President Trump and provide tax breaks for multimillionaires and billionaires or will they stand with their hard-working constituents and reject this betrayal?

What is more important, a tax break for Elon Musk or the health insurance of 16 million in America? What is more important, a tax break for the wealthiest people in America or your rural hospital?

I think people know that when it comes to the quality of life, the hospital is more important, and health insurance is critical.

I hope, for the sake of our country, four Republican Senators will have the courage to step up and choose their constituents over special interest groups.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 5:45 p.m.,

the Senate execute the order of June 24 with respect to the Kies nomination, and following disposition of the Kies nomination, the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

Ms. COLLINS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to use a prop during my remarks.

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

#### FOR SALE ACT OF 2025

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, Uncle Sam is the Nation's largest landlord. Yet he will never win a round of Monopoly, the classic board game where players try to make money and avoid going bankrupt by buying, renting, and selling property.

That is because Uncle Sam, who is already \$37 trillion in debt, refuses to sell off unused and unneeded properties that are costing tens of millions of dollars a year to maintain.

Many of Uncle Sam's properties are also fixer-uppers, requiring billions of dollars in much needed renovations and overdue upgrades, some of which are listed on this board.

Holding on to unaffordable properties that are nearly vacant while being just a roll or two away from going bankrupt is not only a losing strategy in Monopoly but also a bad game plan in real life.

But Uncle Sam gets away with it because Washington plays by its own set of rules. And no matter how you roll the dice, "Washington-opoly" is a losing game for taxpayers.

To demonstrate, why don't we go ahead and play a round.

OK. That was my attempt to roll the dice—so three. We rolled a three. One, two, three.

OK. We landed on the Department of Agriculture, South Building in Washington, DC. And guess what, folks. It is owned by good old Uncle Sam.

Let's look at the stats for the USDA South Building. Seventy-eight percent of this building isn't even being used on a day-to-day basis. Yet we are paying more than \$11 million for utilities every single year, and the building requires \$1.7 billion for repairs and upgrades.

We could hold on to this property and pay these costs for a nearly empty building or we could sell it and make \$261 million or more.

What would you do?

Well, Uncle Sam has decided to keep it and is passing along the costs to tax-

payers. So let's roll again. OK. Two. We got two.

Let's see. One, two. Great.

We landed on Community Chest. So let's pick a card. Community Chest. Pay \$818 million for unused property. That is right, folks. Every year, Uncle Sam pays out over \$81 million maintaining underutilized offices. This includes nearly 7,700 vacant buildings and another 2,265 that are largely empty.

No wonder the nonpartisan Public Buildings Reform Board says Washington's "wasteful real estate practices would not endure for so long in a private sector company."

But when playing "Washington-opoly," Uncle Sam doesn't pay the costs for his wasteful decisions; you do.

How about we take one more turn? Six. One, two, three, four, five, and six. This time we landed on Chance. So we get to pick another card. So there we go. There is our Chance card. Pass the For Sale Act and advance to Go.

Folks, that is exactly the type of Chance we need to protect taxpayers. Selling off Uncle Sam's unneeded property has long been tied up by overly restrictive redtape and bureaucratic barriers.

To revamp Washington's real estate rules, I introduced the For Sale Act. Passing this bill will put six pieces of prime property in the Nation's Capital on the auction block immediately. Selling just these spots will bring in at least \$400 million, while also canceling costs, including \$2.9 billion in overdue maintenance.

This is just the first step in downsizing Uncle Sam's unused, unneeded, and unaffordable real estate holdings. To any interested potential buyers, you can build a house or even a hotel on these properties and earn rent just like Monopoly. But best of all, taxpayers finally get to advance to Go and collect \$400 million. That, folks, is how you win the game.

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.

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

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

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. I ask permission to speak as if in morning business for 5 minutes.

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

#### REMEMBERING CAL ANDERSON

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I know people from all over Washington State have been celebrating Pride this month, and many are going to be heading to Seattle this weekend, and a lot of those celebrations will actually be taking place at Cal Anderson Park in Capitol Hill. For those who don't know, Cal was a friend of mine, so I want to

share a little about his story and how it relates to what is happening in our country today.

Cal was a Vietnam veteran and Washington's first openly gay State legislator. During my time as a State senator, we worked together to help make State government more accessible to the public. But in 1995, like so many at that time, we lost Cal too soon as a result of his AIDS diagnosis.

I remember visiting him in the hospital just a month before he passed, and, of course, he wasn't focused on himself. He was telling me, newly elected to the U.S. Senate, what I needed to do to make healthcare better for other people in our country.

That is still relevant today as we face down Republican attacks on Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act. Cal's election back then was a huge step towards equality, and he really helped change people's opinions.

I have served now on the Senate Appropriations Committee since I was first elected here and have always kept stories like Cal's close to me, fighting to invest in medical research and HIV prevention programs, year after year.

Over the years, we have made enormous and tremendous strides in the fight to prevent and even cure HIV and AIDS so that others do not suffer that fate that Cal did.

NIH funding is supporting work to discover an HIV vaccine. And, separately, PEPFAR, which helps prevent HIV infections around the world, has been one of the most effective programs in our country's history.

But Donald Trump has now terminated more than \$250 million in NIH funding supporting work to discover an HIV vaccine. Much of that work happened at Fred Hutch in Seattle for over 20 years. And now he is pushing Congress to pass hundreds of millions in cuts to PEPFAR.

And it is not just that. Trump is terminating all kinds of NIH studies if they even have the words "gay" or "trans" in them.

He is overseeing an all-out government campaign to turn back the clock and go after our trans friends and loved ones. It is totally wrong, and it is backwards.

Pride this year represents tremendous progress, but that progress is being threatened today like never before. So to everyone who is heading to Cal Anderson Park this weekend, I hope you will join me in reflecting on Cal's story, remembering how his fight matters today, and using your voice to speak up against this discrimination and this administration.

We can't let them sweep these attacks on science and the LGBTQ community under the rug. Let's keep fighting together to end HIV and AIDS, to protect healthcare for everyone, and for equal rights under the law no matter who you are or whom you love because in the end, we will win.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

# HONORING THE LIFE, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND LEGACY OF FREDERICK W. SMITH

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, last week, our Nation lost a revolutionary business leader, a committed philanthropist, an incredible Tennessean; his name, Fred Smith.

Like all great leaders, Fred had a vision for a better future, and he did everything possible to make it happen. That is why, in 1973, he founded FedEx with a simple yet bold idea: improve overnight delivery.

Today, we take instant shipping for granted in many ways. It is the engine of our global economy, but back then, it was not considered to be a practical or workable idea.

So it took Fred to make it happen. He pioneered innovations in transportation and logistics, and those pioneering innovations have defined the industry ever since. He truly led the way, and it was not easy. But with his commitment to excellence, he grew FedEx into a \$53 billion company that employs half a million people, connects more than 220 countries and territories, and moves more than 17 million shipments each and every day.

Even with his global accomplishments, Fred never lost sight of home. He based his company in his hometown of Memphis, turning the city into a center for global logistics. And through his philanthropic support for education, community programs, arts, healthcare, and more, he always found ways to give back to his community and to make Memphis a better place.

In many ways, service truly defined his life. Before founding FedEx, Fred served for 4 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, including two tours in Vietnam. He was decorated with a Silver Star, Bronze Star, and two Purple Hearts.

But for Fred, the greatest honor was serving alongside his troops as a company commander. In an interview last year, Fred recounted a time when the men in his company dug his foxhole for him so that he could get more rest.

They were as tired or more tired, but they took their energy to take care of me. And it was one of the best things that ever happened to me, because it told me they cared for me, they appreciated my leadership.

We should all be grateful for Fred Smith and that he chose a life of leadership and service.

On behalf of all Tennesseans, I extend my heartfelt condolences to Fred's beloved wife Diane, his nine children, and his entire family.

Mr. President, as if in legislative session and notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent, the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 308, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 308) honoring the life, achievements, and legacy of Frederick W. Smith.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 308) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

### THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF DOBBS V. JACKSON WOMEN'S HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, this week has given the pro-life movement quite a bit to celebrate. On Tuesday, we marked the third anniversary of the landmark decision in Dobbs v. Jackson. And today the U.S. Supreme Court delivered another life-affirming victory in the Medina v. Planned Parenthood case out of South Carolina, holding that States can defund the abortion industry by ensuring that abortion providers are excluded from the States' Medicaid Program.

This commonsense decision from the Supreme Court reinforces the important work that pro-life lawmakers are doing at the State and Federal level to keep tax dollars out of the abortion business. We can rest easy knowing that pro-life States across America are fiercely protecting the lives of innocent, unborn children.

But a child's right to exist should not depend on geography, and that is why my fellow pro-life colleagues join me on the Senate floor today to commemorate this time when the responsibility of protecting human life has been returned to the people and their elected leaders at both the State and Federal level.

Three years ago, the Supreme Court held that:

The Constitution does not confer a right to abortion; Roe and Casey are overruled; and the authority to regulate abortion is returned to the people and their elected representatives.

I am especially proud that my home State of Mississippi was at the center of this historic decision. The Dobbs landmark decision and all those involved in making it happen are very close to my heart, including my friends Representative Becky Currie of Brookhaven, MS, who authored the bill, and Attorney General Lynn Fitch, who represented our State so well in the Supreme Court. The High Court gave us exactly what we asked for.

Two hundred twenty-seven of my pro-life colleagues in Congress joined me on the brief we filed in Dobbs asserting that "it is long overdue for this Court to return lawmaking to legislatures . . . we respectfully urge the

Court to affirm the constitutional authority of the federal and state governments to safeguard the lives and health of their citizens, born and not yet born.”

While the pro-life movement has long sought to change hearts and minds through decades of court battles, today we can make a real difference to ensure our laws reflect the values we hold dear. A handful of examples of these legislative efforts include supporting pregnancy resource centers, protecting abortion survivors, and ensuring U.S. tax dollars are not funneled into the abortion industry.

While the pro-life community has held an outstretched hand to expecting parents who may be facing tough and scary hurdles—a primary one being the financial cost of birth—my colleagues and I are committed to supporting these families.

To that end, the Supporting Healthy Moms and Babies Act is meant to ease the out-of-pocket costs paid by parents to have a child. If we can relieve the financial stresses associated with pregnancy and childbirth, I hope expecting mothers and fathers will feel empowered to embrace the beautiful gift of parenthood.

As a proud Christian, mother, and committed member of the pro-life movement, I will continuously fight to uphold and defend the dignity of every life at every stage.

Dobbs lifted the gate for us to move forward, and there is still much important work to be done.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague Senator CINDY HYDE-SMITH of Mississippi, who also chairs the Pro-Life Caucus of the U.S. Senate. I want to thank her for organizing this event today because we just passed the 3-year anniversary of the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*. That was on June 24, 2022.

That decision was a pivotal moment in our Nation's history. *Roe v. Wade* was the worst Supreme Court decision, I would argue, since *Plessy v. Ferguson* and resulted in the tragic deaths of millions of innocent lives.

Countless numbers of precious, unborn lives have been saved. In fact, since *Roe* was overturned, just in these 3 years, 13 States have implemented laws to protect life starting at conception; 19 States total have enacted pro-life laws.

And earlier today, the Supreme Court delivered yet another pro-life victory in the *Medina v. Planned Parenthood* decision. The Court affirmed that States have the right to decide how Medicaid dollars are spent and that no one can force a State to fund the abortion industry.

For too long, abortion providers like Planned Parenthood have used Federal healthcare dollars as a backdoor to sustain their operations. And this ruling puts an end to that abuse and up-

holds the fact that taxpayers should never be compelled to subsidize Big Abortion.

Cindy and I are the parents of four—we are now the grandparents of seven—and have always believed that protecting the unborn is one of our most important duties. It is a belief that I carry with me each day in this job at the U.S. Senate.

In fact, that is why back in 2018, I founded the Pro-Life Caucus for the U.S. Senate. I had no idea at that point—this was pre-Dobbs—how important our work would become.

And I am grateful to the State of Mississippi, to Senator HYDE-SMITH's home State, where the Dobbs decision came from. It was the courage of those folks in Mississippi that resulted in that case before the Supreme Court that had a profound impact across our Nation with this Supreme Court ruling just a little over 3 years ago.

During my time as chairman of the Pro-Life Caucus, we confirmed pro-life Justices to the Supreme Court, including Justice Amy Coney Barrett, who went on to serve as the critical fifth vote to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

I remember that day very well when that news came down. I was struck by a truth that is found in the Old Testament, the Book of Jeremiah 1:15—this is a great mystery, a mystery of God—where it says:

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, [and] before you were [even] born I set you apart.

What a great truth how God knows this, he loves us, and it is a reminder that all lives are made in the image of God. That is why there is dignity and there is value in every single life, and that includes the unborn, includes the disabled, the aging. All lives are worthy. I am glad to see our country has made great strides in defending the defenseless.

When we had our four children, I remember going to those doctor appointments with Cindy and seeing those amazing images, seeing ultrasounds. That was 20, 25, 30-plus years ago. Today, we get to relive that again with our grandchildren. Now our children are having their babies. The technology is so remarkable. It is amazing to get an insight of what is going on in the womb.

For those who don't believe in creation and don't believe we were created, I sometimes have to go back and see the miracle of life that is occurring as that little baby is being formed in the mom's womb.

But today, the chemical abortion pill is the most widespread form of abortion. In fact, in 2023, it accounted for 63 percent of all abortions, and that number continues to rise. President Joe Biden and his administration removed safety precautions on taking mifepristone, including the in-person dispensing requirement and followup visit with a medical provider. Thanks to the Biden administration, the pills can even be shipped out by mail, de-

spite concrete evidence showing they are extremely harmful to women.

In fact, the FDA and the pro-abortion advocates market the pill as “safe as Tylenol.” But here are the facts: There is a recently published analysis of health insurance claims of over 865,000 women across the United States. They found that 1 in 10 women experiences serious adverse effects, many of these resulting in emergency room visits.

Let me share a stat here that is going to be shocking. The data here is irrefutable. We invite anybody to come check this data out. Here was the conclusion: The adverse health effects for women in this most recent study was 22 times higher than what is on the FDA's label on the abortion pills. Clearly, in no way is that abortion pill safe, and the FDA should reevaluate appropriate protections surrounding its use.

I am confident that with President Trump's leadership, with our Republican majority in the U.S. Senate, we are going to make some progress here. Already, President Trump is supporting the pro-life movement. One of his first actions after taking office was to pardon 23 peaceful pro-life protesters who were unjustly incarcerated by Joe Biden's Justice Department.

In the U.S. Senate, I was proud to join my colleagues this Congress to introduce the Unborn Child Support Act, which will allow pregnant women to receive child support payments. Caring for a child starts long before birth. Any pregnant mom—any mom who understands what that process is like—knows that caring for a child starts long before birth. By supporting expectant mothers, we recognize the humanity of the unborn child and make sure that women have access to the resources they need to choose life. I will fight to get this bill across the finish line.

It takes courage to stand for life in this day and age. I would like to take a moment to thank all who have played a role in advancing the movement, from my fellow Senators here, to advocacy groups, to the grassroots advocates back in our home States, and to those who offer us prayers at night. Everybody plays a part.

I am confident that one day, by the grace of God and the actions of this body, abortion will be unthinkable and every preborn child will be protected by law.

I spend a lot of time with students who come from our States. We all know that. We see the kids when they come, the tourists. We have junior high kids, sometimes grade school, high school students. They come from small towns, medium towns, and large towns from our States.

So when these Montanans come to our office, I always like holding a meeting. I bring them into my office, and we sit down. Sometimes there are not enough chairs, and students will be standing up.

I love to take questions from the students. Invariably, there will be a student that will raise their hand and ask

me a question about my stance as it relates to a women's right to choose or abortion. Rather than be a dad in that moment—and I have been a dad a lot of moments raising our four children, two boys and two girls—I think sometimes it is best for us to collect and kind of give some thought as to how to answer that question.

So I ask: How many of you have a smartphone?

Most every one of those students has a phone.

Let's do a thoughtful experiment here. Go to Google and type in "15 week baby"—1-5 week baby—and then touch on the "images" link on top. Let's talk about what we see there.

Of course, the students—there is not a lot more said at that point; it is silence.

I have done this many, many times. I just ask a basic question: Let's just have a debate. Is that life or not?

If we were NASA scientists and the Mars rover lands on Mars and that image was projected back to a group of Ph.D. scientists, literally rocket scientists, would they conclude that is life or not?

I have done this many, many times, and I will tell you, it is just silence as we all reflect on that basic question.

Why did I pick a 15-week baby in the womb? Because that was the line of demarcation that Mississippi had in their Dobbs case that defined—Mississippi said that is where life begins, that is where protections begin. It was on that basis that case went before the U.S. Supreme Court, what a 15-week baby looks like.

I think all of us should reflect on that no matter where we are politically, where we are in terms of advocacy. Just take a look at those images and reflect and ask yourself: Is that a baby or not? I think the images and technology today, with the clarity of ultrasounds, are a pretty convincing argument.

So this week, as we celebrate this historic anniversary of the Dobbs decision, let's reflect with grateful hearts on the progress we made. Let's look forward with hope to a future where every life, whether born or unborn, is valued.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled rollcall vote be called immediately.

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

#### VOTE ON KIES NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Kies nomination?

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ

MASTO) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 327 Ex.]

#### YEAS—53

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

#### NAYS—45

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

#### NOT VOTING—2

Cortez Masto      Markey

The nomination was confirmed.

(Mr. MORENO assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUSTED). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

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

#### PROMOTING RESILIENT SUPPLY CHAINS ACT

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to enter into a colloquy with the Senator of Oregon regarding S. 257, the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act, a bill to improve the resilience of critical supply chains, and for other purposes.

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

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I introduced the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act, S. 257, with Senators BLACKBURN and BLUNT ROCHESTER to mitigate or prevent disruptions of critical supply chains that could have a devastating impact on the U.S. econ-

omy. The bill charges the Department of Commerce's Assistant Secretary for Industry and Analysis with promoting the stability and resilience of critical supply chains. It creates a new government-wide Supply Chain Resilience Working Group, led by the Assistant Secretary, to prepare for and respond to supply chain shocks by mapping, monitoring, and modeling U.S. supply chains for critical industries and emerging technologies in consultation with the private sector. The group will identify any gaps or vulnerabilities for critical goods, including any gaps in manufacturing, warehousing, transportation, and distribution and providing strategies to mitigate supply chain shocks. The bill calls for consultation with allies and key international partner nations to identify potential critical goods or manufacturing capacity in their countries that might be needed to avert supply chain disruptions. Finally, the bill requires ongoing reporting to inform Congress and the public, including a national strategy and review on critical supply chain resiliency and U.S. manufacturing.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, international trade is critical to the resilience and functioning of global supply chains, with goods and services—including industrial inputs and manufacturing equipment being imported and exported along the way. The trade policies and trade actions of the U.S. Government impact the structure, operation, efficiency, and security of U.S. supply chains, and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) plays a key role in developing and coordinating the implementation of those trade policies and actions. USTR can provide valuable input to the Supply Chain Resilience Working Group, and the committees with jurisdiction over trade—the Senate Committee on Finance and House Committee on Ways and Means—can likewise provide valuable oversight. I look forward to working with my colleagues who sponsor this bill to bring those trade interests into the fold. In addition, I look forward to working to clarify the definition of "ally or key international partner nation" to ensure that this bill will focus on supporting more secure and resilient supply chains in the United States and reliable partner nations, while limiting our critical supply chains' exposure to foreign countries that may not be aligned with the economic or security interests of the United States. I thank my colleague Senator CANTWELL for her work on this bill and her willingness to work with me on these issues.

Ms. CANTWELL. Thank you, Senator WYDEN, I agree with you and will work with you and our House colleagues to incorporate these changes into the bill as the legislative process moves forward.



## U.S. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE LEGAL OPINION

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the Government Accountability Office opinion letter dated June 25, 2025.

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

## DECISION

Matter of: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Miles City Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment

File: B-337163

Date: June 25, 2025

## DIGEST

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued the Miles City Field Office: Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment (Miles City RMPA). The Miles City RMPA guides the management of BLM-administered lands in the Miles City Field Office and designates which areas are available for coal leasing consideration.

The Congressional Review Act (CRA) requires that before a rule can take effect, an agency must submit the rule to both the House of Representatives and the Senate, as well as the Comptroller General. CRA adopts the definition of “rule” under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) but excludes certain categories of rules from coverage. We conclude that the Miles City RMPA meets the APA definition of a rule, and no CRA exception applies. Therefore, the Miles City RMPA is a rule subject to CRA’s submission requirements.

## DECISION

On November 20, 2024, the U.S. Department of the Interior (Interior), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued a record of decision and resource management plan amendment titled, Miles City Field Office: Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment (Miles City RMPA).<sup>1</sup> We received a request for a decision as to whether the Miles City RMPA is a rule for purposes of the Congressional Review Act (CRA).<sup>2</sup> As discussed below, we conclude that the Miles City RMPA is a rule for purposes of CRA.

Our practice when issuing decisions is to obtain the legal views of the relevant agency on the subject of the request.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, we reached out to Interior to obtain the agency’s legal views.<sup>4</sup> We received Interior’s response on May 2, 2025.<sup>5</sup>

## BACKGROUND

*BLM Public Land Management*

Under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (FLPMA), BLM is responsible for developing, maintaining, and, when appropriate, revising “land use plans which provide by tracts or areas for the use of the public lands.”<sup>6</sup> BLM land use plans, referred to as “resource management plans” (RMPs), establish goals and objectives to guide future land and resource management actions implemented by BLM.<sup>7</sup> Pursuant to FLPMA, BLM established procedures for the development, revision, and amendment of RMPs.<sup>8</sup>

The objective of resource management planning is to maximize resource values for the public through a rational, consistently applied set of regulations and procedures which promote the concept of multiple use management.<sup>9</sup> An RMP generally establishes land use designations; allowable resource

uses; resource conditions, goals, and objectives; program constraints and general management practices; areas to be covered by more specific plans; and other related information.<sup>10</sup>

BLM may amend an RMP to account for, among other things, new data, new or revised policy, or a change in circumstances.<sup>11</sup> Amendments are to be made through an environmental assessment of the proposed change or an environmental impact statement, if needed, and must involve public involvement and interagency coordination.<sup>12</sup>

*Miles City Resource Management Plan*

In 2015, BLM revised and combined two previously issued RMPs into a new RMP for the Miles City Field Office.<sup>13</sup> The 2015 Miles City RMP provided direction for approximately 2.75 million surface acres and 10.6 million acres of mineral estate managed by BLM across 17 eastern Montana counties.<sup>14</sup> It established goals, objectives, land use allocations, and management direction for the BLM-administered surface and mineral estate.<sup>15</sup>

Following its issuance, the 2015 Miles City RMP was challenged in the United States District Court for the District of Montana on the basis that BLM improperly approved the plan in violation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).<sup>16</sup> The court found that BLM violated NEPA in its final environmental impact statement and ordered BLM to complete a new coal screening and remedial NEPA analysis.<sup>17</sup>

In response, BLM proposed an RMP amendment for the Miles City Field Office in 2019.<sup>18</sup> The 2019 Miles City RMP was also challenged in court. Once again, the court found that BLM violated NEPA. In its order, the court directed BLM to consider no coal leasing and limited coal leasing alternatives and to disclose the public health impacts, both climate and non-climate, of burning fossil fuels from the planning areas.<sup>19</sup>

On November 20, 2024, BLM approved the Miles City RMPA and subsequently published a notice of its availability in the Federal Register.<sup>20</sup> The Miles City RMPA consists of the Record of Decision and the RMP amendment, which is based on Alternative D in the final environmental impact statement. The Miles City RMPA provides specific coal screen designations for the 11.7 million acres of subsurface federal mineral coal estate for which BLM has authority to determine its availability. It also addresses the NEPA deficiencies identified by the court order.<sup>21</sup>

Additionally, the Miles City RMPA allocates 1,745,040 acres as unavailable for further consideration for leasing in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>22</sup> As such, BLM will not accept new coal lease applications. However, existing coal leases may be developed in accordance with lease terms and conditions.<sup>23</sup> The Miles City RMPA does not modify other resource allocation management decisions that were previously made in the 2015 Miles City RMP.<sup>24</sup>

*Congressional Review Act*

CRA, enacted in 1996 to strengthen congressional oversight of agency rulemaking, requires federal agencies to submit a report on each new rule to both houses of Congress and to the Comptroller General for review before a rule can take effect.<sup>25</sup> The report must contain a copy of the rule, “a concise general statement relating to the rule,” and the rule’s proposed effective date.<sup>26</sup> CRA allows Congress to review and disapprove rules issued by federal agencies for a period of 60 days using special procedures.<sup>27</sup> If a resolution of disapproval is enacted, then the new rule has no force or effect.<sup>28</sup>

CRA adopts the definition of a rule under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA),

which states that a rule is “the whole or a part of an agency statement of general or particular applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy or describing the organization, procedure, or practice requirements of an agency.”<sup>29</sup> However, CRA excludes three categories of rules from coverage: (1) rules of particular applicability; (2) rules relating to agency management or personnel; and (3) rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice that do not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.<sup>30</sup>

Interior did not submit a CRA report to Congress or the Comptroller General on the Miles City RMPA.<sup>31</sup> In its response to us, Interior provided additional information about the Miles City RMPA but did not state a position as to whether it is a rule under CRA.<sup>32</sup>

## DISCUSSION

To determine whether the Miles City RMPA is a rule subject to review under CRA, we first address whether it meets the APA definition of a rule. As explained below, we conclude that it does. We then consider whether the Miles City RMPA falls within any CRA exceptions. We conclude that it does not. As such, the Miles City RMPA is subject to review under CRA.

*The Miles City RMPA is a Rule Under APA*

Applying APA’s definition of rule, the Miles City RMPA meets all of the required elements. First, the Miles City RMPA is an agency statement as it was issued by BLM, a federal agency.<sup>33</sup>

Second, the Miles City RMPA is of future effect as it is to be used prospectively to guide the management of the BLM mineral coal estate administered by the Miles City Field Office.<sup>34</sup> Decisions made in the Miles City RMPA became effective November 20, 2024, when the Record of Decision was signed.<sup>35</sup> As of that date, the Miles City RMPA replaces decisions for coal resource leasing availability by making certain acres of BLM-administered land unavailable for leasing going forward. Therefore, the Miles City RMPA has future effect.

Finally, the Miles City RMPA implements, interprets, or prescribes law or policy, because it designates which areas of BLM-administered land are available for coal leasing consideration in accordance with BLM’s responsibilities for land use management under FLPMA. The Miles City RMPA also sets policy by providing specific coal screen designations for the 11.7 million acres of subsurface federal mineral coal estate for which BLM has authority to determine its availability.

Our conclusion here is consistent with our previous decisions finding similar land use and RMPs implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy.<sup>36</sup> For instance, in B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017, we found that an amendment to the Forest Service’s Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan (Tongass Amendment) implemented law by establishing new criteria for the sale of timber to non-agency parties. We explained that with the Tongass Amendment, the Forest Service set forth its policy for timber sales and thus implemented its statutory responsibility under the National Forest Management Act.<sup>37</sup>

Similarly in B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017, we concluded that four RMPs issued by BLM prescribed policy by establishing available uses for the areas that each RMP covered. We noted that each RMP implemented provisions of FLPMA and other applicable statutory and regulatory provisions.<sup>38</sup> The same can be said of the Miles City RMPA at issue here. The Miles City RMPA implements FLPMA and prescribes policy by designating which areas of BLM-administered land are available for coal leasing consideration. As such, the Miles City RMPA meets the third



element of the APA definition of rule. Having satisfied all the required elements, the Miles City RMPA meets the APA definition of rule.

#### *CRA Exceptions*

We must next determine whether any of CRA's three exceptions apply. CRA provides for three types of rules that are not subject to its requirements: (1) rules of particular applicability; (2) rules relating to agency management or personnel; and (3) rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice that do not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.<sup>39</sup>

#### *(1) Rule of Particular Applicability*

Consistent with our previous decisions, the Miles City RMPA is a rule of general applicability, rather than particular applicability. In B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017, the Forest Service proffered that its Tongass Amendment was a rule of particular applicability because it applied to a single national forest. We disagreed, noting that the Tongass Amendment governed all natural resource management activities, all projects approved to take place, and all persons or entities using the forest. As such, it was a rule of general applicability.<sup>40</sup> Likewise, the Miles City RMPA establishes land use designations that govern any coal activities by any person or entity within the Miles City Field Office, making it a rule of general applicability.

#### *(2) Rule of Agency Management or Personnel*

The Miles City RMPA is not a rule of agency management or personnel. We have previously held that rules that fall into this category relate to purely internal agency matters.<sup>41</sup> Because the Miles City RMPA is concerned with public use of the areas it governs rather than management of BLM itself or its personnel, it does not meet CRA's second exception.

#### *(3) Rule of Agency Organization, Procedure, or Practice That Does Not Substantially Affect Non-Agency Parties*

Lastly, the Miles City RMPA is not a rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice that does not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.<sup>42</sup>

We have previously explained that this exception was modeled on the APA exception to notice-and-comment rulemaking requirements for "rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice[.]"<sup>43</sup> The purpose of the APA exception is to ensure "that agencies retain latitude in organizing their internal operations," so long as such rules do not have a substantial impact on non-agency parties.<sup>44</sup>

Following this interpretation in the CRA context, we have only applied CRA's third exception to rules that primarily focus on the internal operations of an agency.<sup>45</sup> For instance, in B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018, we found that updates to a Social Security Administration (SSA) hearings manual governing SSA adjudicators' use of information from the internet qualified as a rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice. There, the manual outlined procedures for SSA employees to follow in processing and adjudicating benefits claims. Because the manual was directed to and binding only on SSA officials without imposing new burdens on claimants, we concluded that the manual met CRA's third exception.<sup>46</sup>

In contrast, rules that are directed at and primarily concerned with the behavior of non-agency parties do not fall within this category.<sup>47</sup> Thus, in B-274505, Sept. 16, 1996, we declined to apply CRA's third exception to a Forest Service memorandum on the Emergency Salvage Timber Sale Program, because it was not limited to the Forest Service's methods of operations. Instead, the

memorandum established the standards by which program determinations would be made, thus directly affecting the area for and number of timber sales that would result in contracts. In essence the memorandum went beyond how the Forest Service organized its internal operations.<sup>48</sup> Similarly, in B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017, we declined to apply CRA's third exception to the Tongass Amendment, because it was directed at land and resource use by non-agency parties.<sup>49</sup>

Here, the Miles City RMPA does entail some changes to agency procedure in that BLM will no longer consider coal leasing applications for the acres designated as unavailable for further consideration. However, like the Forest Service memorandum in B-274505 and the Tongass Amendment in B-238859, the Miles City RMPA is not limited to changes in internal agency operations. Instead, the Miles City RMPA is directed at, and concerns itself primarily with, the behavior of non-agency parties. Therefore, the Miles City RMPA does not qualify as a rule of agency organization, procedure or practice.

We must also consider whether the Miles City RMPA substantially affects the rights or obligations of non-agency parties. When analyzing this aspect of CRA's third exception, "the critical question is whether the agency action alters the rights or interests of the regulated entities."<sup>50</sup> Along similar lines, courts have determined that "[a]n agency rule that modifies substantive rights and obligations can only be nominally procedural, and the exemption for such rules of agency procedure cannot apply."<sup>51</sup>

In previous decisions, we have consistently concluded that where an RMP designates use by non-agency parties in the areas it governs, it has a substantial effect.<sup>52</sup> For instance, in B-275178, July 3, 1997, we reached this conclusion by noting that the Forest Service's RMP provided a "management prescription" giving general direction on what may occur within an area allocated to a particular land use designation. Similarly, in B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017, we concluded that four BLM RMPs had a substantial effect on non-agency parties where the plans limited the use of public land and prohibited mining and operation of off-highway vehicles in the areas they governed.

Consistent with our caselaw on other RMPs, the Miles City RMPA has a substantial effect on non-agency parties. Its purpose is to "provide additional analysis for land use planning, specifically for analyzing coal" in the Miles City Field Office.<sup>53</sup> The Miles City RMPA makes unavailable 1,745,040 acres of BLM-administered coal from further consideration for leasing. As a result, BLM has foreclosed non-agency parties from new federal coal leasing in those designated areas, thereby altering their substantive rights and obligations. Accordingly, the Miles City RMPA fails to meet CRA's third exception.

#### CONCLUSION

The Miles City RMPA is a rule for purposes of CRA because it meets the definition of a rule under APA and no CRA exception applies. Therefore, the Miles City RMPA is subject to CRA's requirement that it be submitted to Congress and the Comptroller General before it can take effect.

EDDA EMMANUELLI PEREZ,  
General Counsel.

#### ENDNOTES

1. BLM, *Miles City Field Office: Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment* (Nov. 20, 2024), available at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2021155/510> (last visited June 11, 2025).
2. Letter from Senator Steve Daines, Senator Tim Sheehy, Representative Troy Downing, and Representative Ryan K. Zinke to Comptroller General (Feb. 14, 2025).

3. GAO, *GAO's Protocols for Legal Decisions and Opinions*, GAO-24-107329 (Washington, D.C.: Feb. 21, 2024), available at <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-24-107329>.

4. Letter from Assistant General Counsel, GAO, to Acting Solicitor, Interior (Mar. 4, 2025).

5. Letter from Acting Associate Solicitor, Division of General Law, Interior, to Assistant General Counsel, GAO (May 2, 2025) (Response Letter).

6. Pub. L. No. 94-579, title II, §202(a), 90 Stat. 2743, 2747 (Oct. 21, 1976), 43 U.S.C. §1712(a).

7. *Resource Management Planning*, 81 Fed. Reg. 89580 (Dec. 12, 2016).

8. See 43 U.S.C. §1712(f); 43 C.F.R. part 1600.

9. 43 C.F.R. 1601.0-2. FLPMA defines "multiple use" as "the management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people . . ." This objective aims to ensure "a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values . . ." 43 U.S.C. §1702(c).

10. Response Letter, at 2; see also 43 C.F.R. §1601.0-5(n).

11. 43 C.F.R. §1610.5-5.

12. *Id.*

13. BLM, *Miles City Field Office Approved Resource Management Plan* (Sept. 15 2015), at BA-1, available at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/59042/510> (last visited June 11, 2025) (2015 Miles City RMP).

14. 2015 Miles City RMP, at 1-1.

15. *Id.*

16. NEPA requires agencies to prepare an environmental impact statement for "major Federal actions" that "significantly" affect the "quality of the human environment . . ." 42 U.S.C. §4332(C).

17. *Western Organization of Resource Councils, et al. v. BLM*, Docket No. CV 16-21-GF-BMM (D. Mont. Mar. 26, 2018).

18. BLM, *Miles City Field Office: Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment* (Oct. 4, 2019), available at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/116998/570> (last visited June 11, 2025) (2019 Miles City RMP).

19. *Western Organization of Resource Councils, et al. v. BLM*, Docket No. CV 20-76-GF-BMM (D. Mont. Aug. 3, 2022).

20. *Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment for the Miles City Field Office, Montana*, 89 Fed. Reg. 93650 (Nov. 27, 2024).

21. See generally Miles City RMPA.

22. Miles City RMPA, at 1-4.

23. Miles City RMPA, at 1-4.

24. Miles City RMPA, at 2-3.

25. 5 U.S.C. §801(a)(1)(A).

26. *Id.*

27. 5 U.S.C. §802.

28. 5 U.S.C. §801(b)(1).

29. 5 U.S.C. §§551(4), 804(3).

30. 5 U.S.C. §804(3).

31. Response Letter, at 1.

32. See Response Letter. However, Interior did state that an RMP "is not a final implementation decision on actions that require further plans, process, or decisions". *Id.* at 2.

33. See B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017 (finding a similar RMP issued by BLM to be an agency statement).

34. Miles City RMPA, at 1-1.

35. See Miles City RMPA, at 1-4, 1-12.

36. See, e.g., B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017; B-275178, July 3, 1997; B-274505, Sept. 16, 1996.

37. B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017.

38. B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017.  
 39. 5 U.S.C. § 804(3).  
 40. B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017.  
 41. See, e.g., B-335142, May 1, 2024; B-334411, June 5, 2023.  
 42. See 5 U.S.C. § 804(3)(C).  
 43. 5 U.S.C. § 553(b)(A); see B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018.  
 44. *Batterton v. Marshall*, 648 F.2d 694, 707 (D.C. Cir. 1980).  
 45. See, e.g., B-329916, May 17, 2018.  
 46. B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018.  
 47. B-335629, July 8, 2024.  
 48. B-274505, Sept. 16, 1996.  
 49. B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017.  
 50. B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018.  
 51. *United States Department of Labor v. Kast Metals Corp.*, 744 F.2d 1145, 1153 (5th Cir. 1984).  
 52. See, e.g., B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017; B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017; B-275178, July 3, 1997.  
 53. Miles City RMPA, at 2-1.

## U.S. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE LEGAL OPINION

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a letter containing the legal opinion of the Government Accountability Office, no. B-337200, titled “U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Central Yukon Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan,” dated June 25, 2025.

The letter provides notification that the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management *Central Yukon Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan* is a rule subject to the Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. Sec. 801 et seq.

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

### DECISION

Matter of: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Central Yukon Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan

File: B-337200

Date: June 25, 2025

### DIGEST

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued the Central Yukon Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (Central Yukon RMP). The Central Yukon RMP provides management direction for 13.3 million acres of BLM-managed public lands within Alaska’s Central Yukon planning area.

The Congressional Review Act (CRA) requires that before a rule can take effect, an agency must submit the rule to both the House of Representatives and the Senate, as well as the Comptroller General. CRA adopts the definition of “rule” under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) but excludes certain categories of rules from coverage. We conclude that the Central Yukon RMP meets the APA definition of a rule, and no CRA exception applies. Therefore, the Central Yukon RMP is a rule subject to CRA’s submission requirements.

### DECISION

In November 2024, the U.S. Department of the Interior (Interior), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued a record of decision and resource management plan titled, Central Yukon Record of Decision and Approved

Resource Management Plan (Central Yukon RMP).<sup>1</sup> We received a request for a decision as to whether the Central Yukon RMP is a rule for purposes of the Congressional Review Act (CRA).<sup>2</sup> As discussed below, we conclude that the Central Yukon RMP is a rule for purposes of CRA.

Our practice when issuing decisions is to obtain the legal views of the relevant agency on the subject of the request.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, we reached out to Interior to obtain the agency’s legal views.<sup>4</sup> We received Interior’s response on May 5, 2025.<sup>5</sup>

### BACKGROUND

#### BLM Public Land Management

Under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (FLPMA), BLM is responsible for developing, maintaining, and, when appropriate, revising “land use plans which provide by tracts or areas for the use of the public lands.”<sup>6</sup> BLM land use plans, referred to as “resource management plans” (RMPs), establish goals and objectives to guide future land and resource management actions implemented by BLM.<sup>7</sup> Pursuant to FLPMA, BLM established procedures for the development, revision, and amendment of RMPs.<sup>8</sup>

The objective of resource management planning is to maximize resource values for the public through a rational consistently applied set of regulations and procedures which promote the concept of multiple use management.<sup>9</sup> An RMP generally establishes land use designations; allowable resource uses; resource conditions, goals, and objectives; program constraints and general management practices; areas to be covered by more specific plans; and other related information.<sup>10</sup>

#### Central Yukon Resource Management Plan

The Central Yukon planning area comprises 56 million acres in Central and Northern Alaska.<sup>11</sup> BLM manages about one quarter, or 13 million, of those acres.<sup>12</sup> On November 12, 2024, BLM’s Alaska State Director approved the Central Yukon RMP, which provides a comprehensive land use plan to direct the management of these BLM-managed lands.<sup>13</sup> Ten days later, BLM published a notice of availability in the Federal Register.<sup>14</sup>

The Central Yukon RMP replaces two RMPs approved in 1986 and 1991 and portions of a 1981 management framework plan.<sup>15</sup> It also provides RMP-level decisions for unplanned lands west of Fairbanks, Alaska.<sup>16</sup> In addition, the Central Yukon RMP designates 21 areas of critical environmental concern or research natural areas covering 3.6 million acres.<sup>17</sup>

On January 20, 2025, the President issued Executive Order No. 14153, Unleashing Alaska’s Extraordinary Resource Potential, which in part directed the Secretary of the Interior to rescind the Central Yukon RMP and “reimplement the draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement referenced in the National Park Service notice entitled ‘Notice of Availability for the Central Yukon Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, Alaska,’ 85 Fed. Reg. 80143 (December 11, 2020).”<sup>18</sup> On February 3, 2025, the Secretary of the Interior issued an order that, among other things, directed the submission of an action plan outlining the steps to execute those executive order provisions.<sup>19</sup> In its response to us, Interior stated that the Central Yukon RMP is in effect and BLM is reviewing it for consistency with the executive order and Secretary’s order.<sup>20</sup>

#### Congressional Review Act

CRA, enacted in 1996 to strengthen congressional oversight of agency rulemaking, requires federal agencies to submit a report on each new rule to both houses of Congress

and to the Comptroller General for review before a rule can take effect.<sup>21</sup> The report must contain a copy of the rule, “a concise general statement relating to the rule,” and the rule’s proposed effective date.<sup>22</sup> CRA allows Congress to review and disapprove rules issued by federal agencies for a period of 60 days using special procedures.<sup>23</sup> If a resolution of disapproval is enacted, then the new rule has no force or effect.<sup>24</sup>

CRA adopts the definition of a rule under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), which states that a rule is “the whole or a part of an agency statement of general or particular applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy or describing the organization, procedure, or practice requirements of an agency.”<sup>25</sup> However, CRA excludes three categories of rules from coverage: (1) rules of particular applicability; (2) rules relating to agency management or personnel; and (3) rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice that do not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.<sup>26</sup>

Interior did not submit a CRA report to Congress or the Comptroller General on the Central Yukon RMP. In its response to us, Interior provided additional information about the Central Yukon RMP but did not state a position as to whether it is a rule under CRA.<sup>27</sup>

### DISCUSSION

To determine whether the Central Yukon RMP is a rule subject to review under CRA, we first address whether it meets the APA definition of a rule. As explained below, we conclude that it does. We then consider whether the Central Yukon RMP falls within any CRA exceptions. We conclude that it does not. Therefore, the Central Yukon RMP is a rule subject to review under CRA.

#### The Central Yukon RMP is a Rule Under APA

Applying APA’s definition of rule, the Central Yukon RMP meets all of the required elements. First, the Central Yukon RMP is an agency statement as it was issued by BLM, a federal agency.<sup>28</sup>

Second, the Central Yukon RMP is of future effect as it is to be used prospectively to guide the management of the Central Yukon planning area and later site-specific projects.<sup>29</sup> Decisions made in the Central Yukon RMP became effective on November 12, 2024, when the ROD was signed.<sup>30</sup> As of that date, according to BLM, the Central Yukon RMP will guide management of BLM-managed public lands in the planning area for the next 15 to 20 years for the benefit of current and future generations.<sup>31</sup> Therefore, the Central Yukon RMP has future effect.

Finally, the Central Yukon RMP implements, interprets, or prescribes law or policy because it prescribes and implements a consolidated direction under one plan to address land and resource use and development on BLM-managed public lands within the planning area in accordance with FLPMA.<sup>32</sup>

Our conclusion here is consistent with our previous decisions finding that similar land use programs and RMPs implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy.<sup>33</sup> For instance, in B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017, we found that an amendment to the Forest Service’s Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan (Tongass Amendment) implemented law by establishing new criteria for the sale of timber to non-agency parties. We explained that with the Tongass Amendment, the Forest Service set forth its policy for timber sales and thus implemented its statutory responsibility under the National Forest Management Act.<sup>34</sup>

Similarly in B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017, we concluded that four RMPs issued by BLM prescribed policy by establishing available uses for the areas that each RMP covered. We

for the areas that each RMP covered. We noted that each RMP implemented provisions of FLPMA and other applicable statutory and regulatory provisions.<sup>35</sup> The same can be said of the Central Yukon RMP here. The Central Yukon RMP implements FLPMA and prescribes policy by designating or foreclosing specific activities or land use on BLM-administered land. As such, the Central Yukon RMP meets the third element of the APA definition of rule. Having satisfied all the required elements, the Central Yukon RMP meets the APA definition of rule.

#### CRA Exceptions

We must next determine whether any of CRA's three exceptions apply. CRA provides for three types of rules that are not subject to its requirements: (1) rules of particular applicability; (2) rules relating to agency management or personnel; and (3) rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice that do not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.<sup>36</sup>

##### (1) Rule of Particular Applicability

Consistent with our previous decisions, the Central Yukon RMP is a rule of general applicability, rather than particular applicability. In B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017, the Forest Service proffered that its Tongass Amendment was a rule of particular applicability because it applied to a single national forest. We disagreed, noting that the Tongass Amendment governed all natural resource management activities, all projects approved to take place, and all persons or entities using the forest. As such, it was a rule of general applicability.<sup>37</sup> Likewise, the Central Yukon RMP addresses land and resource use and development by any person or entity on BLM-managed public lands within the Central Yukon planning area, making it a rule of general applicability.

##### (2) Rule of Agency Management or Personnel

The Central Yukon RMP is not a rule of agency management or personnel. We have previously held that rules that fall into this category relate to purely internal agency matters.<sup>38</sup> Because the Central Yukon RMP is concerned with public use of the areas it governs rather than management of BLM itself or its personnel, it does not meet CRA's second exception.

##### (3) Rule of Agency Organization, Procedure, or Practice That Does Not Substantially Affect Non-Agency Parties

Lastly, the Central Yukon RMP is not a rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice that does not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.<sup>39</sup>

We have previously explained that this exception was modeled on the APA exception to notice-and-comment rulemaking requirements for "rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice[.]"<sup>40</sup> The purpose of the APA exception is to ensure "that agencies retain latitude in organizing their internal operations," so long as such rules do not have a substantial impact on non-agency parties.<sup>41</sup>

Following this interpretation in the CRA context, we have only applied CRA's third exception to rules that primarily focus on the internal operations of an agency. For instance, in B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018, we found that updates to a Social Security Administration (SSA) hearing manual governing SSA adjudicators' use of information from the internet qualified as a rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice. There, the manual outlined procedures for SSA employees to follow in processing and adjudicating benefits claims. Because the manual was directed to and binding only on SSA officials without imposing new burdens on claimants, we concluded that the manual met CRA's third exception.<sup>42</sup>

In contrast, rules that are directed at and primarily concerned with the behavior of non-agency parties do not fall within this category.<sup>43</sup> Thus, in B-274505, Sept. 16, 1996, we declined to apply CRA's third exception to a Forest Service memorandum on the Emergency Salvage Timber Sale Program, because it was not limited to the Forest Service's methods of operations. Instead, the memorandum established the standards by which program determinations would be made, thus directly affecting the area for and number of timber sales that would result in contracts. In essence the memorandum went beyond how the Forest Service organized its internal operations.<sup>44</sup> Similarly, in B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017, we declined to apply CRA's third exception to the Tongass Amendment, because it was directed at land and resource use by non-agency parties.<sup>45</sup>

Here, the Central Yukon RMP does entail some changes to agency procedure. For example, it describes the mitigation measures BLM will apply to BLM-authorized activities within the planning area, which include an adaptive management process for implementing the RMP.<sup>46</sup> Appendix E of the Central Yukon RMP sets forth detailed standard operating procedures and fluid mineral leasing stipulations.<sup>47</sup> And the Central Yukon RMP discusses how BLM will develop an implementation plan, monitor the RMP's implementation, and periodically evaluate the needs for revisions or amendments at least every five years.<sup>48</sup> However, like the Forest Service memorandum in B-274505 and the Tongass Amendment in B-238859, the Central Yukon RMP is not limited to changes in internal agency operations. Instead, the Central Yukon RMP is directed at, and concerns itself primarily with, the behavior of non-agency parties. Therefore, the Central Yukon RMP does not qualify as a rule of agency organization, procedure or practice.

We must also consider whether the Central Yukon RMP substantially affects the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.<sup>49</sup> When analyzing this aspect of CRA's third exception, "the critical question is whether the agency action alters the rights or interests of regulated entities."<sup>50</sup> Along similar lines, courts have determined that "[a]n agency rule that modifies substantive rights and obligations can only be nominally procedural, and the exemption for such rules of agency procedure cannot apply."<sup>51</sup>

In previous decisions, we have consistently concluded that where an RMP designates use by non-agency parties in the areas it governs, it has a substantial effect.<sup>52</sup> For instance, in B-275178, July 3, 1997, we reached this conclusion by noting that the Forest Service's RMP provided a "management prescription" giving general direction on what may occur within an area allocated to a particular land use designation. Similarly, in B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017, we concluded that four BLM RMPs had a substantial effect on non-agency parties where the plans limited the use of public land and prohibited mining and operation of off-highway vehicles in the areas they governed.

Consistent with our caselaw on other RMPs, the Central Yukon RMP has a substantial effect on non-agency parties. For example, the Central Yukon RMP recommends that the Secretary of the Interior make 11.1 million acres of land eligible for selection by Alaska Native Vietnam-era veterans through the partial revocation of certain withdrawals under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and prescribes actions veterans may take on those allotments.<sup>53</sup> The Central Yukon RMP also makes land use designations and describes what activities may be conducted on the land, such as designating land as areas of critical environmental concern, to protect fish habitat, and closing off

certain of these areas to mineral materials disposal or mineral extraction.<sup>54</sup> The Central Yukon RMP also takes additional actions such as implementing mitigation management actions, including increased collaboration and coordination with other agencies and landowners,<sup>55</sup> and designating backcountry conservation areas.<sup>56</sup> As a result, BLM has foreclosed non-agency parties from mineral disposal and extraction and certain recreational activities in the Central Yukon planning area. Accordingly, the Central Yukon RMP fails to meet CRA's third exception.

#### CONCLUSION

The Central Yukon RMP is a rule for purposes of CRA because it meets the definition of a rule under APA and no CRA exception applies. Therefore, the Central Yukon RMP is subject to CRA's requirement that it be submitted to Congress and the Comptroller General before it can take effect.

EDDA EMMANUELLI PEREZ,  
General Counsel.

#### ENDNOTES

1. BLM, Central Yukon Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (Nov. 12, 2024), available at [https://eplanning.blm.gov/public\\_projects/35315/200040776/20123105/251023085/C\\_YRMP\\_RMP.pdf](https://eplanning.blm.gov/public_projects/35315/200040776/20123105/251023085/C_YRMP_RMP.pdf) (last visited June 20, 2025); Letter from Acting Associate Solicitor, Division of General Law, Interior, to Assistant General Counsel, GAO, at 2 (May 5, 2025) (Response Letter). Although the record of decision approved the Central Yukon RMP, we refer primarily to the Central Yukon RMP throughout this decision.

2. Letter from Senator Lisa Murkowski, Senator Dan Sullivan, and Representative Nick Begich to Comptroller General (Feb. 28, 2025).

3. GAO, GAO's Protocols for Legal Decisions and Opinions, GAO-24-107329 (Washington, D.C.: Feb. 2024), available at <https://www.gao.gov/pRMPucts/gao-24-107329>.

4. Letter from Assistant General Counsel, GAO, to Senior Advisor to the Secretary, Delegated the Authority of the Solicitor, Interior (Mar. 19, 2025).

5. Response Letter.

6. Pub. L. No. 94-579, title II, §202(a), 90 Stat. 2743, 2747 (Oct. 21, 1976), 43 U.S.C. §1712(a).

7. Resource Management Planning, 81 Fed. Reg. 89580 (Dec. 12, 2016).

8. See 43 U.S.C. §1712(f); 43 C.F.R. part 1600.

9. 43 C.F.R. §1601.0-2. FLPMA defines "multiple use" as "the management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people. . . ." 43 U.S.C. §1702(c). This objective aims to ensure "a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values. . . ." *Id.*

10. Response Letter, at 2; see also 43 C.F.R. §1601.0-5(n).

11. Central Yukon RMP, at 2-1; Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan for the Central Yukon Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, Alaska, 89 Fed. Reg. 92716 (Nov. 22, 2024).

12. Central Yukon RMP, at 2-1.

13. Central Yukon RMP, Record of Decision (ROD), at 1-2; Response Letter, at 2.

14. 89 Fed. Reg. at 92716.

15. 89 Fed. Reg. at 92716.

16. 89 Fed. Reg. at 92716.

17. Central Yukon RMP, at 2-44; 89 Fed. Reg. at 92717.

18. Exec. Order No. 14153, §3(b)(xvii)–(xviii), 90 Fed. Reg. 8347, 8350 (Jan. 29, 2025) (emphasis omitted).

19. Interior, Secretary's Order No. 3422, Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential, §6(a) (Feb. 3, 2025), available at <https://www.doi.gov/document-library/secretary-order/so-3422-unleashing-alaskas-extraordinary-resource-potential> (last visited June 20, 2025). It does not appear that Interior has taken any subsequent action to actually rescind the Central Yukon RMP, which thus remains in effect.

20. Response Letter, at 2.

21. 5 U.S.C. §801(a)(1)(A).

22. *Id.*

23. See 5 U.S.C. §802.

24. 5 U.S.C. §801(b)(1).

25. 5 U.S.C. §§551(4), 804(3).

26. 5 U.S.C. §804(3).

27. Response Letter. However, Interior did state the Central Yukon RMP “is not a final implementation decision on actions that require further plans, process, or decisions.” *Id.* at 2.

28. 89 Fed. Reg. at 92716. See, e.g., B-334644, Mar. 17, 2023 (actions were published on agency webpage and in the Federal Register); B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017, at 5 (finding a similar resource management plan issued by BLM to be an agency statement).

29. Central Yukon RMP, at 2-1.

30. Central Yukon, ROD, at 1-2, 1-30.

31. 89 Fed. Reg. at 92716.

32. See 89 Fed. Reg. at 92716; Central Yukon RMP, ROD, at 1-2.

33. See, e.g., B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017, B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017; B-275178, July 3, 1997.

34. B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017.

35. B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017.

36. 5 U.S.C. §804(3).

37. B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017.

38. See, e.g., B-335142, May 1, 2024; B-334411, June 5, 2023.

39. See 5 U.S.C. §804(3)(C).

40. 5 U.S.C. §553(b)(A); see B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018.

41. *Batterton v. Marshall*, 648 F.2d 694, 707 (D.C. Cir. 1980).

42. B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018.

43. B-337059, May 28, 2025, at 9 (citing B-335629, July 8, 2024).

44. B-274505, Sept. 16, 1996.

45. B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017.

46. Central Yukon RMP, ROD, at 1-3; Central Yukon RMP, at 2-56. Appendix F sets forth the adaptive management framework.

47. Central Yukon RMP, Appendix E.

48. Central Yukon RMP, ROD, at 1-21; Central Yukon RMP, at 2-53, 2-55.

49. B-336217, Aug. 6, 2024; B-334045, July 5, 2023.

50. B-336512, Aug. 29, 2024, at 9 (quoting B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018).

51. United States Department of Labor v. *Kast Metals Corp.*, 744 F.2d 1145, 1153 (5th Cir. 1984).

52. See, e.g., B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017; B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017; B-275178, July 3, 1997.

53. Pub. L. No. 92-203, 85 Stat. 688 (Dec. 18, 1971). Central Yukon RMP, ROD, at 1-8; Appendix M, at M-8; BLM, Secretary of the Interior Opens Additional 11 Million Acres for Alaska Native Veterans (Nov. 22, 2024), available at <https://www.blm.gov/press-release/secretary-interior-opens-additional-11-million-acres-alaska-native-veterans> (last visited June 20, 2025) (BLM Press Release). The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act was enacted in 1971 to resolve long-standing aboriginal land claims and to foster economic development for Alaska Natives. GAO, *Alaska Native Issues: Federal Agencies Could Enhance Support for Native Village Efforts to Address Environmental Threats*, GAO-22-104241 (Washington, D.C.: May 18, 2022), at 15 n.24. After the Central Yukon RMP's approval, the Secretary signed an order open-

ing 11.1 million acres for selection. BLM Press Release.

54. Central Yukon RMP, at 2-45.

55. Central Yukon RMP, ROD, at 1-20 to 1-21.

56. Central Yukon RMP, Appendix J, at J-1.

## U.S. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE LEGAL OPINION

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the Government Accountability Office opinion letter dated June 25, 2025.

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

### DECISION

Matter of: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to North Dakota Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan

File: B-337175

Date: June 25, 2025

### DIGEST

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued the North Dakota Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (North Dakota RMP). The North Dakota RMP replaced the 1988 North Dakota Resource Management Plan and provides directives and guidance for the management of BLM-administered lands across North Dakota.

The Congressional Review Act (CRA) requires that before a rule can take effect, an agency must submit the rule to both the House of Representatives and the Senate, as well as the Comptroller General. CRA adopts the definition of “rule” under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) but excludes certain categories of rules from coverage. We conclude that the North Dakota RMP meets the APA definition of a rule, and no CRA exception applies. Therefore, the North Dakota RMP is a rule subject to CRA's submission requirements.

### DECISION

On January 14, 2025, the U.S. Department of the Interior (Interior), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), issued the North Dakota Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (North Dakota RMP).<sup>1</sup> We received a request for a decision as to whether the North Dakota RMP is a rule for purposes of the Congressional Review Act (CRA).<sup>2</sup> As discussed below, we conclude that the North Dakota RMP is a rule for purposes of CRA.

Our practice when issuing decisions is to obtain the legal views of the relevant agency on the subject of the request.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, we reached out to Interior to obtain the agency's views.<sup>4</sup> We received Interior's response on April 18, 2025.<sup>5</sup>

### BACKGROUND

#### BLM Public Land Management

Under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (FLPMA), BLM is responsible for developing, maintaining, and, when appropriate, revising “land use plans which provide by tracts or areas for the use of the public lands.”<sup>6</sup> BLM land use plans, referred to as “resource management plans” (RMPs), establish goals and objectives to guide future land and resource management actions implemented by BLM.<sup>7</sup> Pursuant to FLPMA, BLM established procedures for the development, revision, and amendment of RMPs.<sup>8</sup>

The objective of resource management planning is to maximize resource values for the public through a rational, consistently applied set of regulations and procedures which promote the concept of multiple use management.<sup>9</sup> An RMP generally establishes land use designations; allowable resource uses, resource conditions, goals, and objectives; program constraints and general management practices; areas to be covered by more specific plans; and other related information.<sup>10</sup>

#### North Dakota Resource Management Plan

BLM determined that its 1988 North Dakota RMP needed revision to address significant changes in resource conditions, evolving demands for land use, advances in technology, updated policies and program guidance, and the availability of new scientific data since the original RMP was developed in 1988.<sup>11</sup> On July 28, 2020, BLM issued a notice in the Federal Register initiating the process to revise the 1988 North Dakota RMP.<sup>12</sup>

On January 8, 2025, following a comprehensive planning process, including public scoping and comment, data analysis, alternative development, environmental review, stakeholder engagement, and selection of a preferred management approach, BLM approved the North Dakota RMP through a Record of Decision (ROD) incorporated into the document.<sup>13</sup> The ROD states that it represents the agency's final decision, issued after completing procedures required by FLPMA, environmental reviews in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and considering public comments.<sup>14</sup>

The North Dakota RMP provides directives and guidance on how 58,500 acres of BLM-administered surface land and 4.1 million acres of BLM-administered mineral estate, mostly split estate, across North Dakota will be used and managed over the next 20 years.<sup>15</sup> More specifically, it establishes various land uses for recreation, motorized vehicles, oil and gas leasing, renewable energy projects, grazing, wildlife habitat protection, and cultural preservation.<sup>16</sup>

#### Congressional Review Act

CRA, enacted in 1996 to strengthen congressional oversight of agency rulemaking, requires federal agencies to submit a report on each new rule to both houses of Congress and to the Comptroller General for review before a rule can take effect.<sup>17</sup> The report must contain a copy of the rule, “a concise general statement relating to the rule,” and the rule's proposed effective date.<sup>18</sup> CRA allows Congress to review and disapprove rules issued by federal agencies for a period of 60 days using special procedures.<sup>19</sup> If a resolution of disapproval is enacted, then the new rule has no force or effect.<sup>20</sup>

CRA adopts the definition of “rule” under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), which states that a rule is “the whole or a part of an agency statement of general or particular applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy or describing the organization, procedure, or practice requirements of an agency.”<sup>21</sup> However, CRA excludes three categories of rules from coverage: (1) rules of particular applicability; (2) rules relating to agency management or personnel; and (3) rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice that do not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.<sup>22</sup>

Interior did not submit a CRA report to Congress or the Comptroller General on the North Dakota RMP.<sup>23</sup> In its response to us, Interior provided additional information about the North Dakota RMP but did not state a position as to whether it is a rule under CRA.<sup>24</sup>

state a position as to whether it is a rule under CRA.<sup>24</sup>

#### DISCUSSION

To determine whether the North Dakota RMP is a rule subject to review under CRA, we first address whether it meets the APA definition of a rule. As explained below, we conclude that it does. We then consider whether the North Dakota RMP falls within any CRA exceptions. We conclude that it does not. As such, the North Dakota RMP is subject to review under CRA.

#### *The North Dakota RMP is a Rule Under APA*

Applying APA's definition of rule, the North Dakota RMP meets all of the required elements. First, the North Dakota RMP is an agency statement as it was issued by BLM, a federal agency.<sup>25</sup>

Second, the rule is of future effect as it is to be used to guide the use of the public land for the next 20 years.<sup>26</sup> Decisions made in the North Dakota RMP became effective on January 8, 2025, when the Record of Decision was signed.<sup>27</sup> As of that date, according to BLM, the North Dakota RMP will guide management of BLM-managed public lands in the planning area for the next 15 to 20 years for the benefit of current and future generations.<sup>28</sup> Therefore, the North Dakota RMP has future effect.

Finally, the North Dakota RMP implements, interprets, or prescribes law or policy, because it designates areas of BLM-administered land for certain purposes in accordance with BLM's responsibilities for land use management under FLPMA. The North Dakota RMP establishes a broad framework for land use management, governing approximately 58,500 acres of BLM-administered surface land and 4.1 million subsurface acres of BLM-managed land and minerals across North Dakota.<sup>29</sup> Specifically, it designates various land uses for the public, including recreation, motorized vehicle access, oil and gas leasing, renewable energy development, grazing, wildlife habitat conservation, and cultural preservation.<sup>30</sup>

Our conclusion here is consistent with our previous decisions finding that similar land use plans and RMPs implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy.<sup>31</sup> For instance, in B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017, we found that an amendment to the Forest Service's Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan (Tongass Amendment) implemented law by establishing new criteria for the sale of timber to non-agency parties. We explained that with the Tongass Amendment, the Forest Service set forth its policy for timber sales and thus implemented its statutory responsibility under the National Forest Management Act.<sup>32</sup>

Similarly in B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017, we concluded that four RMPs issued by BLM prescribed policy by establishing available uses for the areas that each RMP covered. We noted that each RMP implemented provisions of FLPMA and other applicable statutory and regulatory provisions.<sup>33</sup> The same can be said for the North Dakota RMP as issue here. The North Dakota RMP implements FLPMA and prescribes policy by designating or foreclosing specific activities or land use on BLM-administered land. As such, the North Dakota RMP meets the third element of APA's definition of a rule. Having satisfied all the required elements, the North Dakota RMP meets the APA definition of rule.

#### *CRA Exceptions*

We must next determine whether any of CRA's three exceptions apply. CRA provides for three types of rules that are not subject to its requirements: (1) rules of particular applicability; (2) rules relating to agency management or personnel; and (3) rules of

agency organization, procedure, or practice that do not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.<sup>34</sup>

#### *(1) Rule of Particular Applicability*

Consistent with our previous decisions, the North Dakota RMP is a rule of general applicability, rather than particular applicability. In B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017, the Forest Service proffered that its Tongass Amendment was a rule of particular applicability because it applied to a single national forest. We disagreed, noting that the Tongass Amendment governed all natural resource management activities, all projects approved to take place, and all persons or entities using the forest. As such, it was a rule of general applicability.<sup>35</sup> Likewise, the North Dakota RMP establishes land use designations that govern all activities conducted by any person or entity on BLM-administered land and subsurface estate managed by the North Dakota Field Office, making it a rule of general applicability.

#### *(2) Rule of Agency Management or Personnel*

The North Dakota RMP is not a rule of agency management or personnel. We have previously held that rules that fall into this category relate to purely internal agency matters.<sup>36</sup> Because the North Dakota RMP is concerned with public use of the areas it governs rather than management of BLM itself or its personnel, it does not meet CRA's second exception.

#### *(3) Rule of Agency Organization, Procedure, or Practice That does not Substantially Affect Non-Agency Parties*

Lastly, the North Dakota RMP is not a rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice that does not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.<sup>37</sup>

We have previously explained that this exception was modeled on the APA exception to notice-and-comment rulemaking requirements for "rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice[.]"<sup>38</sup> The purpose of the APA exception is to ensure "that agencies retain latitude in organizing their internal operations," so long as such rules do not have a substantial impact on non-agency parties.<sup>39</sup>

Following this interpretation in the CRA context, we have only applied CRA's third exception to rules that primarily focus on the internal operations of an agency.<sup>40</sup> For instance, in B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018, we found that updates to a Social Security Administration (SSA) hearing manual governing SSA adjudicators' use of information from the internet qualified as a rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice. There, the manual outlined procedures for SSA employees to follow in processing and adjudicating benefits claims. Because the manual was directed to and binding only on SSA officials without imposing new burdens on claimants, we concluded that the manual met CRA's third exception.<sup>41</sup>

In contrast, rules that are directed at and primarily concerned with the behavior of non-agency parties do not fall within this category.<sup>42</sup> Thus, in B-274505, Sept. 16, 1996, we declined to apply CRA's third exception to a Forest Service memorandum on the Emergency Salvage Timber Sale Program, because it was not limited to the Forest Service's methods of operations. Instead, the memorandum established the standards by which program determinations would be made, thus directly affecting the area for and number of timber sales that would result in contracts. In essence the memorandum went beyond how the Forest Service organized its internal operations.<sup>43</sup> Similarly, in B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017, we declined to apply CRA's third exception to the Tongass

Amendment, because it was directed at land and resource use by non-agency parties.<sup>44</sup>

Here, the North Dakota RMP does entail some changes to agency procedure as it introduces new internal directives, practices, and procedures necessary to carry out these policies.<sup>45</sup> However, like the Forest Service memorandum in B-274505 and the Tongass Amendment in B-238859, the North Dakota RMP is not limited to changes in internal agency operations. Instead, the North Dakota RMP is directed at, and concerns itself primarily with, the behavior of non-agency parties. Therefore, the North Dakota RMP does not qualify as a rule of agency organization, procedure or practice.

We must also consider whether the North Dakota RMP substantially affects the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.<sup>46</sup> When analyzing this aspect of CRA's third exception, "the critical question is whether the agency action alters the rights or interests of the regulated entities."<sup>47</sup> Along similar lines, courts have determined that "[a]n agency rule that modifies substantive rights and interests can only be nominally procedural, and the exemption for such rules of agency procedure cannot apply."<sup>48</sup>

In previous decisions, we have consistently concluded that where an RMP designates use by non-agency parties in the areas it governs, it has a substantial effect.<sup>49</sup> For instance, in B-275178, July 3, 1997, we reached this conclusion by noting that the Forest Service's RMP provided a "management prescription" giving general direction on what may occur within an area allocated to a particular land use designation. Similarly, in B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017, we concluded that four BLM RMPs had a substantial effect on non-agency parties where the plans limited the use of public land and prohibited mining and operation of off-highway vehicles in the areas they governed.

Consistent with our caselaw on other RMPs, the North Dakota RMP has a substantial effect on non-agency parties. Specifically, it governs when and where the public may engage in activities such as recreation, motorized vehicle use, oil and gas leasing, renewable energy development, and grazing, thereby altering their substantive rights and obligations. Accordingly, the North Dakota RMP fails to meet CRA's third exception.

#### CONCLUSION

The North Dakota RMP is a rule for purposes of CRA because it meets the definition of a rule under APA and no CRA exception applies. Therefore, the North Dakota RMP is subject to CRA's requirement that it be submitted to Congress and the Comptroller General before it can take effect.

EDDA EMMANUELLI PEREZ,  
General Counsel.

#### ENDNOTES

1. BLM, BLM National NEPA Register, Approved Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision, available at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/1505069/570> (last visited May 1, 2025).

2. Letter from Senator John Hoeven, Senator Kevin Cramer, and Representative Julie Fedorchak to Comptroller General (Feb. 14, 2025).

3. GAO, GAO's Protocols for Legal Decisions and Opinions, GAO-24-107329 (Washington, D.C.: Feb. 2024), available at <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-24-107329>.

4. Letter from Assistant General Counsel for Appropriations Law, GAO, to Office of the Solicitor, Interior (Mar. 3, 2025).

5. Letter from Acting Associate Solicitor, Division of General Law, Interior, to Assistant General Counsel for Appropriations Law, GAO (Apr. 18, 2025) (Response Letter).

6. Pub. L. No. 94-579, title II, sec. 202(a), 90 Stat. 2743 (Oct. 21, 1976), 43 U.S.C. §1712(a).

7. Resource Management Planning, 81 Fed. Reg. 89580 (Dec. 12, 2016).

8. See 43 U.S.C. §1712(f); 43 C.F.R. part 1600.

9. 43 C.F.R. §1601.0-2. FLPMA defines “multiple use” as “the management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people. . . .” This objective aims to ensure “a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values. . . .” 43 U.S.C. §1702(c).

10. Response Letter, at 1; see also 43 C.F.R. §1601.0-5(n).

11. 85 Fed. Reg. 45438 (July 28, 2020).

12. See *Id.*

13. North Dakota RMP, at 3, 13, and 25. BLM houses the North Dakota RMP and other relevant documents on its National NEPA Register website. BLM, BLM National NEPA Register, Documents, available at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/1505069/570> (last visited May 27, 2025).

14. North Dakota RMP, at 3, 13, and 25.

15. 90 Fed. Reg. 3915, 3916 (Jan. 15, 2025).

16. See North Dakota RMP, at 35-95; see also 43 C.F.R. §1601.0-5(n).

17. 5 U.S.C. §801(a)(1)(A).

18. *Id.*

19. 5 U.S.C. §802.

20. 5 U.S.C. §801(b)(1).

21. 5 U.S.C. §§551(4), 804(3).

22. 5 U.S.C. §804(3).

23. Response Letter, at 1.

24. Response Letter, at 1. However, Interior did state that an RMP “is not a final implementation decision on actions that require further plans, process, or decisions”. *Id.* at 2.

25. See BLM, BLM National NEPA Register, Approved Resource Management Plan and Record of Decisions, available at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/1505069/570> (last visited June 4, 2025); 90 Fed. Reg. 3915 (Jan. 15, 2025); B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017 (finding a similar RMP issued by BLM to be an agency statement).

26. 90 Fed. Reg. at 3915.

27. North Dakota RMP, at 13, 25.

28. 90 Fed. Reg. at 3915.

29. See North Dakota RMP, at 3.

30. See *id.* at 35-95; see also 43 C.F.R. §1601.0-5(n).

31. See e.g., B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017; B-275178, July 3, 1997; B-274505, Sept. 16, 1996.

32. B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017.

33. B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017.

34. 5 U.S.C. §804(3).

35. B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017.

36. See, e.g., B-335142, May 1, 2024; B-334411, June 5, 2023.

37. See 5 U.S.C. §804(3)(C).

38. 5 U.S.C. §553(b)(A); see B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018.

39. *Batterton v. Marshall*, 648 F.2d 694, 707 (D.C. Cir. 1980).

40. See, e.g., B-329916, May 17, 2018.

41. B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018.

42. B-335629, July 8, 2024.

43. B-274505, Sept. 16, 1996.

44. B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017.

45. See North Dakota RMP, at 15-20, 96-98.

46. B-336217, Aug. 6, 2024; B-334045, July 5, 2023.

47. B-329926, Sept. 10, 2018.

48. *United States Department of Labor v. Kast Metals Corp.*, 744 F.2d 1145, 1153 (5th Cir. 1984).

49. See, e.g., B-329065, Nov. 15, 2017; B-238859, Oct. 23, 2017; B-275178, July 3, 1997.

the Senate by Mr. Hanley, one of his secretaries.

## EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 52. A resolution recognizing religious freedom as a fundamental right, expressing support for international religious freedom as a cornerstone of United States foreign policy, and expressing concern over increased threats to and attacks on religious freedom around the world.

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

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

## EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER for the Committee on Armed Services.

\*Navy nomination of Vice Adm. Charles B. Cooper II, to be Admiral.

\*Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Alexus G. Grynke, to be General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. David M. Castaneda and ending with Brig. Gen. Dean D. Sniogowski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 10, 2025.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. John B. Hinson, to be Major General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Kent J. Lightner, to be Major General.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Todd L. Erskine and ending with Col. David G. Barrett, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 10, 2025.

Marine Corps nomination of Col. Christopher G. Tolar, to be Major General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (lh) Christopher D. Stone, to be Rear Admiral.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (lh) David M. Buzzetti, to be Rear Admiral.

Navy nominations beginning with Rear Adm. (lh) David J. Faehnle and ending with Rear Adm. (lh) Donald M. Plummer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 10, 2025.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (lh) Kristin Acquavella, to be Rear Admiral.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (lh) Matthew Case, to be Rear Admiral.

Space Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Robert J. Hutt and ending with Brig. Gen. Brian D. Sidari, which nominations were received by the Senate and ap-

peared in the Congressional Record on June 10, 2025.

Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. Aaron D. Drake, to be Major General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Catherine V. Barrington, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Keolani W. Bailey and ending with Col. Bernadette Maldonado, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Chad R. W. Biehl and ending with Col. Gavin D. Tade, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Matthew M. Cain and ending with Col. Mark F. Schoenfeld, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Army nomination of Col. Isaac B. Martinez, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Marshall S. Scantlin, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Patrick L. Polak, to be Brigadier General.

Navy nomination of Capt. Damian D. Flatt, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Reginald S. Ewing III, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Raymond P. Owens III, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nominations beginning with Capt. Erin E. O. Acosta and ending with Capt. Benjamin A. Snell, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nomination of Capt. Jereal E. Dorsey, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Kertreck V. Brooks, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Sharif H. Calfee, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Omarr E. Tobias, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Michael J. Thornton, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Jonathan J. Jettparmer, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nominations beginning with Capt. Quinton S. Packard and ending with Capt. Jonathan R. Townsend, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Capt. Christopher A. Carter and ending with Capt. Kelly C. Ward, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nomination of Capt. Frank J. Brajevic, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Anthony L. Lacourse, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Kristin L. McCarthy, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Kimberly M. Sandberg, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Kevin M. Corcoran, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Lester Ortiz, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Space Force nominations beginning with Col. Casey M. Beard and ending with Col. Matthew E. Holston, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Karen S. MondayGresham, to be Major General.

\*Air Force nominations beginning with Lt. Gen. Case A. Cunningham and ending with Lt. Gen. John J. DeGoes, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 17, 2025.

\*Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Adrian L. Spain, to be General.

\*Army nomination of Lt. Gen. Thomas M. Carden, Jr., to be General.

## MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to



Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Bobby L. Christine, to be Judge Advocate General of the United States Army.

\*Marine Corps nomination of Lt. Gen. Benjamin T. Watson, to be Lieutenant General.

\*Marine Corps nomination of Maj. Gen. William J. Bowers, to be Lieutenant General.

\*Marine Corps nomination of Maj. Gen. David L. Odom, to be Lieutenant General.

\*Marine Corps nomination of Maj. Gen. Stephen E. Liszewski, to be Lieutenant General.

\*Marine Corps nomination of Lt. Gen. Gregory L. Masiello, to be Lieutenant General.

\*Marine Corps nomination of Maj. Gen. Jay M. Barger, to be Lieutenant General.

\*Navy nominations beginning with Vice Adm. Frederick W. Kacher and ending with Rear Adm. Thomas M. Henderschedt, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 17, 2025.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

Air Force nominations beginning with Alexander A. Adeleye and ending with Noah C. Wood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 28, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Sarahgrace R. Aglubat and ending with Casey L. Zoellick, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 29, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Laura A. Abbott and ending with Anne L. Willey, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 29, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Hugo D. Alarcon and ending with Nicholas J. Yielding, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 29, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brett D. Barner and ending with Peter S. Vo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 19, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Daniel A. Agada and ending with Mario L. Zenteno, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 19, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Rodinanthonyfil R. Alarcon and ending with Lisa M. Yeater, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 19, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Luchezar A. Abbott and ending with Alexander B. Zima, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 19, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Victor A. Acosta and ending with William D. Yau, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 19, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Dustin C. Adams and ending with Donnell D. Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 19, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Haval L. Aarif and ending with Thomas P.

Zogal, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 19, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Joey A. Abelson, Jr. and ending with Louis J. Zib III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 19, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Cristian Agredo and ending with Jena M. Zander, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 19, 2025.

Air Force nomination of Jeffrey A. Smith, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Joshua S. Stinson, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Cyrus A. Perry, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Benjamin R. Washburn, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Raymond E. Kerr, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Matthew T. Olson, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Lemuel J. Rios, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jesse C. Allen and ending with Bridget S. Zorn, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Air Force nomination of Clayton J. Aune, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Garrett M. Wells, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Brandon G. Waggoner, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Garrett C. Guthrie, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Vanessa J. Moffett, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Ramon Morado, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of John H. Diaz, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Brennan P. McDonald, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Tyler B. Smith, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Clarence Abercrombie, Jr. and ending with Andrew P. Zwirlein, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Bryce D. Acres and ending with Christopher D. Westfall, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Camisha Q. Abattam and ending with Racheal L. Wood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with David M. Boland and ending with Christopher W. Remillard, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Harris A. Abbasi and ending with 0003080783, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Jacob L. Barnoski and ending with Jonathan Shearer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Daniel J. Bland and ending with Anna Maria Travis, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 6, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Justin M. Adams and ending with 0002993837, which nominations were received by the Senate and

appeared in the Congressional Record on May 6, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Joseph B. Ahlborn and ending with 0003951188, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 6, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Timothy W. Atkins and ending with Ricky L. Warren, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 6, 2025.

Army nomination of Brent T. Bubany, to be Major.

Army nomination of Margaret A. Nowicki, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Arthur G. Brong, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Spencer R. Atkinson and ending with Anna Yoo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Joseph R. Adams and ending with Liang Zhou, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Michael M. Armstrong and ending with Garrett G. Wood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Jason B. Alisangco and ending with 0002875100, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Kyle L. Akers and ending with Brian K. Zdunowski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Angela J. Allen and ending with Shun Y. Yu, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Carlos J. Acosta Rivera and ending with Jay A. Zwirblis, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Jessica E. Basso and ending with Bradley Tait, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Rudylee Armijo and ending with Wilson T. Mustain, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Army nomination of Mark R. Milhiser, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Christopher L. Blaha and ending with Thomas A. Whitehead, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 3, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Blake A. Bugaj and ending with Kyle R. Vogt, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 3, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with William P. Abbott and ending with 0004221858, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Benjamin T. Abel and ending with 0004209777, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Alan Adame and ending with 0000089994, which nominations were received by the Senate and



appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with James J. Agius and ending with 0003086373, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Eric O. Dean and ending with John C. Verdugo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 16, 2025.

Army nomination of Chad M. Henderson, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Lily M. Diakhate and ending with Jeffrey B. Kusyj, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 17, 2025.

Army nomination of Patricia L. Mashburn, to be Major.

Army nomination of Peter I. Belk, to be Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Adam J. Romnek, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Benjamin D. Kastning, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Matthew A. Beard, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Michael P. Abrams and ending with Jeremy K. Yamada, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Marine Corps nomination of Jacob C. Crockett, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Navy nomination of David C. Sandomir, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Allen H. Grimes, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Jonathan D. Padgett, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Jonathan D. Padgett, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Ricky R. Rowe, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Daniel P. Bradley and ending with Kasimir M. Wnuk, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nomination of Daniel P. Malatesta, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Martha C. Adams and ending with Benjamin M. Walborn, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nomination of John K. Hope III, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Michael W. Coulter and ending with Monty A. Vikdal, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Robert J. Chavez and ending with Dean T. Moon, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Daniel S. Avondoglio and ending with Robert F. Marnell, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nomination of Santiago M. Carrizosa, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Allison M. Ashearriola and ending with Patrick L. Obrien, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Joseph E. Benton III and ending with Luke G. Wisniewski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Leon W. Moore and ending with Todd M. Spitler,

which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nomination of Christopher A. Baxter, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Calvin Martin and ending with Miko K. Wade, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Brian J. Abbott and ending with Eric P. Nardo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Wade A. Berzett and ending with Regis C. Worley, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Scott P. Bennie and ending with Christopher M. Schmid, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Jesse Bandle and ending with James L. Zimmerman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with William P. Boggess and ending with Rachel L. Werner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with James P. Adwell and ending with Timothy T. Welsh, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Deniz M. Baykan and ending with Katherine D. Worstell, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Eric K. Conrad and ending with Katherine Vester, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Anthony B. Fries and ending with Dennis D. Smith, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Michael R. Fasano and ending with Jeriahmi L. L. Tinsley, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Emily J. Bingham and ending with Thomas H. Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Jeremiah P. Anderson and ending with Jeffrey K. White, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Brien J. Croteau and ending with Brent F. West, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Ian P. Adams and ending with George S. Zintak, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with James G. Angerman and ending with Robert M. Syre, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Aaron E. Kleinman and ending with Steven E. Stougard, which nominations were received

by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Lamont A. Brown and ending with Brent L. Summers, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Colleen L. Abuzeid and ending with Elizabeth M. Zuloaga, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nomination of Justin J. Degrado, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Naimi Amiral and ending with Michael A. White, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Arlo K. Abrahamson and ending with Richlyn C. Ivey, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with James C. Bailey and ending with Alejandro Palomino, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Daniel J. Bellinghausen and ending with Eric Zilberman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Michael J. Bonacorsa and ending with Jacob E. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Christian G. Acord and ending with Christopher J. Wasek, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Aaron N. Aaron and ending with Michael N. Perkins II, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Kristine N. Bench and ending with Christopher K. Tuggle, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Kurt E. Davis and ending with Jason A. Rinto, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Andrew J. Adams and ending with Peter B. Manzoli, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 22, 2025.

Navy nomination of Jaime I. Roman, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Matthew L. Sevier, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Ashley S. M. McAbee, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Jeremy D. Bartowitz, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Brenna L. Schnars, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Steven A. Halle, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Matthew D. Baird and ending with Jerry T. Whitlock, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Neremiah J. S. Castano and ending with Peter S. Sunden, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Matthew B. Daniels and ending with Kenneth J. Phillips, which nominations were received by the

Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Colin C. Engels and ending with Christopher L. Worthey, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Mark L. Brooks and ending with John B. Stockstill, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Wendy F. Albard and ending with Kimberly Smith, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Peter J. Hammes and ending with Jeannine L. Weiss, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Toby J. Degenhardt and ending with Brian A. Potoski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Ben P. Ammerman and ending with Robert C. Singer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nomination of James M. Missler, Jr., to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Kaelan F. Clay, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Elliott Giles, to be Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with Chad C. Barnhart and ending with Caitlin J. Takahashi, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Burnes C. W. Brown and ending with Kenneth W. Zilka, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Justus T. Cook and ending with Sheu O. Yusuf, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Jeremy M. Adams and ending with Chance S. Yergensen, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 2, 2025.

Navy nomination of Brian N. Johnson, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Sergio E. Lloret, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Les M. Begin, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Shelby M. Nikitin, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Claudia I. Alday and ending with Ryan J. Wickham, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Robert T. Augustine and ending with Cody C. White, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Matthew J. Arnsberger and ending with Anthony J. Wich, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Travis L. Carter and ending with Katherine R. Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Luis E. Banchs and ending with Matthew K.

Wittkopp, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Jermaine Armstrong and ending with Kendra M. Yates, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Dwayne D. Dunlap and ending with Jason O. Lawrie, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Richard E. Arthur II and ending with Brian E. Yee, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with David J. Carter and ending with Matthew A. Stroup, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Daniel J. Bradshaw and ending with Jacob J. Torba, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Michael Adamski, Jr. and ending with Jacqueline Zimny, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Christopher P. Anderson and ending with Alex R. Turco, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Joshua D. Ciocco and ending with Christopher J. Richards, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Deena R. Abt and ending with Shane A. Welsh, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Robert J. Campbellmartin and ending with Jacob R. Wofford, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Michael L. Harper and ending with Michael S. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Gloria F. Boykin and ending with Emma S. Yearby, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Navy nominations beginning with Anastasia S. Abid and ending with Alexander T. Zimmerman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2025.

Space Force nomination of Kristen M. Barra, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Space Force nomination of Raymond C. Brushier, to be Colonel.

By Mr. CASSIDY for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Jeremiah Workman, of Ohio, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.

\*Penny Schwinn, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Secretary of Education.

\*Daniel Aronowitz, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

\*David Keeling, of Kentucky, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

\*Kimberly Richey, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education.

\*Andrea Lucas, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2030.

\*Jonathan Berry, of Maryland, to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor.

\*Andrew Rogers, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor.

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

David Metcalf, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years.

Bart McKay Davis, of Idaho, to be United States Attorney for the District of Idaho for the term of four years.

Zachary M. Bluestone, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri.

Joshua M. Divine, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri.

Whitney D. Hermandorfer, of Tennessee, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

Maria A. Lanahan, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri.

Cristian M. Stevens, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri.

\*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.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. REED, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. COONS, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. KELLY, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BLUNT ROCH-ESTER, Mr. KAINE, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. KIM, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KING, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 2178. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that all provisions shall apply to legally married same-sex couples in the same manner as other married couples; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. SCHIFF, and Ms. ALSOBROOKS):

S. 2179. A bill to prohibit the use of M-44 devices, commonly known as "cyanide bombs", on public land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WELCH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2180. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for violations of the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI) individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. DAINES):

S. 2181. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to conduct a study to determine the feasibility and effectiveness of establishing a national strategic propane reserve; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LUJÁN:

S. 2182. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to increase participation in community solar programs and the receipt of associated benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 2183. A bill to amend the Farm Security and rural Investment Act of 2002 to improve assistance to community wood facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. WICKER):

S. 2184. A bill to designate July 11 as National Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the Srebrenica Genocide; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 2185. A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to establish an energy circuit rider program to disseminate technical and other assistance to rural communities to support energy efficiency and clean energy projects that save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2186. A bill to ensure that the background check system used for firearms purchases denies a firearm to a person prohibited from possessing a firearm by a lawful court order governing the pretrial release of the person; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LUMMIS (for herself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 2187. A bill to rescind amounts appropriated for grants that are not accepted by a State or local government and use the amounts for deficit reduction; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 2188. A bill to require the publication of data sets regarding firearm trace data; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHIFF:

S. 2189. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain assisted reproduction expenses as medical expenses of the taxpayer; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 2190. A bill to prohibit a court from awarding damages based on race, ethnicity, gender, or actual or perceived sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2191. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent bulk sales of ammunition, promote recordkeeping and reporting about ammunition, end ammunition straw purchasing, and require a background check before the transfer of ammunition by certain

Federal firearms licensees to non-licensees; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KIM, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 2192. A bill to require the Attorney General to make publicly available a list of federally licensed firearms dealers with a high number of short time-to-crime firearm traces, and to prohibit Federal departments and agencies from contracting with such dealers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 2193. A bill to establish a pilot program to expand early child care options for members of the Armed Forces and their families; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 2194. A bill to establish the Intelligence Community Technology Bridge Fund, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 2195. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the brave women who served in World War II as members of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and U.S. Navy Nurse Corps; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2196. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to define intimate partner to include someone with whom there is or was a dating relationship, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BENNET, Ms. BLUNT ROCH-ESTER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. KING, Mr. KIM, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. WELCH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. PETERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 2197. A bill to permit legally married same-sex couples to amend their filing status for tax returns outside the statute of limitations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2198. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to limit the authority of the Department of Defense and other Federal law enforcement personnel to support civilian law enforcement activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. KING, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2199. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to issue regulations requiring that optional combat boots worn by members of the Armed Forces wear be made in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. GALLEGO:

S. 2200. A bill to establish a law enforcement grant program to help law enforcement agencies respond to rapid increases in the arrival or presence of aliens who have recently

entered the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PETERS, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. GALLEGO):

S. Res. 306. A resolution expressing support for the designation of June 26 as "LGBTQI+ Equality Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. Res. 307. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in support of the recent United States and Israeli military strikes on Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. Res. 308. A resolution honoring the life, achievements, and legacy of Frederick W. Smith; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. TUBERVILLE (for himself and Mrs. BRITT):

S. Res. 309. A resolution commemorating the 65th anniversary of the Marshall Space Flight Center and recognizing its continued leadership in the development of the Space Launch System and human space exploration; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. COONS, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. SCHIFF):

S. Res. 310. A resolution recognizing Tunisia's leadership in the Arab Spring and expressing support for upholding its democratic principles and norms; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. Res. 311. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Parliamentarian of the Senate should serve not more than 1 term of 6 years; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 88

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 88, a bill to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills.

S. 180

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr.

WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 180, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize the use of grant amounts for providing training and resources for first responders on the use of containment devices to prevent secondary exposure to fentanyl and other potentially lethal substances, and purchasing such containment devices for use by first responders.

S. 366

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 366, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Muhammad Ali, in recognition of his contributions to the United States.

S. 410

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) 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. 556

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 556, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to persons engaged in logistical transactions and sanctions evasion relating to oil, gas, liquefied natural gas, and related petrochemical products from the Islamic Republic of Iran, and for other purposes.

S. 827

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 827, a bill to extend and modify the transportation grant program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 838

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 838, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income interest received on certain loans secured by rural or agricultural real property.

S. 925

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 925, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for working family caregivers.

S. 1021

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1021, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to establish a dairy nutrition incentive program, and for other purposes.

S. 1064

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) was added as a cosponsor of S.

1064, a bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects, and for other purposes.

S. 1225

At the request of Mr. BANKS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1225, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for certain freedom of association protections, and for other purposes.

S. 1304

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HENRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1304, a bill to permit the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Latino to be located within the Reserve of the National Mall, and for other purposes.

S. 1379

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1379, a bill to ensure consumers have access to data relating to their motor vehicles, critical repair information, and tools, and to provide them choices for the maintenance, service, and repair of their motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 1401

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1401, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a certification process for the issuance of nondisclosure requirements accompanying certain administrative subpoenas, to provide for judicial review of such nondisclosure requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 1404

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

S. 1467

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1467, a bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prevent consumer reporting agencies from furnishing consumer reports under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 1547

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1547, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to reauthorize the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1552

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from West Vir-

ginia (Mr. JUSTICE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1552, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 1782

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

S. 1829

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1829, a bill to combat the sexual exploitation of children by supporting victims and promoting accountability and transparency by the tech industry.

S. 1949

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1949, a bill to improve certain criminal provisions.

S. 1974

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1974, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to allow certain public health data modernization grants to be used to track hospital bed capacity, and for other purposes.

S. 1984

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1984, a bill to prohibit an employer from terminating the coverage of an employee under a group health plan while the employer is engaged in a lock-out or while the employee is engaged in a lawful strike, and for other purposes.

S. 2035

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2035, a bill to establish statutory rights to choose to receive, provide, and cover fertility treatments, and for other purposes.

S. 2037

At the request of Mr. BANKS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2037, a bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to prohibit discrimination against employees on the basis of expression that describes, asserts, or reinforces the binary or biological nature of sex.

S. 2042

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2042, a bill to provide lasting protection for inventoried roadless areas within the National Forest System.

DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2122, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit the exclusion of individuals from service on a Federal jury on account of sexual orientation or gender identity.

S. 2124

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2124, a bill to provide enhanced protections for election workers.

S. 2134

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2134, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that veterans in each of the 48 contiguous States are able to receive services in at least one full-service hospital of the Veterans Health Administration in the State or receive comparable services provided by contract in the State.

S. 2151

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2151, a bill to require the Secretary of Defense to submit annual reports on allied contributions to the common defense, and for other purposes.

S. 2169

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2169, a bill to require the development of a comprehensive rural hospital cybersecurity workforce development strategy, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 240

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 240, a resolution affirming that diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility are fundamental values of the United States and emphasizing the ongoing need to address discrimination and inequality in the workplace, pre-K through 12th grade and higher education systems, government programs, the military, and our society.

S. RES. 283

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 283, a resolution commemorating the 90th birthday of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama on July 6, 2025, as "A Day of Compassion" and expressing support for the human rights and distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity of the Tibetan people.

S. RES. 301

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 301, a resolution condemning the attacks on Minnesota lawmakers in Brooklyn Park and Champlin, Minnesota and calling for unity and the rejection of political violence in Minnesota and across the United States.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KIM, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 2192. A bill to require the Attorney General to make publicly available a list of federally licensed firearms dealers with a high number of short time-to-crime firearm traces, and to prohibit Federal departments and agencies from contracting with such dealers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Clean Hands Firearm Procurement Act.

This legislation addresses a critical need to ensure that Federal resources do not inadvertently support gun dealers whose business practices may contribute to the proliferation of firearms used in criminal activities.

The Clean Hands Firearm Procurement Act would withhold federal contracts from Federal Firearm Licensees (FFLs) who have been listed in the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives' (ATF) Demand 2 Program twice in the preceding 3 calendar years. The Demand 2 Program targets gun dealers who have sold 25 or more firearms within a year that are subsequently traced to crimes within 3 years of their sale.

Under this act, dealers identified under the Demand 2 Program will be prohibited from entering into Federal contracts for a period of 3 years following their last appearance on the list. However, the Attorney General would have the discretion to waive this prohibition for the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security if it is deemed necessary to protect national security.

Over the past two decades, the ATF's Demand 2 Program has been instrumental in identifying gun dealers whose sales practices may be contributing to the diversion of firearms to criminal activities. While the vast majority of FFLs operate responsibly, a small fraction—about 2 percent—of these dealers have been shown to be a significant source of crime guns.

Between 2021 and 2023, only approximately 1,500 of the Nation's 75,000+ FFLs were subject to the Demand 2 Program. This small group of dealers has a disproportionate impact on gun violence in our communities. It is deeply troubling that some of these dealers have continued to receive lucrative Federal contracts despite their track record.

The Clean Hands Firearm Procurement Act aims to incentivize better business practices among gun dealers by ensuring that those with a history of contributing to gun violence through irresponsible sales are not rewarded with Federal contracts. This bill is a critical step towards reducing gun violence and ensuring that Federal procurement practices do not inadvertently

support the diversion of firearms to criminal activities.

Americans deserve to feel safe in their communities, and our government has a responsibility to ensure that its resources are used to promote public safety, not undermine it. By passing this legislation, we can take meaningful action to address the gun violence epidemic that continues to plague our Nation.

Public safety is paramount, and this bill represents an important measure to strengthen our efforts in combating the illegal use of firearms. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass the Clean Hands Firearm Procurement Act as swiftly as possible.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 306—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 26 AS "LGBTQI+ EQUALITY DAY"

Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PETERS, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. GALLEG0) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 306

Whereas the United States recognizes that all people should be treated equally;

Whereas Members of the 119th Congress support the rights and freedoms of individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI+);

Whereas, on June 26, 2003, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *Lawrence v. Texas* that States could no longer criminalize the private consensual conduct in which same-sex couples engage;

Whereas, on June 26, 2013, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *United States v. Windsor* that section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) was unconstitutional and the Federal Government could no longer restrict married same-sex couples from receiving Federal benefits and protections;

Whereas, on June 26, 2015, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *Obergefell v. Hodges* that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marry and States could no longer discriminate against same-sex couples when recognizing or licensing a marriage;

Whereas Supreme Court decisions handed down on June 26 ended marriage discrimination and the criminalization of same-sex private intimate conduct under the law;

Whereas LGBTQI+ people and their allies have worked together for over 60 years to make progress toward achieving full equality for all people in the United States, regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or sex characteristics;

Whereas LGBTQI+ people in the United States continue to face many barriers to the American dream that cannot be solved through courtroom litigation alone;

Whereas transgender people and LGBTQI+ people of color are disproportionately and

uniquely burdened by such barriers, including violence, discrimination, poverty, and societal isolation;

Whereas although victories at the Supreme Court have affirmed the dignity and equality of millions of same-sex couples, statutory reforms are needed to ensure LGBTQI+ people in the United States are free from discrimination and have equal access to the American dream; and

Whereas June 26 would be an appropriate date to designate as “LGBTQI+ Equality Day”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports equal rights and protections for all people, regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or sex characteristics;

(2) supports the designation of “LGBTQI+ Equality Day”;

(3) encourages the celebration of “LGBTQI+ Equality Day” to commemorate the significance of Supreme Court decisions handed down on June 26 in 2003, 2013, and 2015, and to continue educating all people about the forms of discrimination, harassment, and intolerance that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex people continue to face; and

(4) acknowledges the need for further legislation to ensure people in the United States are free from all forms of discrimination on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or sex characteristics including in employment, housing, public accommodations, education, Federal funding, credit, and jury service.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 307—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE IN SUPPORT OF THE RECENT UNITED STATES AND ISRAELI MILITARY STRIKES ON IRAN

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 307

Whereas, in August 2002, the Islamic Republic of Iran’s secret nuclear program was revealed, including the existence of a fuel enrichment plant in Natanz, Iran, and the heavy-water plant in Arak, Iran;

Whereas, on April 11, 2006, the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that it had enriched uranium for the first time to a level close to 3.5 percent at the Pilot Fuel Enrichment Plant in Natanz, Iran;

Whereas, in 2018, during a raid on a warehouse in Tehran’s Turqezabad district, Israel’s Mossad seized a vast nuclear archive of approximately 100,000 documents (commonly known as “Iran’s Atomic Archive”), which revealed Iran’s AMAD Plan, a structured nuclear weapons program aimed at producing 5 nuclear warheads, including detailed designs, high-explosive tests, detonator development, and integration of a warhead into the Shahab-3 ballistic missile;

Whereas, on May 31, 2021, it was reported that the Islamic Republic of Iran failed to provide any explanation for the uranium remnants found at undeclared sites in Iran, and such an explanation had not been provided as of the date of the enactment of this resolution;

Whereas, on May 30, 2022, the International Atomic Energy Agency (referred to in this

preamble as the “IAEA”) reported that the Islamic Republic of Iran had achieved a stockpile of 43.3 kilograms (95.5 pounds) of 60 percent highly enriched uranium, which is roughly enough material to construct a nuclear weapon;

Whereas, on February 27, 2023, the IAEA reported that the Islamic Republic of Iran had enriched uranium to 83.7 percent, which is just short of the 90 percent threshold for weapons-grade fissile material;

Whereas, on September 16, 2023, the IAEA reported that the Islamic Republic of Iran banned the activities of nearly one-third of the IAEA’s most experienced nuclear inspectors in Iran, a decision that, according to IAEA Director-General Rafael Grossi, harmed the IAEA’s ability to monitor Iran’s nuclear program;

Whereas, on December 28, 2023, the Governments of the United States, of France, of Germany, and of the United Kingdom jointly declared, “The production of high-enriched uranium by Iran has no credible civilian justification”;

Whereas, on July 23, 2024, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence published an assessment, in accordance with the Iran Nuclear Weapons Capability and Terrorism Monitoring Act of 2022 (22 U.S.C. 8701 note; section 5593 of Public Law 117-263), stating that the Islamic Republic of Iran has “undertaken activities that better position it to produce a nuclear device, if it chooses to do so”;

Whereas, on November 15, 2024, the IAEA reported that the Islamic Republic of Iran has continued to expand its enrichment facilities and install additional advanced centrifuges, including at the Natanz Nuclear Facility, where there are 15 cascades of advanced centrifuges, and the Fordow Fuel Enrichment Plant, where there are advanced preparations for the expansion of the facility;

Whereas, on February 26, 2025, the IAEA reported that the Islamic Republic of Iran has between 5 and 7 metric tons of enriched uranium and had increased its total stockpile of 60 percent highly enriched uranium to 274.8 kilograms (605.83 pounds), which, if further enriched, could be sufficient to produce 6 nuclear weapons;

Whereas, on May 31, 2025, the IAEA released a comprehensive report detailing Iran’s noncompliance with its Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons safeguards obligations, noting that Iran—

(1) increased its stockpile of 60 percent highly enriched uranium to 408.6 kilograms as of May 17, 2025, which constitutes a 50 percent increase compared to its February 2025 report, a stockpile sufficient for approximately 9 nuclear weapons (if further enriched);

(2) conducted undeclared nuclear activities at 4 sites—Lavisian-Shian, Varamin, Marivan, and Turqezabad—involving nuclear material and equipment; and

(3) provided inaccurate or contradictory explanations, which severely obstructed IAEA verification efforts and raises serious concerns about the peaceful nature of its nuclear program;

Whereas, on April 7, 2025, President Donald Trump stated, “You know, it’s not a complicated formula. Iran cannot have a nuclear weapon. That’s all there is.”;

Whereas, on April 8, 2025, a senior official of the Islamic Republic of Iran rejected the dismantlement of its nuclear program by stating, “Trump wants a new deal: end Iran’s regional influence, dismantle its nuclear program, and halt its missile work. These are unacceptable to Tehran. Our nuclear program cannot be dismantled.”;

Whereas, on April 15, 2025, in an ultimatum issued to the Islamic Republic of Iran, President Trump—

(1) demanded that a new nuclear deal be signed within 60 days to dismantle Iran’s nuclear program; and

(2) warned that failure to comply with this demand would result in military action to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons;

Whereas, on April 16, 2025, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran rejected United States demands and asserted its right to maintain its nuclear program and missile capabilities, escalating tensions and setting the stage for subsequent military operations by Israel and the United States;

Whereas, on June 13, 2025, Israel began Operation Rising Lion with strikes against the Iranian nuclear program, key Iranian military leaders, and other strategic targets;

Whereas, on June 21, 2025, the United States launched Operation Midnight Hammer, conducting targeted strikes against Iranian nuclear facilities at Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan, which significantly degraded Iran’s nuclear program;

Whereas Iran has developed advanced ballistic missile systems, including the Shahab-3, Ghadr, and Khorramshahr missiles, with ranges of up to 2,000 kilometers and payloads capable of carrying nuclear warheads, which poses a significant threat as delivery systems for nuclear weapons to targets in the Middle East and parts of Europe;

Whereas Iran, currently the world’s leading state sponsor of terrorism, is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of United States citizens, including more than 600 United States servicemembers in Iraq through Iranian-backed militias, and other terrorist activities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the United States’ decisive military strikes under Operation Midnight Hammer to degrade Iran’s nuclear program;

(2) affirms that the Islamic Republic of Iran must never be allowed to acquire a nuclear weapons capability, which would threaten the security of the United States and its allies and partners;

(3) commends the Trump administration for taking resolute military action and praises the bravery of United States servicemembers who participated in Operation Midnight Hammer;

(4) concurs that President Trump’s efforts to reestablish deterrence are aimed at achieving lasting peace in the Middle East and worthy of consideration for the Nobel Peace Prize;

(5) reaffirms the right of the United States Government to take any necessary measures to prevent the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons;

(6) commends Israel for its targeted strikes under Operation Rising Lion against Iran’s nuclear facilities, ballistic missile infrastructure, and regime targets, including the Natanz enrichment facility and missile launchers, and recognizes these actions are critical to neutralizing existential threats to Israel and its allies; and

(7) condemns the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for launching missiles at United States forces in Qatar and Iraq, and for launching missile attacks that indiscriminately target Israeli civilians.



**SENATE RESOLUTION 308—HONORING THE LIFE, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND LEGACY OF FREDERICK W. SMITH**

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

**S. RES. 308**

Whereas Frederick W. Smith was born on August 11, 1944, in Marks, Mississippi;

Whereas Fred Smith was raised and lived most of his life in Memphis, Tennessee;

Whereas Fred Smith attended elementary school at Presbyterian Day School and high school at Memphis University School, where he was voted "Best All-Round" by his class;

Whereas Fred Smith earned his bachelor's degree in economics from Yale University;

Whereas, upon graduation, Fred Smith was commissioned in the United States Marine Corps, during which time he served 2 tours of duty in the Vietnam War, was honorably discharged in 1973 with the rank of captain, and received the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, and 2 Purple Hearts;

Whereas, after 4 years of service in the Marines, Fred Smith launched Federal Express (referred to in this preamble as "FedEx"), a company dedicated to the overnight shipping of small packages and documents, originally only offering service to 25 cities with a fleet of 14 jets;

Whereas, in the first few years of the existence of FedEx, Fred Smith worked tirelessly to keep FedEx open for business;

Whereas, because of the hard work of Fred Smith, FedEx quickly grew to become one of the most successful and iconic corporations in the United States, with operations that include more than 700 aircraft, more than 200,000 vehicles, approximately 5,000 operating facilities, and hundreds of thousands of employees;

Whereas, due to the vision of Fred Smith, FedEx revolutionized the package delivery system and has become a global giant in transportation, logistics, and e-commerce;

Whereas the air shipping operations of FedEx are based at its primary hub at Memphis International Airport, making the city of Memphis, Tennessee, a center for global logistics;

Whereas, in addition to his immense successes with FedEx, Fred Smith also gave back to his community, launching numerous philanthropic initiatives that worked to make the world better for children, the people of Memphis, and all people of the United States;

Whereas Fred Smith was preceded in death by his daughter, Windland Smith Rice, and is survived by his wife, Diane Smith, and his 9 children, 31 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren; and

Whereas Fred Smith was a trailblazer who revolutionized global logistics, set an example for entrepreneurs across the United States, and worked his entire life to serve his community and the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life, achievements, and legacy of Frederick W. Smith for—

(A) his accomplishments as a pioneer who revolutionized the transportation and express delivery industry;

(B) his inspiration to future generations of community leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs in the United States; and

(C) his dedication to Memphis, Tennessee, a city that he loved dearly and committed to

supporting and uplifting throughout his entire life; and

(2) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate—

(A) communicate this resolution to the House of Representatives; and

(B) transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of Fred Smith.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 309—COMMEMORATING THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER AND RECOGNIZING ITS CONTINUED LEADERSHIP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM AND HUMAN SPACE EXPLORATION**

Mr. TUBERVILLE (for himself and Mrs. BRITT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

**S. RES. 309**

Whereas the Marshall Space Flight Center (referred to in this preamble as "MSFC"), located in Huntsville, Alabama, was officially established on July 1, 1960, as one of the premier centers for spaceflight research and development of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (referred to in this preamble as "NASA");

Whereas MSFC played a pivotal role in the historic Apollo program, designing and developing the Saturn V rocket that carried astronauts to the Moon, and marked a defining achievement in the scientific and engineering excellence of the United States;

Whereas MSFC has consistently led innovation and mission support for critical NASA programs, including Skylab, the first space station of the United States, the Hubble Space Telescope, the Chandra X-ray Observatory, and numerous other scientific payloads that have revolutionized understanding of the universe;

Whereas MSFC has provided engineering leadership, payload integration, and science operations in support of the International Space Station (commonly referred to as the "ISS"), helping maintain a continuous human presence in space since the year 2000;

Whereas MSFC continues to serve as the lead center for the development and integration of the Space Launch System (referred to in this preamble as the "SLS"), the most powerful launch vehicle developed by NASA since Saturn V, and a cornerstone of the Artemis program;

Whereas the SLS represents the commitment of the United States to returning humans to the Moon, preparing for future crewed missions to Mars, and expanding deep space exploration for generations to come;

Whereas the leadership of MSFC in the SLS program exemplifies the unmatched technical expertise of MSFC in large-scale propulsion systems, systems integration, and complex spaceflight engineering;

Whereas MSFC continues to serve as an anchor for the aerospace industry and STEM education in the Tennessee Valley region and beyond, providing high-tech jobs, economic opportunity, and outreach to schools and universities; and

Whereas MSFC is home to a dedicated workforce committed to excellence, safety, integrity, and teamwork: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 65th anniversary of the establishment of the Marshall Space Flight Center (referred to in this resolution as "MSFC");

(2) recognizes the historical legacy and critical contributions of MSFC to the leadership of the United States in space exploration over the past 65 years;

(3) commends the continued excellence and leadership of the MSFC in the development and integration of the Space Launch System (commonly referred to as the "SLS") as the leading technology for deep space exploration;

(4) reaffirms the strong support of the Senate for the ongoing mission of the MSFC and the broader goals of the Artemis program at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (commonly referred to as "NASA") and beyond; and

(5) honors the commitment, skill, and innovation of the engineers, scientists, technicians, and support staff who have contributed to the mission of MSFC to advance spaceflight for the United States.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 310—RECOGNIZING TUNISIA'S LEADERSHIP IN THE ARAB SPRING AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR UPHOLDING ITS DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AND NORMS**

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. COONS, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. SCHIFF) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

**S. RES. 310**

Whereas Tunisia gained its independence from France on March 20, 1956, with Habib Bourguiba serving as Prime Minister, before becoming Tunisia's first President in 1957;

Whereas President Bourguiba led Tunisia through independence and the ensuing 30 years, a period that included vast social reforms and restrictions on civil society and democratic participation;

Whereas, in 1987, Prime Minister Zine El Abdine Ben Ali deposed President Bourguiba and named himself President of Tunisia, citing Bourguiba's incompetence and failing health to justify his undemocratic actions;

Whereas President Ben Ali was subsequently elected in 1989 and 1994 without genuine opposition, and was re-elected in 1999, 2004, and 2009 by implausibly high vote margins in election processes that were widely deemed as neither free nor fair;

Whereas President Ben Ali's rule was marred by gross human rights violations and a lack of democratic freedoms;

Whereas, the 2003 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, released by the Department of State on February 25, 2004, stated, referring to Tunisia—

(1) "Elections are regularly characterized by notable irregularities, including voter intimidation, and there is no secret ballot.";

(2) "Security forces physically abused, intimidated, and harassed citizens who voiced public criticism of the Government.";

(3) "The Government continued to impose significant restrictions on freedom of speech and the press."; and

(4) "The Government remained intolerant of public criticism and used physical abuse, criminal investigations, the court system, arbitrary arrests, residential restrictions, and travel controls (including denial of passports) to discourage criticism by human rights and opposition activists.";

Whereas, on December 17, 2010, 26-year-old fruit and vegetable street vendor Mohamed Bouazizi lit himself on fire in desperate protest in Sidi Bouzid, Tunisia, an act that was largely seen as the beginning of the Arab Spring movement that spread throughout the region;



Whereas ensuing popular protests in Tunisia in response to corruption, repression, and economic failure—

- (1) forced the resignation of President Ben Ali from the office of President;
- (2) ended his 23-year rule; and
- (3) further inspired similar pent up democratic demands throughout the Arab world;

Whereas Tunisia emerged from the Arab Spring as one of the most hopeful and promising reformed democracies in the region, including with an interim government and a Constituent Assembly responsible for drafting a new constitution and fostering political compromise for a future democratic government;

Whereas, in February 2011, Senator John McCain urged United States support for Tunisia's democratic transition, noting "The revolution in Tunisia has been very successful and it has become a model for the region";

Whereas, in March 2011, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon pledged full support for Tunisia's transition to democracy, hailing the country's revolution as the spark that lit "the profound and dramatic changes" sweeping the Arab world;

Whereas, on January 26, 2014, the Constituent Assembly of Tunisia adopted a new constitution demonstrating consensus for building a democracy founded on freedom and equality;

Whereas the new constitution of Tunisia includes Articles that—

- (1) give equal rights to men and women;
- (2) protection freedoms of assembly, peaceful demonstration, expression, and publication; and
- (3) outline an electoral system and representation for the Tunisian people with checks and balances;

Whereas, in November 2014, Tunisia held its first genuinely free and fair presidential election since its independence in 1956, with 27 candidates freely competing for the office of president;

Whereas longtime politician Beji Caid Essebsi won the election in a runoff with 55 percent of the vote, becoming Tunisia's first legitimately elected president since independence;

Whereas President Essebsi faced many difficult challenges, including economic turmoil, terrorist attacks, and public expectations for change;

Whereas public disillusionment with the country's political elites increased amid continued corruption and devastating acts of terrorism that severely hurt the tourism industry and larger economy;

Whereas political outsider and constitutional law professor Kais Saied won the presidential election held on October 13, 2019, and was sworn into office 10 days later in a peaceful transfer of power;

Whereas, by 2021, protests in response to worsening economic conditions, further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, occurred across cities in Tunisia, to which the police responded violently;

Whereas, in July 2021, President Saied capitalized on unrest to unilaterally seize power by—

- (1) dismissing Prime Minister Hichem Mechichi;
- (2) suspending Parliament for 30 days; and
- (3) assuming full executive authority without first consulting the government;

Whereas in late 2021, President Saied indefinitely suspended Parliament and transferred all legislative powers to himself;

Whereas, in early 2022, President Saied continued to undermine Tunisia's democratic institutions, including by taking control of the Independent High Authority for Elections and dissolving the High Judicial Council;

Whereas, in July 2022, President Saied unilaterally put to a referendum a new draft constitution, which—

- (1) consolidated power to the presidency;
- (2) limited parliamentary authority; and
- (3) diminished judicial independence;

Whereas the new draft constitution was approved despite remarkably low voter turnout and heavy domestic and international criticism surrounding the lack of genuine debate throughout the drafting process;

Whereas, between 2021 and 2024, Tunisia experienced—

- (1) a dramatic drop in voter participation and public confidence in the political process; and
- (2) an escalation in politically motivated arrests of political opponents, judges, lawyers, journalists, and business leaders in an effort to stifle dissent;

Whereas prior to Tunisia's presidential elections in October 2024, President Saied relied on legal texts he introduced or drafted to disqualify or jail nearly all of his political opponents;

Whereas President Saied won a second term on October 6, 2024, winning 90.7 percent of the vote with a 28.8 percent voter turnout, which was the lowest turnout since the 2011 revolution;

Whereas, in April 2025, Tunisian authorities handed down mass convictions to 40 individuals, including a United States citizen, who were primarily human rights defenders, lawyers, and prominent political opposition figures, following a politically motivated trial marred with a lack of due process and procedural flaws; and

Whereas President Saied's authoritarian actions continue to dramatically undermined and threaten what remains of Tunisia's nascent democratic institutions: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

- (1) recognizes Tunisia as the symbolic birthplace of the historic Arab Spring movement and the country's notable democratic reforms that emerged during the Arab Spring period;
- (2) commends the Tunisian people for their courage and democratic achievements made in the immediate years following the Arab Spring;
- (3) expresses deep concern for dramatic reversals of such democratic gains, including—

- (A) the erosion of judicial independence;
- (B) political repression and arrests; and
- (C) the undemocratic consolidation of power;
- (4) urges the Government of Tunisia—
- (A) to release all political prisoners;
- (B) to respect the rights of the people to free exercise of peaceful assembly, expression, and the press; and
- (C) to restore and respect the independence of electoral, judicial, and anti-corruption institutions;
- (5) supports the Tunisian people in their constitutionally protected right to peacefully demonstrate; and
- (6) urges the Trump Administration to sanction those Tunisian officials who have been primarily involved in repression of peaceful democratic activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 311—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PARLIAMENTARIAN OF THE SENATE SHOULD SERVE NOT MORE THAN 1 TERM OF 6 YEARS

Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 311

Whereas the Parliamentarian of the Senate serves at the will of the Secretary of the Senate, who is chosen by the majority leader;

Whereas the Parliamentarian of the Senate advises the presiding officer on rules, procedures, and precedents;

Whereas, since 1981, only 3 individuals have served as Parliamentarian of the Senate, serving an average of 15 years;

Whereas, in 2001, the Secretary of the Senate dismissed the Parliamentarian of the Senate; and

Whereas a 6-year term limit for the Parliamentarian of the Senate would prevent entrenchment of power, promote accountability, and encourage fresh perspectives: Now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

- (1) acknowledges that the Parliamentarian of the Senate serves at the pleasure of the Secretary of the Senate, who is chosen by the majority leader of the Senate;
- (2) recognizes that historical precedent allows the Secretary of the Senate to dismiss the Parliamentarian of the Senate;
- (3) remains committed to using the reconciliation process to return the United States to sound fiscal footing by removing waste, fraud, and abuse from mandatory spending programs; and
- (4) believes that the Parliamentarian of the Senate should serve not more than 1 term of 6 years.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2358. Mr. HUSTED (for Ms. CANTWELL) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 257, to improve the resilience of critical supply chains, and for other purposes.

SA 2359. Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. KIM) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the joint resolution S.J. Res. 59, to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2358. Mr. HUSTED (for Ms. CANTWELL) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 257, to improve the resilience of critical supply chains, and for other purposes, as follows:

On page 31, line 23, insert ", the Committee on Foreign Relations," after "Transportation".

On page 32, lines 1 and 2, strike "Commerce" and insert "Commerce, the Committee on Foreign Affairs,".

SA 2359. Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. KIM) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the joint resolution S.J. Res. 59, to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations; as follows:

At the end of section 1, add the following:

- (7) The Government of Iran is a leading state sponsor of terrorism and has repeatedly engaged in a range of destabilizing and malign activities across the Middle East and around the world.
- (8) These actions include harassment and direct threats to United States personnel,

kidnapping and detention of United States citizens and dual nationals, support to proxy forces attacking United States personnel and interests, cyberattacks against United States infrastructure and entities, and the continued enrichment of uranium close to levels that could be used to develop a nuclear weapon and beyond what is necessary for any conceivable civilian purposes.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. HUSTED. Mr. President, I have four 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 ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing in open sessions on nominations.

##### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to consider nominations.

##### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

##### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 3 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Rani Elwy and Ian Newsome from my staff be granted floor privileges for the remainder of this Congress.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

#### ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I have come tonight to the floor to talk about fiscal responsibility and how important it is that we preserve or, at least, advance a structure in which we engage with integrity in budgeting, so we don't run up massive debts that affect the opportunities for the generation to come.

One of the things I have been very aware of during the 17 years I have been here is that I hear a lot of conversation from my colleagues across the aisle about fiscal responsibility.

But let's be clear, the majority of the debt run up over the last 20 years has

come from the Republican side of the aisle. It has been the war in Afghanistan and the war in Iraq. Those alone account for \$8 trillion.

And if we turn the clock back just a little bit more, we had the 2001 Bush tax cuts, the 2003 Bush tax cuts, the 2017 Trump tax cut—each of them producing an ocean of red ink by cutting taxes for the richest Americans.

Is that any way to run a country? Cutting programs for families to fund tax breaks for mega millionaires and billionaires? Well, apparently. And in the process, massive, massive debt.

Now, my Republican colleagues have engaged repeatedly in this myth—this myth that somehow the tax breaks for billionaires will result in so much increase in revenue because the economy will hum along. Every single time, it is a lie. It is a deception. It never happens. Instead, revenue plummets, and we indebt our country far into the future.

Let's look at another version of the world. Every time there is a Republican administration, if you look at the first year compared to the last year, deficits go up. Every time there is a Democratic administration, first year to the last year, deficits go down.

Here we are at another moment where we are about to make a decision related to another Republican bill that will create another red sea of debt—some \$3-plus trillion over 10 years, some \$30-plus trillion of debt compared to current law over 30 years.

Now, the very fact that I am mentioning 30 years points out something new and different being put forward by my Republican colleagues; that is, that under reconciliation, you have only been allowed under the rules, in law, under section 313 of the Budget Act, to incur deficits in the first 10 years but not after the first 10 years. So there was no need for a 30-year estimate because that simply was not allowed.

As long as we are looking at what has been allowed under the law and how things have changed, let's look at the structure of what happened to the fairly magnificent 1974 Budget and Impoundment Control Act. And why do I say magnificent? Because all 100 Senators—everyone on the blue side of the aisle, everyone on the right side of the aisle—said “We have to get the deficits under control”—1974.

Well, what had the deficits been in the 3 years before? In 1971, 1972, 1973, they averaged \$20 billion—\$20 billion. Now our deficits are about \$2 trillion a year. But back then, there was seriousness about getting the budget under control.

So this Budget Control Act had some interesting features. First, it had a process for regular budgeting, and then it had a separate, very special track called reconciliation, and reconciliation was designed only for reducing deficits.

That is why all 100 Senators voted to create a filibuster-free fast track only to reduce deficits. Picture Robert Byrd

of West Virginia, one of the fiercest defenders of the filibuster, but even he voted for this special, filibuster-free path only for reducing deficits—1974.

That act also produced the Congressional Budget Office because another piece of the vision was, let's have honesty in numbers.

You know, every time we would come to a budget, one team or the other, whoever was in charge, kind of uses some smoke and mirrors to pretend the impact on the budget is more favorable than it really is. So we needed an organization that is impartial, nonpartisan, that will do the modeling and give us the best information for us to be able to understand the consequences of the provisions in law we are proposing.

Well, that was 1974 that all of that was done. For the 22 years that followed, that filibuster-free fast track, that special reconciliation fast track, was only used for deficit reduction because that is what it was created for.

But in 1996, my Republican colleagues had the majority in the House and the majority in the Senate, and they undertook some, well, bold, new initiatives. One of those was to do a line-item veto for the President. Guess what? The Supreme Court struck that down because the Constitution says it is the responsibility of Congress, not the President of the United States of America, to lay out the decisions about how much is going to be spent on what programs. The Executive executes the law, but we here write the law.

The Supreme Court said: No, no, no. You can't do that. If you want to cut a program, you can't ask the President to do that; you have to do it yourself.

Then there was a second initiative. That second initiative was called the balanced budget amendment, and the idea was that we would put a new clause in the Constitution that essentially forced us to do much like a State government does—you have to balance the budget.

Well, there were those on the Appropriations and Revenue Committee that said: I don't know that that is the right idea because in a time of crisis, you need to be able to spend more for national security or in a time of recession or depression, you might need to spend more to stimulate the economy.

Well, that amendment needed a two-thirds vote, 67 votes here in the Senate. It got 66. So it did not pass the Senate of the United States of America.

So the Republicans at the time—Robert Dole was the majority leader—said: Well, do you know what we want to do? We want to do a massive tax bill with lots of provisions that cut taxes for the richest Americans.

Then they said: But, you know, the problem is that we will need 60 votes to move that bill off the floor, and the Democrats are not going to agree to a plan that gives away the Treasury to the richest Americans.

So they concocted a plan. They replaced the Parliamentarian. They replaced the Parliamentarian in order to

get a ruling that said the filibuster-free track voted by 100 Senators only for deficit reduction could be used to increase deficits for tax reductions. Wow. My Republican colleagues who were preaching fiscal responsibility destroyed this powerful mechanism that all hundred Senators had agreed to to invoke fiscal responsibility and reduce deficits.

But out of that carnage of 1996—that nuclear option, if you will—came two surviving pieces, and one of those surviving pieces was that any year after the first 10 years in any title, you had to have deficit reductions or deficit neutrality. So whereas the deficit could be increased in the first 10 years, it couldn't be increased in any title in any year following that. So you couldn't even say: Well, a surplus in 2011 adjusts for—or the 11th year adjusts for a deficit in the 12th year. No. Every single year, every single title, deficit-neutral.

The other thing that survived was keeping honest numbers—honest numbers—that we were going to do what section 313 of the law says. Section 313 says that each provision has to be evaluated in terms of its outlays—that is the spending impact—or the revenue impact.

So here is a clause in the proposed law. If we follow that clause, if we enact that law, how will it affect spending and how will it affect revenue? Well, each and every clause has to be costed out in that fashion—a combination of work by the Joint Committee on Taxation on the revenue side and the Congressional Budget Office on the program side. Every clause.

If the clause in the law, the provision in the law, passes, how will it affect things? If it is not in the law, what happens? What is the difference between that? What is the difference between this new proposal and existing law?

OK. Well, now my Republican colleagues—the party that blew up the deficit-reducing pathway all 100 Senators agreed to for the first 10 years—want to blow up the remaining two pillars. Now they want to be able to produce deficits after the first 10 years. That is why CBO is doing a 30-year estimate of the debt created by their bill. No longer is it just a 10-year framework, that 10-year framework that their bill is going to produce some \$3-plus trillion of debt compared to current law, but they have to do a 30-year estimate. Their bill is going to produce over \$30 trillion in debt compared to current law because they are destroying that second pillar—no deficits after 10 years.

The third pillar was to use honesty in numbers, but folks on the other side of the aisle said: We are embarrassed by this massive, debt-creating monster, but we want to pass it because it gives tax breaks to the richest Americans, and that is what we are all about. We are going to cut healthcare for 16 million Americans to give tax breaks to

the richest Americans. We are going to leave 4 million children hungry to give tax breaks to the richest Americans. But that is a little embarrassing that we are also going to run up a massive debt of the United States of America to give tax breaks to the richest Americans.

Do you know what? That not only harms citizens today—I mean, citizens across this country, when they hear about this bill, they go: That is just wrong. It is absolutely wrong to destroy healthcare or housing or education in order to line the nest of the already best off Americans. It is just wrong.

What happened to government by and for the people? Why is the Republican Party pursuing government by and for the powerful, the richest?

That is where this nickname comes from for this bill, the “Big Beautiful Betrayal.” Why is it a betrayal? Because President Trump campaigned on helping families, but the moment he was sworn into office, who was standing behind him? Was it champions for the people? Champions on healthcare? No. Champions on affordable housing? No. Champions on food programs or nutrition? No. Who was standing behind him? Billionaires. Billionaires were standing behind President Trump. So it is the “Big Beautiful Betrayal” because he campaigned on helping families, but the bill he is championing instead hurts families and helps billionaires.

Now, how is it that a law that has been in place for now 51 years can be corrupted—corrupted—to allow deficits beyond year 10? How is it that a law that has been in place for 51 years can be corrupted to stop using the honest numbers that come, evaluating the costs or the revenue impact of each and every provision? How is that possible?

Well, I will tell you how that is possible, and that is, the chair of the Budget Committee said: Hey, there is this provision—it wasn't designed for reconciliation. It was designed to help resolve technical anomalies in regular bills—not for reconciliation, for regular bills. But it gave the Budget Committee the ability to provide some flexibility about evaluating and solving technical anomalies.

So the chair of the Budget Committee has proposed taking that provision that is there in a section of the bill for regular budgeting, that gives some flexibility to the Budget Committee to resolve anomalies, and transporting it over into this other special, filibuster-free pathway designed to decrease deficits to create a phony baseline.

So instead of taking a provision in the proposed law and saying “Well, this provision is here; how much cost would it add?” instead you say “Well, let's take this provision and pretend that if it wasn't here, there would be some other provision, maybe an extension of something that is actually expiring.”

So we will create these phony numbers to try to pretend this doesn't cre-

ate the debt it creates. Here we are, section 312, the chair's authority on regular budgeting being transported into reconciliation.

Stay with me here.

This has never been used in this fashion because the entire law, as written, the instructions for reconciliation say you have to cost out each provision. If the clause is in the proposal, what would it cost compared to the clause not being in the proposal?

Here we are back in regular budgeting, this power that is in section 312 for the chair—that actually says the Budget Committee, not the chair—to resolve an anomaly. Has it ever before been used in a partisan fashion? No. Here are the times it has been used. Never before has it been a partisan thing. It has been Democrats and Republicans together saying we have a knotty little technical problem, for example, like a program that has a new name. Is that costed as a new program? But it is actually an existing program. It has a new name. How do we resolve that? It is that type of little technical difficulty that was always worked out—used in a bipartisan fashion. Again, that power was assigned to the committee, not to the chair.

How else does 312 differ in the past from the present? Well, it has never been used on a broad bill. It has been used to resolve individual, small, narrow issues, things like the Crime Victims Fund, things like the Power Marketing Administrations, things like double counting of a dairy program—little narrow provisions, not on a systematic billwide basis, not at all. No, never done. Again, only done in a bipartisan fashion on very narrow provisions.

How else does it differ? Well, it has always been used to resolve this technical ambiguity challenge, some little anomaly that occurs in a bipartisan fashion on a narrow bill. But here, it is being used systemically across an entire bill to create a fake baseline to pretend that those provisions that cost money don't actually cost money because instead of comparing that provision to the provision not being in the law, we will compare it to pretending the provision would have been in the law even if we didn't put it into the law. That is as phony as it could possibly get. It destroys integrity completely.

Has it ever been used in a reconciliation bill? No, because there are special instructions for the reconciliation bill. They are laid out in sections 310 and 313. In 312, for regular budgeting, power is to the Budget Committee—not the chair but to the committee—to resolve ambiguities.

Finally, let's just look at the type of money that was associated with these narrow programs. Crime Victims Fund, \$73 million. Sounds like a lot. The largest provision it has ever been used for is adjustments in the Fiscal Responsibility Act—again, on a bipartisan basis, on a contained program—\$2.8 billion.

What are we talking about now? We are talking about trying to hide \$37 trillion in debt, new debt.

Wow.

To every colleague on either side of the aisle who has back home said we need to get our deficit under control, this is not the bill for you. This bill creates over \$3 trillion in debt compared to current law over just a 10-year period. Our debt is already over 100 percent of our GDP.

I talked to a number of colleagues, and they said: Well, we have to hold it to 100 percent of our GDP. We are already, like, 120 percent, meaning the debt is in the high thirties—about \$36.5 trillion—and our gross domestic product, our entire economy, everything it creates in a single year, is about \$28 trillion.

So the debt is now much larger than everything our economy produces in a single year. That is the danger zone, folks, because you start to enter a debt vortex. And the debt vortex means the debt has gotten so high that the interest rates are starting to eat up the budget. So to fund our military security and our basic healthcare, housing, and education programs, well, we have to borrow more money. That is what this bill does. It borrows, borrows, borrows as far as the eye can see.

Again, colleagues on both sides of the aisle—my Democratic colleagues, my Republican colleagues—if you have ever said a word about fiscal responsibility, do not accept this corruption of allowing a provision to be used to create a fake baseline. We solved that together—100 Senators. We solved it 51 years ago by creating the CBO, the Congressional Budget Office, to give us honest, nonpartisan estimates. Don't create phony baselines.

In the future, which other party will it be? Maybe it will be this side of the aisle that wants to use a phony baseline.

We agreed together not to do this. This was not just a handshake. This was a vote. This is the law. Do not corrupt it and work with us for a different vision, not a vision of families lose because that is what happens in this bill—16 million people losing healthcare, 4 million children go hungry to fund tax breaks and giveaways for the richest Americans. That is not a vision.

Join us and rewrite this bill. Let's reduce the deficit it creates. Let's reduce the total debt it creates. And, certainly, let's not create provisions that allow there to be deficits beyond the 10-year window. Let's keep the honesty of using nonpartisan numbers, not phony baselines. Let's create the integrity of sticking with the no deficits after 10 years. Let's do that with the vision of families thriving and billions paying their fair share.

#### APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, pursuant to the provisions of 10

U.S.C. 4355(a), as amended by Public Law 118-159, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy: the Honorable TIM Kaine of Virginia.

The Chair, pursuant to the provisions of 10 U.S.C. 4355(a), as amended by Public Law 118-159, on behalf of the Ranking Member of the Committee on Armed Services, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy: the Honorable ELISSA B. SLOTKIN of Michigan (Committee on Armed Services).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. MOODY). The Senator from Ohio.

#### RURAL BROADBAND PROTECTION ACT OF 2025

Mr. HUSTED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 48, S. 98.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 98) to require the Federal Communications Commission to establish a vetting process for prospective applicants for high-cost universal service program funding.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. HUSTED. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. HUSTED. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate on the bill, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 98) was passed as follows:  
S. 98

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Rural Broadband Protection Act of 2025".

#### SEC. 2. VETTING PROCESS FOR PROSPECTIVE HIGH-COST UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND APPLICANTS.

Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(m) VETTING OF HIGH-COST FUND RECIPIENTS.—

"(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

"(A) the term 'covered funding' means any new offer of high-cost universal service program funding, including funding provided through a reverse competitive bidding mechanism provided under this section, for the deployment of a broadband-capable network and the provision of supported services over the network; and

"(B) the term 'new covered funding award' means an award of covered funding that is made based on an application submitted to the Commission on or after the date on which rules are promulgated under paragraph (2).

"(2) COMMISSION RULEMAKING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Commission shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding to establish a vetting process for applicants for, and other recipients of, a new covered funding award.

"(3) CONTENTS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—In promulgating rules under paragraph (2), the Commission shall provide that, consistent with principles of technology neutrality, the Commission will only award covered funding to applicants that can demonstrate that they meet the qualifications in subparagraph (B).

"(B) QUALIFICATIONS DESCRIBED.—An applicant for a new covered funding award shall include in the initial application a proposal containing sufficient detail and documentation for the Commission to ascertain that the applicant possesses the technical, financial, and operational capabilities, and has a reasonable business plan, to deploy the proposed network and deliver services with the relevant performance characteristics and requirements defined by the Commission and as pledged by the applicant.

"(C) EVALUATION OF PROPOSAL.—The Commission shall evaluate a proposal described in subparagraph (B) against—

"(i) reasonable and well-established technical, financial, and operational standards, including the technical standards adopted by the Commission in orders of the Commission relating to Establishing the Digital Opportunity Data Collection (WC Docket No. 19-195) (or orders of the Commission relating to modernizing any successor collection) for purposes of entities that must report broadband availability coverage; and

"(ii) the applicant's history of complying with requirements in Commission and other government broadband deployment funding programs.

"(D) PENALTIES FOR PRE-AUTHORIZATION DEFAULTS.—In adopting rules for any new covered funding award, the Commission shall set a penalty for pre-authorization defaults of at least \$9,000 per violation and may not limit the base forfeiture to an amount less than 30 percent of the applicant's total support, unless the Commission demonstrates the need for lower penalties in a particular instance."

Mr. HUSTED. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

#### PROMOTING RESILIENT SUPPLY CHAINS ACT OF 2025

Mr. HUSTED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 50, S. 257.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 257) to improve the resilience of critical supply chains, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are in boldfaced brackets, and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are in italic.)

S. 257

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

# SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act of 2025”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Additional responsibilities of Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Analysis.
- Sec. 3. Critical supply chain resilience and crisis response working group.
- Sec. 4. Department of Commerce capability assessment.
- Sec. 5. No additional funds.
- Sec. 6. Sunset.
- Sec. 7. Definitions.

# SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INDUSTRY AND ANALYSIS.

In addition to the responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall have the following responsibilities:

(1) **[Promote]** *In consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, promote the stability and resilience of critical supply chains and critical and emerging technologies that strengthen the national security of the United States.*

(2) Lead the Working Group established pursuant to section 3 and consult covered nongovernmental representatives, industry, institutions of higher education, and State and local governments in order to—

(A) promote resilient critical supply chains; and

(B) identify, prepare for, and respond to supply chain shocks to—

- (i) critical industries;
- (ii) critical supply chains; and
- (iii) critical and emerging technologies.

(3) Encourage the growth and competitiveness of United States production and manufacturing in the United States of emerging technologies.

(4) **[Assess]** *In consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, assess the resilience, diversity, and strength of critical supply chains and critical and emerging technologies.*

(5) In consultation with the Secretary of State and the United States Trade Representative, support the availability of critical goods from domestic manufacturers, domestic enterprises, and manufacturing operations in countries that are allies or key international partner nations.

(6) Assist the Federal Government in preparing for and responding to supply chain shocks to critical supply chains, including by improving flexible manufacturing capacities and capabilities in the United States.

(7) Consistent with United States obligations under international agreements, encourage and incentivize the reduced reliance of domestic enterprises and domestic manufacturers on critical goods from countries that are described in section 7(2)(B).

(8) Encourage the relocation of manufacturing facilities that manufacture critical goods from countries that are described in section 7(2)(B) to the United States and countries that are allies or key international partner nations to strengthen the resilience, diversity, and strength of critical supply chains.

# SEC. 3. CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE AND CRISIS RESPONSE WORKING GROUP.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this

Act, the Assistant Secretary shall establish a working group to be known as the “Supply Chain Resilience Working Group” (in this Act referred to as the “Working Group”) composed of the Federal agencies that rely upon the Industry and Analysis Business unit analysis, including agencies enumerated in subsection (c).

(b) **ACTIVITIES.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall carry out the following activities—

(1) in consultation with the Working Group—

(A) assessing, mapping, and modeling critical supply chains, including for critical and emerging technologies, which may include—

(i) modeling the impact of supply chain shocks on critical industries (including for critical and emerging technologies), and critical supply chains;

(ii) assessing the demand for and supply of critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology needed for critical supply chains, including critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology obtained by or purchased from a person outside of the United States or imported into the United States; and

(iii) assessing manufacturing, warehousing, transportation, and distribution related to critical supply chains;

(B) identifying high priority gaps and vulnerabilities in critical supply chains and critical industries (including critical industries for critical and emerging technologies) that—

(i) exist as of the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(ii) are anticipated to occur after the date of the enactment of this Act;

(C) identifying potential supply chain shocks to a critical supply chain that may disrupt, strain, or eliminate the critical supply chain;

(D) evaluating the capability and capacity of domestic manufacturers or manufacturers located in countries that are allies or key international partner nations to serve as sources for critical goods, production equipment, or manufacturing technology needed in critical supply chains;

(E) evaluating the effect on market stability that may result from the disruption, strain, or elimination of a critical supply chain;

(F) evaluating the state of the manufacturing workforce, including by—

(i) identifying the needs of domestic manufacturers; and

(ii) identifying opportunities to create high-quality manufacturing jobs; and

(G) identifying and describing necessary tools, including commercially available risk assessment tools, that leverage data and industry expertise to provide insights into critical supply chain vulnerabilities, including how such tools fulfill the requirements described in subparagraphs (A) through (E); and

(2) in consultation with State and local governments, the Working Group, and (as appropriate) countries that are allies or key international partner nations—

(A) identifying opportunities to reduce gaps and vulnerabilities in critical supply chains and critical industries;

(B) encouraging consultation between the Federal Government, industry, covered nongovernmental representatives, institutions of higher education, and State and local governments to—

(i) better respond to supply chain shocks to critical supply chains and critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies); and

(ii) coordinate response efforts to supply chain shocks;

(C) encouraging consultation between the Federal Government and the governments of countries that are allies or key international partner nations;

(D) identifying opportunities to build the capacity of the United States in critical supply chains, critical industries, and emerging technologies;

(E) identifying opportunities to build the capacity of countries that are allies or key international partner nations in critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) and critical supply chains; and

(F) developing and assessing contingency plans and coordination mechanisms to improve the response of critical supply chains and critical industries to supply chain shocks.

(c) **WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP.**—The Working Group shall include a representative from each Federal agency that relies on the analysis of the Industry and Analysis business unit, including—

- (1) the Department of State;
- (2) the Department of Defense;
- (3) the Department of Homeland Security;
- (4) the Department of Transportation;
- (5) the Department of Energy;
- (6) the Department of Agriculture;
- (7) the Department of the Interior;
- (8) the Department of Health and Human Services;

(9) the Office of the Director of National Intelligence; and

(10) the Small Business Administration.

(d) **DESIGNATIONS.**—The Assistant Secretary shall—

(1) not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, designate—

- (A) critical industries;
- (B) critical supply chains; and
- (C) critical goods;

(2) provide for a period of public comment and review in carrying out paragraph (1); and

(3) update the designations made pursuant to paragraph (1) not less frequently than once every 4 years, including designations for technologies that are not described in section 7(12)(B) that the Assistant Secretary considers necessary.

(e) **IMPLEMENTATION REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that—

(1) details supply chain activities, including applicable activities described in subsection (b) and responsibilities described in section 2, that the Assistant Secretary has conducted over the past year;

(2) describes supply chain data collected, retained, and analyzed by the Assistant Secretary over the past year;

(3) identifies and describes necessary tools, including commercially available risk assessment tools, that leverage data and industry expertise to provide insights into critical supply chain vulnerabilities, including how such tools fulfill each responsibility described in subsection (b);

(4) identifies and describes all Federal agencies with authorities or responsibilities described in subsection (b); and

(5) identifies Federal agencies, programs, and bureaus with duplicative purposes to fulfill any of the authorities or responsibilities described in subsection (b).

(f) **NATIONAL STRATEGY AND REVIEW ON CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCY AND MANUFACTURING IN THE UNITED STATES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Assistant Secretary, in consultation with the Working Group, covered nongovernmental representatives, industries, institutions of higher education, and State and local governments,

shall submit to the relevant committees of Congress a report that—

- (A) identifies—
  - (i) critical infrastructure that may assist in fulfilling the responsibilities described in section 2;
  - (ii) critical and emerging technologies that may assist in fulfilling the responsibilities described in section 2, including such technologies that may be critical to addressing preparedness, weaknesses, and vulnerabilities relating to critical supply chains;
  - (iii) critical industries, critical supply chains, and critical goods designated pursuant to subsection (d);
  - (iv) other supplies and services that are critical to the crisis preparedness of the United States;
  - (v) substitutes for critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology;
  - (vi) methods and technologies, including blockchain technology, distributed ledger technology, and other critical and emerging technologies, as appropriate, for the authentication and traceability of critical goods; and
  - (vii) countries that are allies or key international partner nations;
- (B) describes the matters identified and evaluated under subsection (b)(1), including—
  - (i) the manufacturing base, critical supply chains, and emerging technologies in the United States, including the manufacturing base and critical supply chains for—
    - (I) critical goods;
    - (II) production equipment; and
    - (III) manufacturing technology; and
    - (ii) the ability of the United States to—
      - (I) maintain readiness with respect to preparing for and responding to supply chain shocks; and
      - (II) in response to a supply chain shock—
        - (aa) surge production in critical industries;
        - (bb) surge production of critical goods and production equipment; and
        - (cc) maintain access to critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology;
    - (C) assesses and describes—
      - (i) the demand and supply of critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology;
      - (ii) the production of critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology by domestic manufacturers;
      - (iii) the capability and capacity of domestic manufacturers and manufacturers in countries that are allies or key international partner nations to manufacture critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology; and
      - (iv) how supply chain shocks could affect rural, Tribal, and underserved communities;
    - (D) identifies threats and supply chain shocks that may disrupt, strain, or eliminate critical supply chains, critical goods, and critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies);
    - (E) with regard to any threat identified under subparagraph (D), lists any threat or supply chain shock that may originate from a country, or a company or individual from a country, that is described in section 7(2)(B);
    - (F) assesses—
      - (i) the resilience and capacity of the manufacturing base, critical supply chains, and workforce of the United States and countries that are allies or key international partner nations that can sustain critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) through a supply chain shock; and
      - (ii) the effect innovation has on domestic manufacturers;

(G) assesses the flexible manufacturing capacity and capability available in the United States in the case of a supply chain shock; and

(H) develops a strategy for the Department of Commerce to support the resilience, diversity, and strength of critical supply chains and critical and emerging technologies to—

- (i) support sufficient access to critical goods by mitigating vulnerabilities in critical supply chains, including critical supply chains concentrated in countries that are described in section 7(2)(B);
- (ii) consult with other relevant agencies to assist countries that are allies or key international partner nations in building capacity for manufacturing critical goods;
- (iii) recover from supply chain shocks;
- (iv) identify, in consultation with the Working Group and other relevant agencies, actions relating to critical supply chains or emerging technologies that the United States may take to improve responses to supply chain shocks;
- (v) protect against supply chain shocks relating to critical supply chains from countries that are described in section 7(2)(B); and
- (vi) make specific recommendations to implement the strategy under this section and improve the security and resiliency of manufacturing capacity and supply chains for critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) by—
  - (I) developing long-term strategies;
  - (II) increasing visibility into the networks and capabilities of domestic manufacturers and suppliers of domestic manufacturers;
  - (III) identifying and mitigating risks, including—
    - (aa) significant vulnerabilities to supply chain shocks; and
    - (bb) exposure to gaps and vulnerabilities in domestic capacity or capabilities and sources of imports needed to sustain critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) or critical supply chains;
  - (IV) identifying opportunities to reuse and recycle critical goods, including raw materials, to increase resilient critical supply chains;
  - (V) consulting with countries that are allies or key international partner nations on—
    - (aa) sourcing critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology; and
    - (bb) developing, sustaining, and expanding production and availability of critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology during a supply chain shock; and
  - (VI) providing guidance to other relevant agencies with respect to critical goods, supply chains, and critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) that should be prioritized to support United States leadership in the deployment of such technologies.
- (2) PROHIBITION.—The report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) may not include—
  - (A) critical supply chain information that is not aggregated;
  - (B) confidential business information of a private sector entity; or
  - (C) classified information.
- (3) FORM.—The report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1), and any update submitted thereafter, shall be submitted to the relevant committees of Congress in unclassified form and may include a classified annex.
- (4) PUBLIC COMMENT.—The Assistant Secretary shall provide for a period of public comment and review in developing the report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1).
- (g) CONSULTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall enter into an

agreement with the head of any relevant agency to obtain any information, data, or assistance that the Assistant Secretary determines necessary to conduct the activities described in subsection (b).

(h) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to require any private entity—

- (1) to share information with the Secretary or Assistant Secretary;
- (2) to request assistance from the Secretary or Assistant Secretary; or
- (3) to implement any measure or recommendation suggested by the Secretary or Assistant Secretary in response to a request by the private entity.

(i) PROTECTION OF VOLUNTARILY SHARED CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN INFORMATION.—

(1) PROTECTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, critical supply chain information (including the identity of the submitting person or entity) that is voluntarily submitted under this section to the Department of Commerce for use by the Department for purposes of this section, when accompanied by an express statement described in subparagraph (B)—

(i) shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the “Freedom of Information Act”);

(ii) is not subject to any agency rules or judicial doctrine regarding ex parte communications with a decision-making official;

(iii) may not, without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information, be used directly by the Department of Commerce, any other Federal, State, or local authority, or any third party, in any civil action arising under Federal or State law if such information is submitted in good faith;

(iv) may not, without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information, be used or disclosed by any officer or employee of the United States for purposes other than the purposes of this section, except—

(I) in furtherance of an investigation or the prosecution of a criminal act; or

(II) when disclosure of the information would be—

(aa) to either House of Congress, or to the extent of matter within its jurisdiction, any committee or subcommittee thereof, any joint committee thereof, or any subcommittee of any such joint committee; or

(bb) to the Comptroller General of the United States, or any authorized representative of the Comptroller General, in the course of the performance of the duties of the Government Accountability Office;

(v) may not, if provided to a State or local government or government agency—

(I) be made available pursuant to any State or local law requiring disclosure of information or records;

(II) otherwise be disclosed or distributed to any party by such State or local government or government agency without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information; or

(III) be used other than for the purpose of carrying out this section, or in furtherance of an investigation or the prosecution of a criminal act; and

(vi) does not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege or protection provided under law, such as trade secret protection.

(B) EXPRESS STATEMENT.—The express statement described in this subparagraph, with respect to information or records, is—

(i) in the case of written information or records, a written marking on the information or records substantially similar to the following: “This information is voluntarily



submitted to the Federal Government in expectation of protection from disclosure as provided by the provisions of the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act of 2024.”; or

(ii) in the case of oral information, a written statement similar to the statement described in clause (i) submitted within a reasonable period following the oral communication.

(2) **LIMITATION.**—No communication of critical supply chain information to the Department of Commerce made pursuant to this section may be considered to be an action subject to the requirements of chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) **INDEPENDENTLY OBTAINED INFORMATION.**—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to limit or otherwise affect the ability of a State, local, or Federal Government entity, agency, or authority, or any third party, under applicable law to obtain critical supply chain information in a manner not covered by paragraph (1), including any information lawfully and properly disclosed generally or broadly to the public and to use such information in any manner permitted by law. For purposes of this subsection, a permissible use of independently obtained information includes the disclosure of such information under section 2302(b)(8) of title 5, United States Code.

(4) **TREATMENT OF VOLUNTARY SUBMITTAL OF INFORMATION.**—The voluntary submittal to the Department of Commerce of information or records that are protected from disclosure by this section may not be construed to constitute compliance with any requirement to submit such information to an agency under any other provision of law.

(5) **INAPPLICABILITY TO SEMICONDUCTOR INCENTIVE PROGRAM.**—This subsection does not apply to the voluntary submission of critical supply chain information in an application for Federal financial assistance under section 9902 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283).

#### **SEC. 4. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT.**

(a) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—The Secretary shall produce a report—

(1) identifying the duties, responsibilities, resources, programs, and expertise within the offices and bureaus of the Department of Commerce relevant to critical supply chain resilience and manufacturing innovation;

(2) identifying and assessing the purpose, legal authority, effectiveness, efficiency, and limitations of each office or bureau identified under paragraph (1); and

(3) providing recommendations to enhance the activities related to critical supply chain resilience and manufacturing innovation of the Department of Commerce, including—

(A) improving the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of the offices and bureaus identified under paragraph (1);

(B) coordinating across offices and bureaus identified under paragraph (1); and

(C) consulting with agencies implementing similar activities related to critical supply chain resilience and manufacturing innovation.

(b) **SUBMISSION OF REPORT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the relevant committees of Congress the report required by subsection (a), along with a strategy to implement, as appropriate and as determined by the Secretary, the recommendations contained in the report.

#### **SEC. 5. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.**

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act.

#### **SEC. 6. SUNSET.**

This Act and all requirements, responsibilities, and obligations under this Act shall

terminate on the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) **AGENCY.**—The term “agency” has the meaning given that term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) **ALLY OR KEY INTERNATIONAL PARTNER NATION.**—The term “ally or key international partner nation”—

(A) means a country that is critical to addressing critical supply chain weaknesses and vulnerabilities; and

(B) does not include—

(i) a country that poses a significant risk to the national security or economic security of the United States; or

(ii) a country that is described in section 503(b) of the RANSOMWARE Act (title V of division BB of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023; Public Law 117-328; 136 Stat. 5564).

(3) **ASSISTANT SECRETARY.**—The term “Assistant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary of Commerce assigned by the Secretary to direct the office of Industry and Analysis.

(4) **COVERED NONGOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE.**—The term “covered nongovernmental representative” means a representative as specified in the second sentence of section 135(b)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155(b)(1)), except that such term does not include a representative of a non-Federal Government.

(5) **CRITICAL GOOD.**—The term “critical good” means any raw, in process, or manufactured material (including any mineral, metal, or advanced processed material), article, commodity, supply, product, or item for which an absence of supply would have a debilitating impact on—

(A) the national security or economic security of the United States; and

(B) either—

(i) critical infrastructure; or

(ii) an emerging technology.

(6) **CRITICAL INDUSTRY.**—The term “critical industry” means an industry that—

(A) is critical for the national security or economic security of the United States; and

(B) produces or procures a critical good.

(7) **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.**—The term “critical infrastructure” has the meaning given that term in section 1016 of the Critical Infrastructures Protection Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c).

(8) **CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN.**—The term “critical supply chain” means a supply chain for a critical good.

(9) **CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN INFORMATION.**—The term “critical supply chain information” means information that is not customarily in the public domain and relates to—

(A) sustaining and adapting a critical supply chain during a supply chain shock;

(B) critical supply chain risk mitigation and recovery planning with respect to a supply chain shock, including any planned or past assessment, projection, or estimate of a vulnerability within the critical supply chain, including testing, supplier network assessments, production flexibility, supply chain risk evaluations, supply chain risk management planning, or risk audits; or

(C) operational best practices, planning, and supplier partnerships that enable enhanced resilience of a critical supply chain during a supply chain shock, including response, repair, recovery, reconstruction, insurance, or continuity.

(10) **DOMESTIC ENTERPRISE.**—The term “domestic enterprise” means an enterprise that conducts business in the United States and procures a critical good.

(11) **DOMESTIC MANUFACTURER.**—The term “domestic manufacturer” means a business

that conducts in the United States the research and development, engineering, or production activities necessary for manufacturing a critical good.

(12) **EMERGING TECHNOLOGY.**—The term “emerging technology” means a technology that is critical for the national security or economic security of the United States, including the following:

(A) Technologies included in the American COMPETE Act (title XV of division FF of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021; Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 3276).

(B) The following technologies:

(i) Artificial intelligence.

(ii) Automated vehicles and unmanned delivery systems.

(iii) Blockchain and other distributed ledger, data storage, data management, and cybersecurity technologies.

(iv) Quantum computing and quantum sensing.

(v) Additive manufacturing.

(vi) Advanced manufacturing and the Internet of Things.

(vii) Nano technology.

(viii) Robotics.

(ix) Microelectronics, optical fiber ray, and high performance and advanced computer hardware and software.

(x) Semiconductors.

(xi) Advanced materials science, including composition 2D, other next generation materials, and related manufacturing technologies.

(13) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

(14) **MANUFACTURE.**—The term “manufacture”—

(A) means any activity that is necessary for the development, production, processing, distribution, or delivery of any raw, in process, or manufactured material (including any mineral, metal, and advanced processed material), article, commodity, supply, product, critical good, or item of supply; and

(B) does not include software unrelated to the manufacturing process.

(15) **MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY.**—The term “manufacturing technology” means a technology that is necessary for the manufacturing of a critical good.

(16) **PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT.**—The term “production equipment” means any component, subsystem, system, equipment, tooling, accessory, part, or assembly necessary for the manufacturing of a critical good.

(17) **PROGRAM.**—The term “program” means the critical supply chain resiliency and crisis response program established pursuant to section 103(a).

(18) **RELEVANT COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—The term “relevant committees of Congress” means the following:

(A) The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

(B) The Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(19) **RESILIENT CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN.**—The term “resilient critical supply chain” means a critical supply chain that—

(A) ensures that the United States can sustain critical industry, including emerging technologies, production, critical supply chains, services, and access to critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology during a supply chain shock; and

(B) has key components of resilience that include—

(i) effective private sector risk management and mitigation planning to sustain



critical supply chains and supplier networks during a supply chain shock; and

(ii) minimized or managed exposure to a supply chain shock.

(20) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce.

(21) STATE.—The term “State” means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, each commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, and each federally recognized Indian Tribe.

(22) SUPPLY CHAIN SHOCK.—The term “supply chain shock”—

(A) means an event causing severe or serious disruption to normal operations or capacity in a supply chain; and

(B) includes—

(i) a natural disaster;

(ii) a pandemic;

(iii) a biological threat;

(iv) a cyber attack;

(v) a geopolitical conflict;

(vi) a terrorist or geopolitical attack;

(vii) a trade disruption caused by—

(I) a country described in paragraph (2)(B);

or

(II) an entity or an individual subject to the jurisdiction of such a country; and

(viii) an event for which the President declares a major disaster or an emergency under section 401 or 501, respectively, of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170; 42 U.S.C. 5191).

Mr. HUSTED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Cantwell amendment at the desk be agreed to; that the committee-reported amendments be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 2358) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To modify the list of relevant committees of Congress)

On page 31, line 23, insert “, the Committee on Foreign Relations,” after “Transportation”.

On page 32, lines 1 and 2, strike “Commerce” and insert “Commerce, the Committee on Foreign Affairs,”.

The committee-reported amendments were agreed to.

The bill (S. 257), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 257

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

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act of 2025”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Additional responsibilities of Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Analysis.

Sec. 3. Critical supply chain resilience and crisis response working group.

Sec. 4. Department of Commerce capability assessment.

Sec. 5. No additional funds.

Sec. 6. Sunset.

Sec. 7. Definitions.

## SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INDUSTRY AND ANALYSIS.

In addition to the responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall have the following responsibilities:

(1) In consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, promote the stability and resilience of critical supply chains and critical and emerging technologies that strengthen the national security of the United States.

(2) Lead the Working Group established pursuant to section 3 and consult covered nongovernmental representatives, industry, institutions of higher education, and State and local governments in order to—

(A) promote resilient critical supply chains; and

(B) identify, prepare for, and respond to supply chain shocks to—

(i) critical industries;

(ii) critical supply chains; and

(iii) critical and emerging technologies.

(3) Encourage the growth and competitiveness of United States production and manufacturing in the United States of emerging technologies.

(4) In consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, assess the resilience, diversity, and strength of critical supply chains and critical and emerging technologies.

(5) In consultation with the Secretary of State and the United States Trade Representative, support the availability of critical goods from domestic manufacturers, domestic enterprises, and manufacturing operations in countries that are allies or key international partner nations.

(6) Assist the Federal Government in preparing for and responding to supply chain shocks to critical supply chains, including by improving flexible manufacturing capacities and capabilities in the United States.

(7) Consistent with United States obligations under international agreements, encourage and incentivize the reduced reliance of domestic enterprises and domestic manufacturers on critical goods from countries that are described in section 7(2)(B).

(8) Encourage the relocation of manufacturing facilities that manufacture critical goods from countries that are described in section 7(2)(B) to the United States and countries that are allies or key international partner nations to strengthen the resilience, diversity, and strength of critical supply chains.

## SEC. 3. CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE AND CRISIS RESPONSE WORKING GROUP.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall establish a working group to be known as the “Supply Chain Resilience Working Group” (in this Act referred to as the “Working Group”) composed of the Federal agencies that rely upon the Industry and Analysis Business unit analysis, including agencies enumerated in subsection (c).

(b) ACTIVITIES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall carry out the following activities—

(1) in consultation with the Working Group—

(A) assessing, mapping, and modeling critical supply chains, including for critical and emerging technologies, which may include—

(i) modeling the impact of supply chain shocks on critical industries (including for critical and emerging technologies), and critical supply chains;

(ii) assessing the demand for and supply of critical goods, production equipment, and

manufacturing technology needed for critical supply chains, including critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology obtained by or purchased from a person outside of the United States or imported into the United States; and

(iii) assessing manufacturing, warehousing, transportation, and distribution related to critical supply chains;

(B) identifying high priority gaps and vulnerabilities in critical supply chains and critical industries (including critical industries for critical and emerging technologies) that—

(i) exist as of the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(ii) are anticipated to occur after the date of the enactment of this Act;

(C) identifying potential supply chain shocks to a critical supply chain that may disrupt, strain, or eliminate the critical supply chain;

(D) evaluating the capability and capacity of domestic manufacturers or manufacturers located in countries that are allies or key international partner nations to serve as sources for critical goods, production equipment, or manufacturing technology needed in critical supply chains;

(E) evaluating the effect on market stability that may result from the disruption, strain, or elimination of a critical supply chain;

(F) evaluating the state of the manufacturing workforce, including by—

(i) identifying the needs of domestic manufacturers; and

(ii) identifying opportunities to create high-quality manufacturing jobs; and

(G) identifying and describing necessary tools, including commercially available risk assessment tools, that leverage data and industry expertise to provide insights into critical supply chain vulnerabilities, including how such tools fulfill the requirements described in subparagraphs (A) through (E); and

(2) in consultation with State and local governments, the Working Group, and (as appropriate) countries that are allies or key international partner nations—

(A) identifying opportunities to reduce gaps and vulnerabilities in critical supply chains and critical industries;

(B) encouraging consultation between the Federal Government, industry, covered nongovernmental representatives, institutions of higher education, and State and local governments to—

(i) better respond to supply chain shocks to critical supply chains and critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies); and

(ii) coordinate response efforts to supply chain shocks;

(C) encouraging consultation between the Federal Government and the governments of countries that are allies or key international partner nations;

(D) identifying opportunities to build the capacity of the United States in critical supply chains, critical industries, and emerging technologies;

(E) identifying opportunities to build the capacity of countries that are allies or key international partner nations in critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) and critical supply chains; and

(F) developing and assessing contingency plans and coordination mechanisms to improve the response of critical supply chains and critical industries to supply chain shocks.

(c) WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP.—The Working Group shall include a representative from each Federal agency that relies on

the analysis of the Industry and Analysis business unit, including—

- (1) the Department of State;
- (2) the Department of Defense;
- (3) the Department of Homeland Security;
- (4) the Department of Transportation;
- (5) the Department of Energy;
- (6) the Department of Agriculture;
- (7) the Department of the Interior;
- (8) the Department of Health and Human Services;

(9) the Office of the Director of National Intelligence; and

(10) the Small Business Administration.

(d) DESIGNATIONS.—The Assistant Secretary shall—

(1) not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, designate—

- (A) critical industries;
- (B) critical supply chains; and
- (C) critical goods;

(2) provide for a period of public comment and review in carrying out paragraph (1); and

(3) update the designations made pursuant to paragraph (1) not less frequently than once every 4 years, including designations for technologies that are not described in section 7(12)(B) that the Assistant Secretary considers necessary.

(e) IMPLEMENTATION REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that—

(1) details supply chain activities, including applicable activities described in subsection (b) and responsibilities described in section 2, that the Assistant Secretary has conducted over the past year;

(2) describes supply chain data collected, retained, and analyzed by the Assistant Secretary over the past year;

(3) identifies and describes necessary tools, including commercially available risk assessment tools, that leverage data and industry expertise to provide insights into critical supply chain vulnerabilities, including how such tools fulfill each responsibility described in subsection (b);

(4) identifies and describes all Federal agencies with authorities or responsibilities described in subsection (b); and

(5) identifies Federal agencies, programs, and bureaus with duplicative purposes to fulfill any of the authorities or responsibilities described in subsection (b).

(f) NATIONAL STRATEGY AND REVIEW ON CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCY AND MANUFACTURING IN THE UNITED STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Assistant Secretary, in consultation with the Working Group, covered nongovernmental representatives, industries, institutions of higher education, and State and local governments, shall submit to the relevant committees of Congress a report that—

(A) identifies—

(i) critical infrastructure that may assist in fulfilling the responsibilities described in section 2;

(ii) critical and emerging technologies that may assist in fulfilling the responsibilities described in section 2, including such technologies that may be critical to addressing preparedness, weaknesses, and vulnerabilities relating to critical supply chains;

(iii) critical industries, critical supply chains, and critical goods designated pursuant to subsection (d);

(iv) other supplies and services that are critical to the crisis preparedness of the United States;

(v) substitutes for critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology;

(vi) methods and technologies, including blockchain technology, distributed ledger technology, and other critical and emerging technologies, as appropriate, for the authentication and traceability of critical goods; and

(vii) countries that are allies or key international partner nations;

(B) describes the matters identified and evaluated under subsection (b)(1), including—

(i) the manufacturing base, critical supply chains, and emerging technologies in the United States, including the manufacturing base and critical supply chains for—

- (I) critical goods;
- (II) production equipment; and
- (III) manufacturing technology; and

(ii) the ability of the United States to—

(I) maintain readiness with respect to preparing for and responding to supply chain shocks; and

(II) in response to a supply chain shock—

- (aa) surge production in critical industries;
- (bb) surge production of critical goods and production equipment; and

(cc) maintain access to critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology;

(C) assesses and describes—

(i) the demand and supply of critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology;

(ii) the production of critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology by domestic manufacturers;

(iii) the capability and capacity of domestic manufacturers and manufacturers in countries that are allies or key international partner nations to manufacture critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology; and

(iv) how supply chain shocks could affect rural, Tribal, and underserved communities;

(D) identifies threats and supply chain shocks that may disrupt, strain, or eliminate critical supply chains, critical goods, and critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies);

(E) with regard to any threat identified under subparagraph (D), lists any threat or supply chain shock that may originate from a country, or a company or individual from a country, that is described in section 7(2)(B);

(F) assesses—

(i) the resilience and capacity of the manufacturing base, critical supply chains, and workforce of the United States and countries that are allies or key international partner nations that can sustain critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) through a supply chain shock; and

(ii) the effect innovation has on domestic manufacturers;

(G) assesses the flexible manufacturing capacity and capability available in the United States in the case of a supply chain shock; and

(H) develops a strategy for the Department of Commerce to support the resilience, diversity, and strength of critical supply chains and critical and emerging technologies to—

(i) support sufficient access to critical goods by mitigating vulnerabilities in critical supply chains, including critical supply chains concentrated in countries that are described in section 7(2)(B);

(ii) consult with other relevant agencies to assist countries that are allies or key international partner nations in building capacity for manufacturing critical goods;

(iii) recover from supply chain shocks;

(iv) identify, in consultation with the Working Group and other relevant agencies, actions relating to critical supply chains or emerging technologies that the United

States may take to improve responses to supply chain shocks;

(v) protect against supply chain shocks relating to critical supply chains from countries that are described in section 7(2)(B); and

(vi) make specific recommendations to implement the strategy under this section and improve the security and resiliency of manufacturing capacity and supply chains for critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) by—

(I) developing long-term strategies;

(II) increasing visibility into the networks and capabilities of domestic manufacturers and suppliers of domestic manufacturers;

(III) identifying and mitigating risks, including—

(aa) significant vulnerabilities to supply chain shocks; and

(bb) exposure to gaps and vulnerabilities in domestic capacity or capabilities and sources of imports needed to sustain critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) or critical supply chains;

(IV) identifying opportunities to reuse and recycle critical goods, including raw materials, to increase resilient critical supply chains;

(V) consulting with countries that are allies or key international partner nations on—

(aa) sourcing critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology; and

(bb) developing, sustaining, and expanding production and availability of critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology during a supply chain shock; and

(VI) providing guidance to other relevant agencies with respect to critical goods, supply chains, and critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) that should be prioritized to support United States leadership in the deployment of such technologies.

(2) PROHIBITION.—The report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) may not include—

(A) critical supply chain information that is not aggregated;

(B) confidential business information of a private sector entity; or

(C) classified information.

(3) FORM.—The report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1), and any update submitted thereafter, shall be submitted to the relevant committees of Congress in unclassified form and may include a classified annex.

(4) PUBLIC COMMENT.—The Assistant Secretary shall provide for a period of public comment and review in developing the report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1).

(g) CONSULTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the head of any relevant agency to obtain any information, data, or assistance that the Assistant Secretary determines necessary to conduct the activities described in subsection (b).

(h) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to require any private entity—

(1) to share information with the Secretary or Assistant Secretary;

(2) to request assistance from the Secretary or Assistant Secretary; or

(3) to implement any measure or recommendation suggested by the Secretary or Assistant Secretary in response to a request by the private entity.

(i) PROTECTION OF VOLUNTARILY SHARED CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN INFORMATION.—

(1) PROTECTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, critical supply chain information (including the identity of the

submitting person or entity) that is voluntarily submitted under this section to the Department of Commerce for use by the Department for purposes of this section, when accompanied by an express statement described in subparagraph (B)—

(i) shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the “Freedom of Information Act”);

(ii) is not subject to any agency rules or judicial doctrine regarding *ex parte* communications with a decision-making official;

(iii) may not, without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information, be used directly by the Department of Commerce, any other Federal, State, or local authority, or any third party, in any civil action arising under Federal or State law if such information is submitted in good faith;

(iv) may not, without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information, be used or disclosed by any officer or employee of the United States for purposes other than the purposes of this section, except—

(I) in furtherance of an investigation or the prosecution of a criminal act; or

(II) when disclosure of the information would be—

(aa) to either House of Congress, or to the extent of matter within its jurisdiction, any committee or subcommittee thereof, any joint committee thereof, or any subcommittee of any such joint committee; or

(bb) to the Comptroller General of the United States, or any authorized representative of the Comptroller General, in the course of the performance of the duties of the Government Accountability Office;

(v) may not, if provided to a State or local government or government agency—

(I) be made available pursuant to any State or local law requiring disclosure of information or records;

(II) otherwise be disclosed or distributed to any party by such State or local government or government agency without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information; or

(III) be used other than for the purpose of carrying out this section, or in furtherance of an investigation or the prosecution of a criminal act; and

(vi) does not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege or protection provided under law, such as trade secret protection.

(B) **EXPRESS STATEMENT.**—The express statement described in this subparagraph, with respect to information or records, is—

(i) in the case of written information or records, a written marking on the information or records substantially similar to the following: “This information is voluntarily submitted to the Federal Government in expectation of protection from disclosure as provided by the provisions of the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act of 2024.”; or

(ii) in the case of oral information, a written statement similar to the statement described in clause (i) submitted within a reasonable period following the oral communication.

(2) **LIMITATION.**—No communication of critical supply chain information to the Department of Commerce made pursuant to this section may be considered to be an action subject to the requirements of chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) **INDEPENDENTLY OBTAINED INFORMATION.**—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to limit or otherwise affect the ability of a State, local, or Federal Government entity, agency, or authority, or any third party, under applicable law to obtain critical supply chain information in a manner not covered by paragraph (1), including

any information lawfully and properly disclosed generally or broadly to the public and to use such information in any manner permitted by law. For purposes of this subsection, a permissible use of independently obtained information includes the disclosure of such information under section 2302(b)(8) of title 5, United States Code.

(4) **TREATMENT OF VOLUNTARY SUBMITTAL OF INFORMATION.**—The voluntary submittal to the Department of Commerce of information or records that are protected from disclosure by this section may not be construed to constitute compliance with any requirement to submit such information to an agency under any other provision of law.

(5) **INAPPLICABILITY TO SEMICONDUCTOR INCENTIVE PROGRAM.**—This subsection does not apply to the voluntary submission of critical supply chain information in an application for Federal financial assistance under section 9902 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283).

#### **SEC. 4. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT.**

(a) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—The Secretary shall produce a report—

(1) identifying the duties, responsibilities, resources, programs, and expertise within the offices and bureaus of the Department of Commerce relevant to critical supply chain resilience and manufacturing innovation;

(2) identifying and assessing the purpose, legal authority, effectiveness, efficiency, and limitations of each office or bureau identified under paragraph (1); and

(3) providing recommendations to enhance the activities related to critical supply chain resilience and manufacturing innovation of the Department of Commerce, including—

(A) improving the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of the offices and bureaus identified under paragraph (1);

(B) coordinating across offices and bureaus identified under paragraph (1); and

(C) consulting with agencies implementing similar activities related to critical supply chain resilience and manufacturing innovation.

(b) **SUBMISSION OF REPORT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the relevant committees of Congress the report required by subsection (a), along with a strategy to implement, as appropriate and as determined by the Secretary, the recommendations contained in the report.

#### **SEC. 5. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.**

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act.

#### **SEC. 6. SUNSET.**

This Act and all requirements, responsibilities, and obligations under this Act shall terminate on the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) **AGENCY.**—The term “agency” has the meaning given that term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) **ALLY OR KEY INTERNATIONAL PARTNER NATION.**—The term “ally or key international partner nation”—

(A) means a country that is critical to addressing critical supply chain weaknesses and vulnerabilities; and

(B) does not include—

(i) a country that poses a significant risk to the national security or economic security of the United States; or

(ii) a country that is described in section 503(b) of the RANSOMWARE Act (title V of division BB of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023; Public Law 117-328; 136 Stat. 5564).

(3) **ASSISTANT SECRETARY.**—The term “Assistant Secretary” means the Assistant Sec-

retary of Commerce assigned by the Secretary to direct the office of Industry and Analysis.

(4) **COVERED NONGOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE.**—The term “covered nongovernmental representative” means a representative as specified in the second sentence of section 135(b)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155(b)(1)), except that such term does not include a representative of a non-Federal Government.

(5) **CRITICAL GOOD.**—The term “critical good” means any raw, in process, or manufactured material (including any mineral, metal, or advanced processed material), article, commodity, supply, product, or item for which an absence of supply would have a debilitating impact on—

(A) the national security or economic security of the United States; and

(B) either—

(i) critical infrastructure; or

(ii) an emerging technology.

(6) **CRITICAL INDUSTRY.**—The term “critical industry” means an industry that—

(A) is critical for the national security or economic security of the United States; and

(B) produces or procures a critical good.

(7) **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.**—The term “critical infrastructure” has the meaning given that term in section 1016 of the Critical Infrastructures Protection Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c).

(8) **CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN.**—The term “critical supply chain” means a supply chain for a critical good.

(9) **CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN INFORMATION.**—The term “critical supply chain information” means information that is not customarily in the public domain and relates to—

(A) sustaining and adapting a critical supply chain during a supply chain shock;

(B) critical supply chain risk mitigation and recovery planning with respect to a supply chain shock, including any planned or past assessment, projection, or estimate of a vulnerability within the critical supply chain, including testing, supplier network assessments, production flexibility, supply chain risk evaluations, supply chain risk management planning, or risk audits; or

(C) operational best practices, planning, and supplier partnerships that enable enhanced resilience of a critical supply chain during a supply chain shock, including response, repair, recovery, reconstruction, insurance, or continuity.

(10) **DOMESTIC ENTERPRISE.**—The term “domestic enterprise” means an enterprise that conducts business in the United States and procures a critical good.

(11) **DOMESTIC MANUFACTURER.**—The term “domestic manufacturer” means a business that conducts in the United States the research and development, engineering, or production activities necessary for manufacturing a critical good.

(12) **EMERGING TECHNOLOGY.**—The term “emerging technology” means a technology that is critical for the national security or economic security of the United States, including the following:

(A) Technologies included in the American COMPETE Act (title XV of division FF of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021; Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 3276).

(B) The following technologies:

(i) Artificial intelligence.

(ii) Automated vehicles and unmanned delivery systems.

(iii) Blockchain and other distributed ledger, data storage, data management, and cybersecurity technologies.

(iv) Quantum computing and quantum sensing.

(v) Additive manufacturing.

(vi) Advanced manufacturing and the Internet of Things.

(vii) Nano technology.

(viii) Robotics.

(ix) Microelectronics, optical fiber ray, and high performance and advanced computer hardware and software.

(x) Semiconductors.

(xi) Advanced materials science, including composition 2D, other next generation materials, and related manufacturing technologies.

(13) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

(14) MANUFACTURE.—The term “manufacture”—

(A) means any activity that is necessary for the development, production, processing, distribution, or delivery of any raw, in process, or manufactured material (including any mineral, metal, and advanced processed material), article, commodity, supply, product, critical good, or item of supply; and

(B) does not include software unrelated to the manufacturing process.

(15) MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY.—The term “manufacturing technology” means a technology that is necessary for the manufacturing of a critical good.

(16) PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT.—The term “production equipment” means any component, subsystem, system, equipment, tooling, accessory, part, or assembly necessary for the manufacturing of a critical good.

(17) PROGRAM.—The term “program” means the critical supply chain resiliency and crisis response program established pursuant to section 103(a).

(18) RELEVANT COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “relevant committees of Congress” means the following:

(A) The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

(B) The Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(19) RESILIENT CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN.—The term “resilient critical supply chain” means a critical supply chain that—

(A) ensures that the United States can sustain critical industry, including emerging technologies, production, critical supply chains, services, and access to critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology during a supply chain shock; and

(B) has key components of resilience that include—

(i) effective private sector risk management and mitigation planning to sustain critical supply chains and supplier networks during a supply chain shock; and

(ii) minimized or managed exposure to a supply chain shock.

(20) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce.

(21) STATE.—The term “State” means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, each commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, and each federally recognized Indian Tribe.

(22) SUPPLY CHAIN SHOCK.—The term “supply chain shock”—

(A) means an event causing severe or serious disruption to normal operations or capacity in a supply chain; and

(B) includes—

(i) a natural disaster;

(ii) a pandemic;

(iii) a biological threat;

(iv) a cyber attack;

(v) a geopolitical conflict;

(vi) a terrorist or geopolitical attack;

(vii) a trade disruption caused by—

(I) a country described in paragraph (2)(B); or

(II) an entity or an individual subject to the jurisdiction of such a country; and

(viii) an event for which the President declares a major disaster or an emergency under section 401 or 501, respectively, of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170; 42 U.S.C. 5191).

# CONDEMNING THE ATTACKS ON MINNESOTA LAWMAKERS IN BROOKLYN PARK AND CHAMPLIN, MINNESOTA AND CALLING FOR UNITY AND THE REJECTION OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN MINNESOTA AND ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

Mr. HUSTED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and that the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 301.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 301) condemning the attacks on Minnesota lawmakers in Brooklyn Park and Champlin, Minnesota and calling for unity and the rejection of political violence in Minnesota and across the United States.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. HUSTED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 301) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of June 24, 2025, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

## ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025

Mr. HUSTED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until 3 p.m. on Friday, June 27; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a pe-

riod of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; further, that if Senator KAINE makes a motion to discharge S.J. Res. 59 from the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Senate vote on the motion to discharge at 6 p.m.

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

## RECESS UNTIL 3 P.M. TOMORROW

Mr. HUSTED. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:15 p.m., recessed until Friday, June 27, 2025, at 3 p.m.

## NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

### EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

SARA BAILEY, OF TEXAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY, VICE RAHUL GUPTA, RESIGNED.

### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

*To be colonel*

CLAYTON T. MANNING

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR ARMY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 7064:

*To be major*

TOK H. KIM

### IN THE SPACE FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 7064:

*To be lieutenant colonel*

ROBERT L. BOND, JR.

### IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 2121(E):

*To be captain*

JESSE M. MILLARD

## CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate June 26, 2025:

### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

KENNETH KIES, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

## WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on June 26, 2025 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

SARA CARTER, OF TEXAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY, VICE RAHUL GUPTA, RESIGNED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON MAY 6, 2025.

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2025*

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, I missed votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 179; NAY on Roll Call No. 180; YEA on Roll Call No. 181; and NAY on Roll Call No. 182.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOSH BRECHEEN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2025*

Mr. BRECHEEN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained due to illness and was not able to cast my vote on Roll Call Nos. 179, 180, 181, and 182.

Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 179; YEA on Roll Call No. 180; NAY on Roll Call No. 181; and YEA on Roll Call No. 182.

## PAYING TRIBUTE TO KIYA BATMANGLIDJ

### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2025*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Kiya Batmanglidj on the occasion of his retirement from Federal service. Over the past 21 years, Kiya has honorably served the United States in both military and civilian service.

Kiya started his career in public service as an Army noncommissioned officer, serving as a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division from 1986 to 1989. He was also voluntarily recalled to active duty in support of Operation Desert Shield.

For the last ten years, Kiya has served on the House Appropriations Committee. He started with the Surveys and Investigations (S&I) staff where he served as the branch chief for the defense portfolio. He then served briefly on the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee working the VA portfolio before transitioning to the Defense Subcommittee in 2018.

On the Defense Subcommittee, while in the House Minority, Kiya managed the Army, Defense Wide, and Defense Health accounts. When the Republicans assumed the House Majority, Kiya oversaw the Military Personnel account and the international security co-operation accounts.

Kiya considers his greatest Committee accomplishment to be securing the funding for a

14.5 percent pay raise for junior enlisted personnel starting in 2025, the largest increase in over 40 years.

Kiya's contributions to America's warfighters will endure long after his tenure in the House of Representatives comes to a close, and I know he will continue to do great work to advance our national defense. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Kiya for his service to our country. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

## RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF MR. GEORGE WOODWARD

### HON. RONNY JACKSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2025*

Mr. JACKSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Mr. George Woodward. After eighteen years of dedicated service, Mr. Woodward is stepping down from his responsibilities as the Director of Public Affairs for the 82nd Training Wing at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Throughout his 30-year career as a Public Affairs Specialist, Mr. Woodward has been a tremendous source of expertise for the United States Air Force. Mr. Woodward has served in a number of critical roles and commands, including the 927th Air Refueling Wing at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida and European Regional Medical Command at Sembach Air Base, Germany. Mr. Woodward subsequently returned to the United States where he took the position of Director of Public Affairs for the 82nd Training Wing, where he has faithfully served the outstanding men and women at Sheppard Air Force Base.

At Sheppard, Mr. Woodward diligently supervised eighteen employees who delivered clear and well-informed communications support on behalf of the installation and sixty other training locations around the world. As the official spokesperson for the base, Mr. Woodward advised the commanding general on the effects of policies and actions on the base's relationship with internal and external audiences and was responsible for testing and executing crisis communication plans and procedures, serving as the base liaison with state and federal legislators, and overseeing a \$1.3 million audiovisual contract.

During his tenure, Mr. George Woodward led public relations efforts on critical developments at Sheppard Air Force base, such as the base's groundbreaking on a \$27 million Child Development Center and the 82nd Training Wing's overhaul of the Air Force's Wartime Training Plan. Mr. Woodward also supported visits to Sheppard, including from the Secretary of the Air Force and Air Force Chief of Staff, Air Education and Training Command leadership, and foreign dignitaries. As the Director of Public Affairs, Mr. Woodward also led the communications efforts for

the base's 75th anniversary and Guardians of Freedom Thunderbirds Air Show.

On behalf of the entire Congress and a grateful Nation, as well as the thousands of Airmen who served at Sheppard Air Force Base throughout his eighteen-year tenure, I express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to Mr. George Woodward for his outstanding leadership and unwavering support for the missions of the U.S. Air Force.

## HONORING ANNETTE AND MYRON GREENBAUM ON THEIR 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

### HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2025*

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable partnership of Annette and Myron Greenbaum of South Orange, New Jersey, who will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on July 4, 2025.

They first met on a group ski trip: Annette was there with a friend, Myron with the group. Their first date came shortly after, when Annette had an extra theater ticket and invited Myron to join. Neither remembers the name of the play, but both remember it led to the next meeting. Their second date was a Marx Brothers movie, an early sign that laughter would become one of the cornerstones of their life together.

They were married on July 4, 1965, in a small ceremony at a temple on Central Park West, followed by a luncheon at the Delmonico Hotel, a classic Manhattan venue that's part of the city's long history. In the early years of their marriage, Annette and Myron lived in a Brooklyn Heights brownstone, enjoying walks along the promenade, afternoons at museums, and everything the city had to offer.

Eventually, they made their home in South Orange, New Jersey, where they raised two children and have lived in the same house for more than forty years. Along the way, they opened their home to many beloved cats—each one a part of the family. Today, they are the proud grandparents of three.

When asked the secret to a long marriage, Annette doesn't give a grand declaration, just a simple truth learn to accept each other's quirks.

It is my privilege to recognize Annette and Myron's 60 years of marriage. Their story is a reminder that the best partnerships are built not just on love, but on humor, patience, and a shared life well-lived.

• 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.

# RECOGNIZING THE 75TH BIRTHDAY OF MARSHALL BRACHMAN

## HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2025*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a dear friend, Marshall Brachman, on the occasion of his 75th birthday on July 6, 2025.

Marshall has long exemplified the best of civic engagement and public service. His remarkable career spans more than four decades, beginning in 1978, and is defined not only by professional success but by a deeply rooted commitment to his community, his faith, and the betterment of this country.

Outside of his accomplished professional life, Marshall has devoted himself to civic and philanthropic causes. At just 23 years old, he became the youngest treasurer of a Jewish Community Center in the United States when he assumed that role at the Fort Worth Jewish Community Center. His leadership and vision led him to soon become president of the Center as well as Treasurer of the Fort Worth Art Museum, now The Modern, setting a high bar for service at a young age.

Marshall's dedication to community did not stop there. He has been a tireless advocate and supporter of Jewish causes both locally and nationally, particularly through his involvement with the United Jewish Appeal, the Young Leadership Cabinet, the Texas-Israel Exchange, and AIPAC. His impact in these organizations is a testament to his belief in the power of service, charity, and enduring commitment to one's values.

Marshall is also a trusted voice in public policy and government affairs. He has helped countless Members of Congress understand complex issues, including providing historical context, and make informed decisions. His insight and integrity have made him a valuable advisor to many on both sides of the aisle. And to me personally, Marshall has been a friend, a sounding board, and an unwavering supporter—qualities for which I am sincerely grateful.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Marshall Brachman for his enduring contributions to civic life, his generous spirit, and his invaluable friendship. I extend my warmest wishes to him and his family on this milestone birthday and thank him for the positive impact he continues to make in so many lives.

Happy 75th to Marshall.

# INTRODUCTION OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE VOLUNTARY EARLY RETIREMENT AUTHORITY ACT OF 2025

## HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2025*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Foreign Service Voluntary Early Retirement Authority Act of 2025. This bill would allow members of the Foreign Service to use Voluntary Early Retirement Authority (VERA) when an agency is undergoing a reduction in

force (RIF) or other restructuring. While most other federal employees are eligible for VERA if their agencies are undergoing a RIF or other restructuring, the members of the Foreign Service are not.

I strongly oppose the Trump administration's efforts to fire federal employees and to dismantle the federal government, and I will continue to fight those efforts using every tool at my disposal. However, it is important to mitigate the harm where we can, which this bill would do.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

# RECOGNIZING ALLY CASTAÑEDA

## HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2025*

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary public servant, Ally Castañeda, who is departing my office and Washington, D.C. for a new role.

Ally has been an outstanding member of my team since 2022. She began her work as a Legislative Correspondent before becoming a Legislative Assistant, and then a Senior Legislative Assistant.

In every role, Ally was the ultimate professional and went above and beyond. This job gives us all an incredible opportunity to better people's lives, and Ally embraced this ideal. She worked hard every day to serve the people of California's 52nd Congressional District.

Ally led critical pieces of legislation, including the Border Water Quality Restoration and Protection Act, and helped secure essential funding for our district. In part because of her tireless advocacy, our San Diego Congressional delegation has been able to secure millions of dollars in funding to address cross-border pollution. For instance, last year Ally worked with staff for the San Diego delegation to successfully advocate for funding to support environmental infrastructure in the Tijuana River Valley Watershed to be included in the Water Resources Development Act.

It is impossible to interact with Ally and not be impressed with her encyclopedic policy knowledge, attention to detail, and thoroughness. She was always a trusted voice.

On a personal level, Ally is kind, principled, funny, and generous. She cares about the people she works with and the constituents she served in California's 52nd Congressional District. She will be greatly missed in our office.

I thank Ally for her work, both past and future. We're always rooting for her.

# CELEBRATING THE MARINE CORPS ATTACK DRONE TEAM KINETIC STRIKE DEMONSTRATION

## HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2025*

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the exceptional work of the Marine Corps Attack Drone Team based in Quantico, Virginia, for their groundbreaking achievement in conducting the first-ever

armed First-Person View (FPV) kinetic strike demonstration by the Marines in the continental United States. This milestone event took place during a live-fire exercise on April 25, 2025.

These Devil Dogs used a leading-edge FPV drone integrated with an anti-personnel fragmentation payload, which can support other modular payloads, which exhibited the flexible and scalable solution in contemporary warfare our military urgently requires.

The results were impressive. The drone engaged and neutralized every target in the strike zone, illustrating not only the technical effectiveness of the platform, but its immense strategic value in high-risk, operational environments.

This capability comes at a time when global conflict is redefining how wars are fought. Today, over 70 percent of the casualties in Ukraine are from these types of drones. The recent coordinated drone strikes carried out by Ukraine against Russian military infrastructure are a clear signal: low-cost, highly adaptable drones are reshaping the modern battlefield. America must be prepared. This demonstration by our Marines shows we are not just responding, but leading. As we scale up our investment in unmanned systems, we must prioritize solutions that are fast, flexible, and affordable.

By equipping our Armed forces with reliable, mission-ready tools that can be rapidly deployed and continuously improved, we will maintain both deterrence and dominance. The Marines at Quantico are proving that innovation doesn't require complexity or high cost; rather, it requires bold thinking and dedicated execution.

After 25 years in the Army, I recognize the uniquely critical importance of innovation, readiness, and a steadfast commitment to success. These Marines modeled all of that and more.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending these Marines for their bravery, professionalism, and pioneering accomplishments with respect to operational drone warfare.

Their service is indicative of an evolving, strong, and adaptable U.S. military and I hope they serve as an inspiration to all Americans.

# COMMEMORATING THE 30TH ANNI- VERSARY OF THE SREBRENICA GENOCIDE

## HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2025*

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Srebrenica Genocide.

I thank the Congress of Bosniaks for bringing together dignitaries, faith leaders, human rights advocates, policymakers, scholars, and community leaders from around the country to mourn loved ones lost, and commit ourselves anew to a future of peace, mutual tolerance, and truth.

I want to give a special welcome to the delegation from my home state of Missouri.

I represent the largest Bosnian community outside of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Over the years, I've had the honor to get to know and

share meals with Bosnian families in my district, so many of whom came to Saint Louis in the wake of the tragic wars of the nineties.

This community has shaped what the city looks and feels like; it has added great cultural diversity to the city, immense intellectual capital, thriving small businesses, and a strong religious presence.

Three decades ago, members of our Bosnian community were refugees. In 1995, Orthodox Serbs under the command of General Ratko Mladić initiated a horrific ethnic cleansing campaign against majority-Muslim Bosniaks.

The escalating bloodshed forced 130,000 Bosnian refugees to seek new lives in the United States. Thousands more were murdered in Srebrenica.

We remember those unthinkable events as the Srebrenica Genocide.

On the 30th Commemoration of the genocide, I wish to honor the memory of innocent lives lost and celebrate the courage and indomitable spirit of the survivors—especially my Bosnian neighbors, whose wit, warmth, and generosity inspires me to seek change.

With conflict and turmoil roiling every corner of the world, including the Western Balkans, it is so important to look back at the experiences of the Bosnian people during the wars and genocide of the 1990's.

When we say "never again," we must mean it.

That is why I am leading bipartisan legislation, the Upholding the Dayton Peace Agreement Through Sanctions Act, that would codify and mandate key sanctions authorities to send an unmistakable message to any actor that threatens the peace, security, stability, or territorial integrity of Bosnia.

Sanctions work.

The State Department told me that Republika Srpska officials begged the U.S., "Please, no more sanctions." However, much more leverage needs to be brought to bear against Dodik and his inner circle, their Russian backers, and the corrupt politicians who recklessly use ethnic tension to grow their power and wealth.

This bill has overwhelmingly passed the House multiple times, and I am pleased to announce that I reintroduced it earlier this week, alongside my fellow co-chairs of the Bosnia Caucus, Representatives TURNER, AUCHINCLOSS, and BELL. With Dodik's separatists emboldened to a shocking degree and the institutions of Dayton under overt attack, it could not be clearer: the time to enact this legislation is now.

I thank those who traveled for this Commemoration and their commitment to justice and truth. They have many friends in Congress who will always fight for a peaceful, prosperous Bosnia and Herzegovina.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE BRIDGE CORROSION PREVENTION AND REPAIR ACT OF 2025

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2025

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the "Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act of 2025" with Representative

MIKE BOST (R-IL), Representative CHRIS DELUZIO (D-PA), and Representative BRIAN FITZPATRICK (R-PA). I thank Representative BROWNLEY (D-CA), Representative KRISHNAMOORTHY (D-IL), Representative GOTTHEIMER (D-NJ), and Representative ELFRETH (D-MD) for cosponsoring this legislation.

Our bipartisan legislation requires all federally funded bridge projects to use certified contractors for any corrosion control work and employ industry-recognized standards for corrosion mitigation and prevention. Specifically, our legislation would prompt State, county, and municipal transportation departments to employ qualified, trained corrosion control professionals who have completed federally registered apprenticeship programs.

This legislation also builds on a recommendation from the National Transportation Safety Board and directs the Department of Transportation to study and generate best practices for inspecting and addressing corrosion on bridges made of weathering steel.

In July 2021, the House passed Section 2 of the "Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act" as Section 1116 of former Chairman Peter A. DeFazio's (D-OR) "Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation (INVEST) in America Act," of which I was a cosponsor. While it was ultimately not included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58), I continue working to build upon Chairman DeFazio's work on corrosion prevention policy and promoting apprenticeships.

In the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81), I secured Section 813 (Office of Corrosion Policy and Oversight Employee training requirements) directing the U.S. Department of Defense to make use of federally registered apprenticeship programs for training military personnel, civilian employees, and military construction contractors on anti-corrosion activities. Under my amendment to the FY2022 NDAA, the DOD's Office of Corrosion Policy and Oversight Employee Training Requirements is charged with coordinating this work.

Under the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Congress and the Biden Administration are making the largest federal investment to modernize our nation's infrastructure since the Interstate Highway System was established in 1956. America's corrosion professionals and union painters are ready, willing, and able to do the job.

Our legislation is endorsed by the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) and the Association for Materials Protection and Performance (formerly called the National Association of Corrosion Engineers and the Society for Protective Coatings).

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members of the House to cosponsor the "Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act of 2025."

#### CELEBRATING MR. YOSHIO NAKAMURA'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2025

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Yoshio "Yosh"

Nakamura, and to honor his service to our country as a Staff Sergeant in the Army Air Corps during World War II. Born in California in 1925, Yosh and his family were forced from their El Monte farm into the Gila River internment camp after the outbreak of World War II. Despite the violation of his rights, when Army recruiters arrived at the camp looking for volunteers in 1944, 18-year-old Yosh answered "yes" to serve.

As a member of the highly decorated all-Japanese-American 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Yosh served in the European Theater, participating in the assault on Mount Folgorito that led to further Allied victories in Italy. The 442nd became one of the most highly decorated units in U.S. military history. As Yosh said, "We couldn't hide our ancestry. We had Japanese faces, but we had American hearts."

After his discharge in 1946, Yosh used the GI Bill to earn a bachelor's and master's degree in fine art from USC and then dedicated his career to education. He taught art at Whittier High School and became the first professor hired by Rio Hondo College. Yosh and his late wife, Grace, became beloved members of the Whittier community.

I thank Mr. Nakamura for his service, and wish him a happy 100th birthday.

#### CELEBRATING MS. ALANA KARAM, RECIPIENT OF THE BROWARD LEAGUE OF CITIES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2025

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a student from my district, Ms. Alana Karam, on receiving this year's Broward County League of Cities' Scholarship. This prestigious scholarship is awarded each year to a high school senior who has demonstrated a deep investment in public service and intends on leading a life focused on it.

Alana is a recent graduate of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, where she has distinguished herself in our community through her passion for law, public policy, and civic engagement. Her accomplishments speak volumes, not only about her talents, but also about her character and drive.

For her deep intellect and track record of leadership in and out of the classroom, Alana has received well-deserved local and national recognition. She earned first place in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy Essay Contest and third place in the Federal Bar Association's National High School Essay Contest—both highly competitive national honors—and had her Capstone research project published in the Journal of Student Research, a rare accomplishment at the high school level.

Beyond her academic achievements, Alana has been an active member of DECA and several honor societies, and she has sought real-world experience to deepen her understanding of the justice system. During an internship at the Broward County Public Defender's Office, she encountered firsthand the power of advocacy, and the role reaffirmed her desire to dedicate her life to serving her community.



Looking ahead, Alana will attend Georgetown University this fall, where she plans to major in Public Policy or Political Science. She aspires to attend law school and ultimately serve as a public defender, uplifting marginalized voices and contributing meaningfully to the justice system.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in celebrating Ms. Alana Karam for her remarkable accomplishments and meaningful impact on our community.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION  
RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE  
OF NATIONAL CARIBBEAN AMERICAN  
HERITAGE MONTH

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2025*

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce my resolution recognizing National Caribbean American Heritage Month. Caribbean Americans have enriched our nation through their contributions in the arts, sciences, education, business, sports, military, and government.

Since before our nation's founding, millions have emigrated from the Caribbean to the United States. Today, more than 8 million Americans are either born in the Caribbean or have Caribbean ancestry. Among the many influential Caribbean Americans are: Kamala Harris, the first African-American Vice President; Colin Powell, the first African-American Secretary of State; Eric Holder, the first African-American Attorney General; Karine Jean-Pierre, the first African-American White House Press Secretary; Deval Patrick, first African American Governor of Massachusetts; David Paterson, first legally blind and first African American to serve as Governor of New York State; Wes Moore, the first African American Governor of Maryland; Patrick Gaspard, labor union organizer and social justice advocate; Earl Graves, Sr, Founder of Black Enterprise; Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, basketball great and social activist; Marcus Garvey, Jamaican political activist and Pan-African leader.

Caribbean Americans have made significant contributions to all aspects of society, including fine arts, education, business, literature, journalism, sports, fashion, politics, government, the military, music, science, medicine, engineering, and technology. They also share their vibrant culture through festivals, carnivals, music, dance, film, food, and literature,

enriching the cultural landscape of the United States.

Members of the Caribbean diaspora also have a longstanding legacy of economic contributions, both in the U.S. and in their countries of origin. Through monetary and social remittances, they play a vital role in supporting sustainable economic development in the Caribbean, with these contributions representing significant percentages of their home countries' GDP.

I would also like to recognize Dr. Claire A. Nelson, Founding President of the Institute of Caribbean Studies, as the chief architect behind the movement for the official proclamation of June as National Caribbean American Heritage Month. Dr. Nelson has convened a network of volunteer leaders through the National Caribbean American Heritage Month Commemorative Committee to ensure continued recognition and celebration of this important month.

It is essential that Congress continues to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of Caribbean Americans to our nation's history and their role in shaping our future.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring National Caribbean American Heritage Month.

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

(Legislative Day of Tuesday, June 24, 2025)

#### Routine Proceedings, pages S3545–S3577

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty-three bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2178–2200, and S. Res. 306–311. **Pages S3561–62**

#### Measures Reported:

S. Res. 52, recognizing religious freedom as a fundamental right, expressing support for international religious freedom as a cornerstone of United States foreign policy, and expressing concern over increased threats to and attacks on religious freedom around the world.

S. 1829, to combat the sexual exploitation of children by supporting victims and promoting accountability and transparency by the tech industry, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

**Page S3558**

#### Measures Passed:

**Honoring the Life of Frederick W. Smith:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 308, honoring the life, achievements, and legacy of Frederick W. Smith. **Page S3549**

**Rural Broadband Protection Act:** Senate passed S. 98, to require the Federal Communications Commission to establish a vetting process for prospective applicants for high-cost universal service program funding. **Page S3570**

**Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act:** Senate passed S. 257, to improve the resilience of critical supply chains, after agreeing to the committee amendments, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S3570–77**

Husted (for Cantwell) Amendment No. 2358, to modify the list of relevant committees of Congress.

**Page S3574**

**Condemning the Attacks on Minnesota Lawmakers:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 301, condemning the attacks on Minnesota lawmakers in Brooklyn Park and Champlin, Minnesota and calling for unity and the rejection of political violence in

Minnesota and across the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S3577**

#### Appointments:

**Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy:** The Chair, pursuant to the provisions of 10 U.S.C. 4355(a), as amended by Public Law 118–159, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy: Senator Kaine. **Page S3570**

**Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy:** The Chair, pursuant to the Provisions of 10 U.S.C. 4355(a), as amended by Public Law 118–159, on behalf of the Ranking Member of the Committee on Armed Services, appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy: Senator Slotkin (Committee on Armed Services). **Page S3570**

**War Powers—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that if Senator Kaine makes a motion to discharge S.J. Res. 59, to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, that Senate vote on the motion to discharge at 6 p.m., on Friday, June 27, 2025. **Page S3577**

**Nomination Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 327), Kenneth Kies, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. **Pages S3545–51, S3577**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Sara Bailey, of Texas, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy.

Routine lists in the Army, Coast Guard, Space Force. **Page S3577**

**Nomination Withdrawn:** Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Sara Carter, of Texas, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy, which was sent to the Senate on May 6, 2025. **Page S3577**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** Pages S3558–61  
**Additional Cosponsors:** Pages S3562–64  
**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**  
 Pages S3564–67  
**Amendments Submitted:** Pages S3567–68  
**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** Page S3568  
**Privileges of the Floor:** Page S3568  
**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today.  
 (Total—327) Page S3551

**Recess:** Senate convened at 3:30 p.m. and recessed at 7:15 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Friday, June 27, 2025. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3577.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### APPROPRIATIONS: AIR FORCE AND SPACE FORCE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for the Air Force and Space Force, after receiving testimony from Troy Meink, Secretary, and General David W. Allvin, Chief of Staff, both of the Air Force, and General B. Chance Saltzman, Chief of Space Operations, all of the Department of Defense.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Hung Cao, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Navy, who was introduced by Senator Scott (FL), Michael Dodd, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Secretary, Jules Hurst III, of Virginia, who was introduced by Speaker of the House Johnson, Brent Ingraham, of Virginia, and William Gillis, of Virginia, each to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, all of the Department of Defense.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported 7,861 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Space Force.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Penny Schwinn, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Secretary, and Kimberly Richey, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, both of the Department of Education, and Daniel Aronowitz, of Virginia, and David Keeling, of Kentucky, both to be an Assistant Secretary, Jonathan Berry, of Maryland, to be Solicitor, Andrew Rogers, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Andrea Lucas, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and Jeremiah Workman, of Ohio, to be Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training, all of the Department of Labor.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Whitney D. Hermandorfer, of Tennessee, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Zachary M. Bluestone, Maria A. Lanahan, and Cristian M. Stevens, each to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, Joshua M. Divine, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri, Bart McKay Davis, to be United States Attorney for the District of Idaho for the term of four years, and David Metcalf, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years.

### 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:** 62 public bills, H.R. 4151–4212; and 6 resolutions, H. Res. 547–552 were introduced. Pages H3008–11  
**Additional Cosponsors:** Pages H3013–14

**Report Filed:** A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 4213, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–173). Page H3008

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Norman to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2973**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 11:24 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H2982**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 1:43 p.m. and reconvened at 3 p.m. **Page H2993**

**Jeremy and Angel Seay and Sergeant Brandon Mendoza Protect Our Communities from DUIs Act of 2025:** The House passed H.R. 875, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been convicted of or who have committed an offense for driving while intoxicated or impaired are inadmissible and deportable, by a yealand-nay vote of 246 yeas to 160 nays, Roll No. 183.

**Pages H2984–89, H2993–94**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. **Pages H2984–85**

H. Res. 530, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3944), (H.R. 275), (H.R. 875) and the resolution (H. Res. 516) was agreed to Tuesday, June 24th.

**Special Interest Alien Reporting Act:** The House passed H.R. 275, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to publish on a monthly basis the number of special interest aliens encountered attempting to unlawfully enter the United States, by a yealand-nay vote of 231 yeas to 182 nays, Roll No. 184.

**Pages H2989–93, H2994–95**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Homeland Security now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. **Page H2989**

Agreed by unanimous consent that the Clerk be directed to make the change in the engrossment of H.R. 275 placed at the desk. **Page H2995**

H. Res. 530, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3944), (H.R. 275), (H.R. 875) and the resolution (H. Res. 516) was agreed to Tuesday, June 24th.

**Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medals awarded under the Harlem Hellfighters Congressional Gold Medal Act:** Agreed to discharge from committee and agreed to H. Con. Res. 39, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medals awarded under the Harlem Hellfighters Congressional Gold Medal Act. **Page H2995**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yealand-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2993–94 and H2994–95.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

### **A REVIEW OF THE U.S. GRAIN STANDARDS ACT**

*Committee on Agriculture:* Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities, Risk Management, and Credit held a hearing entitled “A Review of the U.S. Grain Standards Act”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Full Committee held a markup on the Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill FY 2026, and the updated report on the Interim Suballocation of the Budget Allocations for FY 2026. The Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill FY 2026 was ordered reported, as amended. The updated report on the Interim Suballocation of the Budget Allocations for FY 2026 was approved.

### **LOOKING UNDER THE HOOD: THE STATE OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION AND MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a hearing entitled “Looking Under the Hood: The State of NHTSA and Motor Vehicle Safety”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **A DECADE LATER: A REVIEW OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RULES, AND BENEFICIAL USE OPPORTUNITIES FOR COAL ASH**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled “A Decade Later: A Review of Congressional Action, Environmental Protection Agency Rules, and Beneficial Use Opportunities for Coal Ash”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **FROM WATCHDOG TO ATTACK DOG: EXAMINING THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU’S CHOPRA-ERA ASSAULT ON DISFAVORED INDUSTRIES**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “From Watchdog to Attack Dog: Examining the CFPB’s Chopra-era Assault on Disfavored Industries”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**ASSESSING THE TERROR THREAT  
LANDSCAPE IN SOUTH AND CENTRAL  
ASIA AND EXAMINING OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR COOPERATION**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on South and Central Asia held a hearing entitled “Assessing the Terror Threat Landscape in South and Central Asia and Examining Opportunities for Cooperation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**FIX OUR FORESTS: ADVANCING  
INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE  
FOREST MANAGEMENT AND PREVENT  
WILDFIRES**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing entitled “Fix Our Forests: Advancing Innovative Technologies to Improve Forest Management and Prevent Wildfires”. Testimony was heard from Karen L. Howard, Director, Science, Technology Assessment, and Analytics, Government Accountability Office; Daniel R. Munsey, Fire Chief/Fire Warden, San Bernardino County Fire Protection District, California; and public witnesses.

**JUSTICE FOR WHOM? EXAMINING THE  
JUSTICE40 INITIATIVE’S OVERSIGHT AND  
IMPLEMENTATION**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a

hearing entitled “Justice for Whom? Examining the Justice40 Initiative’s Oversight and Implementation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## *Joint Meetings*

**UKRAINE**

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:* Commission concluded a hearing to examine the cost of a bad deal in Ukraine, after receiving testimony from Michael Cecire, RAND Corporation; Nerses Kopalyan, University of Nevada; and Hanna Liubakova, Atlantic Council.

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**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,  
JUNE 27, 2025**

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

**Senate**

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

**House**

No hearings are scheduled.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

3 p.m., Friday, June 27

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Senate will be in a period of morning business. If Senator Kaine makes a motion to discharge S.J. Res. 59, to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress, Senate will vote thereon at 6 p.m.

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

9 a.m., Friday, June 27

## House Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Consideration of H. Res. 516—Condemning the violent June 2025 riots in Los Angeles, California.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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