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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 26, 2015.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RICK W. ALLEN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2015, 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 each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

529 COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, paying for college is hard work, and it is getting more difficult as tuition and fees continue to increase at rapid rates.

Fortunately, American families have an investment tool known as a 529 plan to help them save for their child's college education. Since 2001, students have been able to withdraw earnings from these plans tax free if the funds are used to pay for qualified higher education expenses.

It was disheartening to learn last week that President Obama now wants to tax those withdrawals and treat the earnings as student income, which would hurt a child's chances of receiving financial aid. With student loan debt surpassing credit card debt, it is incredibly irresponsible of the President to take away this valuable tool that millions of American families use to save for college.

House Republicans will fight this attempt to raise taxes on hardworking American families. We want to encourage, not discourage, families from investing in their child's future.

PRESIDENT EARNS THREE PINOCCHIOS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, ''Our diplomacy is at work with respect to Iran where, for the first time in a decade, we have halted the progress of its nuclear program and reduced its stockpile of nuclear material.''

This absurd claim by the President last week earned him three Pinocchios from The Washington Post. Many disagree, including a former International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, official, who says:

It appears that the production of centrifuge components continues. No new nuclear components have been installed, but it does not mean that the production of those came to a halt.

For over a decade, the United States, along with the rest of the U.N. Security Council, has tried, but failed, to reach a deal with Tehran on its nuclear weapon program. Iran has defiantly marched toward developing nuclear weapons, while refusing to negotiate with the United States in good faith. Instead, its leaders have continued to call for the destruction of Israel and the destruction of the United States. Now, isn't that lovely.

Just this November, in the midst of nuclear negotiations, the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps released this statement:

The United States is still the great Satan and number one enemy of the Islamic Revolution and the Islamic Republic and the Iranian nation.

Iran's actions over the years are not surprising. After all, it is the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism. Using both its own military operatives and its proxy, Hezbollah, Iran has planned attacks, terror, and murder throughout the globe. Hezbollah is the puppet, but Iran pulls the strings.

Finally, after years of Iran stalling and defying calls to halt its nuclear weapon development, the West played hardball with sanctions, primarily targeting Iran's bank and energy industries. The sanctions worked. Iran's GDP dropped for the first time in 20 years, and Iran finally came to the negotiating table.

Then came the white flag and the great retreat of 2013. The administration relaxed sanctions just when Iran was beginning to feel the consequences of its actions. Relaxing sanctions has helped Iran, helped its economy, and resulted in Iran reverting to its defiant ways.

Mr. Speaker, sanctions worked. Now is not the time to retreat, appease and play the Chamberlain. If anything, we should increase sanctions. Congress is trying to do that, but the President has now publicly told Congress—and Iran—that he will veto any legislation that increases sanctions. This seems to be at odds with United States national security. Negotiators in Europe and the U.S. want to relax sanctions. They are acting like timid sheep. They cannot lay down with the jackal of the desert, Iran, for they shall be his mutton meal. Mr. Speaker, loosening up on sanctions is foolish, dangerous, and not dealing in reality.

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Further, the Iranian negotiations do not even discuss intercontinental ballistic missiles. Why is Iran building intercontinental ballistic missiles? Prime Minister Netanyahu said it best:

Iran isn't building ICBMs for Israel. They have missiles that can hit us. They are building ICBMs to hit America.

Iran wants ICBMs to carry a nuclear weapon across the pond to us, the U.S. A top adviser to Iranian President Hassan Rouhani recently said:

Obama is the weakest of all U.S. Presidents.

Now is the time for the leader of the free world to prove Iran wrong. The world, including our enemies, are watching. The U.S. must make it clear and unequivocal: there will be no reductions in sanctions without verified steps to show that Tehran is abandoning, not just freezing, its nuclear weapon program. If Iran obtains nukes, the consequences are all bad. Israel will be less secure. The United States will be less secure. Other nations, like Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Egypt, will all seek and obtain nukes to balance power in the Middle East.

The Iranian Government cannot be dealt with like normal countries. This ''hug diplomacy'' with them is not in the national security interest of the U.S. Their Supreme Leader has never wavered on his religious and political agenda to destroy the United States. Iran must be forced to cease its nuclear weapon program by sanctions. We must impose such sanctions that cripple Iran's economy to force the Iranians to stop their nuclear weapon development. And hopefully at some point the people of Iran will soon have had enough warmongering by its leaders and replace their government.

And, Mr. Speaker, that is just the way it is.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day.

We ask Your blessing upon this people's House, as we are in the beginning days of this new Congress. Encompass with Your power all the walls of this building, truly a symbol to the world of inalienable rights and the freedom of people.

Guide and protect Your elected servants in government and all who work in this place. May all who visit here be treated with respect and kindness.

May the comings and goings of Your people be under the seal of Your loving care and all work accomplished here this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. PITTS 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.

REMEMBERING CHIEF JAMES ALLEN

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of a terrific leader and public servant in northwest Arkansas, Rogers Police Chief James Allen, who passed away last Thursday after a long battle with cancer.

Chief Allen began his law enforcement career in 1977 as a patrolman and EMT for the Jacksonville, Arkansas, Police Department, and then served with the Arkansas Alcoholic Beverage Control Enforcement Division and the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office before moving to Bentonville in 1989, where he enjoyed 22 years of faithful and dedicated service as that city's chief.

In 2011, Chief Allen left Bentonville to serve my hometown of Rogers, where his leadership and professionalism were admired by all. He leaves behind a law enforcement community shaped impeccably by a firm but fair leadership standard.

Our two communities, Mr. Speaker, mourn with his family and friends, and it is with a heavy heart that we say good-bye to this respected law enforcement professional.

Rest in peace, Chief Allen. Our State and Nation are forever grateful for your service.

STUDENT LOAN DEBT CRISIS

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

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to be here and speak on the House floor for the first time. I want to thank my constituents, the 13th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia and Montgomery County, for giving me this unique opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, I am here to speak about an issue that affects millions of Americans in the middle class, myself included—the student loan debt crisis. While I applaud President Obama's announcement of the America's College Promise proposal, which would provide 2 years of community college to responsible students, we do need to make expansion of higher education more enduring through the weight of legislative action.

According to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, student loan debt has become the largest form of consumer debt in the United States other than mortgages. The financial load on America's students has more than tripled over the past decade to well over $1 trillion. The formidable costs that aspiring students face as they consider college or trade school poses an enormous obstacle to their personal and professional development.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to many other occasions to speak about this issue, as we clearly have to deal with it as a nation and come together.

INDIA HUMAN RIGHTS

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the state of religious freedom and pluralism in India. In a very troubling pattern, India's historic pluralism is being replaced with intolerance, division, and majoritarianism.

Reports from NGOs, one of which I will submit for the RECORD today, have documented a rise in attacks by Hindu nationalists against minority Christian populations in the first 100 days of the new government. Continuing reports show a pattern of targeting religious minorities, including India's notably moderate Muslim population. The burning of churches, brutal beatings, intimidation, and arrests of pastors have created a tenuous climate in Indian society.

As the government embarks on economic reforms, it should not ignore the plight of minorities. Newly elected Prime Minister Modi must speak out and act on this violence. Furthermore, the Obama administration must forcibly speak out on behalf of oppressed populations. Human rights should be elevated in the strategic dialogue between our two countries. Our government must display moral clarity in our approach to gross violations of international religious freedom—no matter where they occur.

FULFILLING PROMISE TO PHILIPPINE ARMY VETERANS

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

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in righting a wrong that has existed since the end of World War II. Around 250,000 Filipino soldiers fought alongside U.S. forces in World War II. In 1946, President Truman stated that it is a ''moral obligation of the United States to look after the welfare of the Philippine Army veterans.''

Forty-four years later, President Bush signed the Immigration Act of 1990, which offered citizenship to around 26,000 Filipino World War II veterans, but it did not include their immediate families. Today, the number of surviving veterans is dwindling. Fewer than 4,000 are still alive. Many of these veterans live in Hawaii.

It is our duty to see this obligation through and to take care of those who have fought for our country. We must lift limitations on immigrant visas and restrictions for their children. I ask you to join me in making good on our Nation's commitment to these servicemembers.

SECURING OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, I traveled to McAllen, Texas, down to our border, to once again tour the intake facilities that are being used to process the tens of thousands of individuals who are crossing into the United States each year.

This problem has not gone away. Last summer, I spent time at home listening to my constituents at town hall meetings. The number one concern for Texans was the influx of illegal immigrants into our State. For Texans, this has meant a strain on our classrooms, a strain on our hospitals, a major strain on local law enforcement and our economy in general.

Last year, the President refused to come to the Texas border. The President so far has refused to govern. The President has refused to follow the rule of law and continues to turn our once-porous border into a wide-open space.

As such, we must do all we can to secure the southern border and send a loud and clear message to the child traffickers and to the drug smugglers who are taking children on a treacherous journey from Central America to the United States and setting them up for failure once they are here. We must end this human rights crisis. The correct way is to secure our southern border.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROPOSAL

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, last week in his State of the Union Address, President Obama proposed to fund publicly the first 2 years of community college for all Americans.

As a former community college president, I am a huge fan of community colleges and the great educational opportunities they provide students from all walks of life. However, I am reminded of the old Peanuts cartoon where Linus says to Lucy: ''Every time there's a good suggestion, someone brings up the budget.''

Making higher education affordable and attainable for America's students must be a priority, but President Obama's $60 billion proposal is the wrong approach for the Federal Government to take. Rather than yet another top-down Federal Government boondoggle, we need to focus on new ways to promote innovation, access, and completion, and we need to eliminate Federal impediments that prevent institutions from delivering higher education in more creative, cost-effective ways.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 26, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on January 26, 2015 at 12:47 p.m.:

That the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 38, relative to the death of Wendell H. Ford.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3003, and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:

Mr. SMITH, New Jersey, Chairman.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913, and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China:

Mr. SMITH, New Jersey, Chairman.

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 2 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1533

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York) at 3 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.

DISPENSING WITH MORNING-HOUR DEBATE ON TOMORROW

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the order of the House of January 6, 2015, regarding morning-hour debate not apply tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PRIORITIZATION ACT

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 514) to prioritize the fight against human trafficking within the Department of State according to congressional intent in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 without increasing the size of the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 514

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 ''Human Trafficking Prioritization Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The International Labor Organization estimates that nearly 21,000,000 people are

subjected to modern slavery around the world at any given time and that the majority of the enslaved are women and girls.

(2) Congress authorized the creation of a Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (division A of Public Law 106–386) in order to directly assist the Secretary of State in his or her effort to coordinate a United States Government interagency response to domestic and international trafficking in persons.

(3) The Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons monitors trafficking worldwide and produces the online and printed versions of the annual Trafficking in Persons Report, which is Congress' primary resource for human trafficking reporting, analysis, and recommendations on the United States and 186 countries around the world.

(4) The annual Trafficking in Persons Report contains tier rankings of each country on which it reports, and these tier rankings have become an essential diplomatic tool for promoting protection for victims, prevention of trafficking, and prosecution of perpetrators.

(5) Some countries have openly stated, and many others have confided, that dramatic improvements in the country's human trafficking record were directly related to avoidance of a low tier ranking in the annual Trafficking in Persons Report.

(6) Ambassador Mark Lagon, former Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (2007–2009), testified before the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives on April 18, 2013, that ''[T]he State Department does a tremendous job in producing a report which tells it like it is, offering objective rankings. Yet at times it pulls punches, typically due to the urging of regional specialists rather than the TIP Office's dedicated experts on trafficking.''.

(7) Ambassador John Miller, former Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (2002–2006), recently stated that, ''Upgrading the status of the Office to a Bureau will not create additional bureaucracy—it will simply give JTIP and the Ambassador-at-large who heads it equal standing with regional and functional bureaus at the State Department. That standing is absolutely essential for the issue to remain a priority, especially when multiple U.S. interests are engaged.''.

(8) The tier ranking process authorized by Congress in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 has been in some instances compromised by the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking subordinate stature within the Department of State.

(9) It is essential for Congress and the Secretary of State to be accurately informed regarding United States and foreign country successes and failures in the fight against human trafficking.

(10) The diplomatic power and credibility of the Trafficking in Persons Report is based on rigorous scholarship and scrupulous application of the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking and is undermined by political, rather than factual, tier rankings.

(11) Strong and effective anti-slavery policy requires that officials from the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking have equal hierarchical standing with State Department regional bureaus and direct access to the Secretary of State.

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking of the Department of State will be more effective in carrying out duties mandated by Congress in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 if the Office status is changed to that of a Bureau within the Department hierarchy;

(2) the change in status from Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking to a Bureau can be accomplished without increasing the number of personnel or the budget of the current Office;

(3) a Bureau to Monitor and Combat Trafficking would be more effective in carrying out duties mandated by Congress in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 if the Bureau were headed by an Assistant Secretary with direct access to the Secretary of State, rather than an Ambassador-at-Large; and

(4) the Secretary of State should review the current use of the 24 Assistant Secretary positions authorized by section 1(c)(1) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a(c)(1)) and make appropriate revisions, consolidations, and eliminations, to ensure that those positions reflect the highest Departmental needs and foreign policy priorities of the United States, including efforts to combat trafficking in persons.

SEC. 4. BUREAU TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 105(e) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103(e)) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking ''OFFICE TO MONITOR AND COMBAT TRAFFICKING'' and inserting ''BUREAU TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS'';

(2) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking'' and inserting ''Bureau to Combat Trafficking in Persons'';

(B) in the second sentence, by striking ''Office'' and inserting ''Bureau''; and

(C) in the sixth sentence, by striking ''Office'' and inserting ''Bureau''; and

(3) in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2), by striking ''Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking'' and inserting ''Bureau to Combat Trafficking in Persons''.

(b) REFERENCE.—Any reference in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 or in any other Act to the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking shall be deemed to be a reference to the Bureau to Combat Trafficking in Persons.

SEC. 5. REPORT REGARDING DESIGNATION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report detailing—

(1) for each current Assistant Secretary of State position—

(A) the title of that Assistant Secretary of State;

(B) how long that particular Assistant Secretary designation has been in existence; and

(C) whether that particular Assistant Secretary designation was legislatively mandated or authorized and, if so, the relevant statutory citation for such mandate or authorization; and

(2) whether the Secretary intends to designate one of the Assistant Secretary of State positions authorized by section 1(c)(1) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a(c)(1)) as the Assistant Secretary of State to Combat Trafficking in Persons, and the reasons for that decision.

SEC. 6. COUNTRIES ON SPECIAL WATCH LIST FOR 4 CONSECUTIVE YEARS THAT ARE DOWNGRADED AND REINSTATED ON SPECIAL WATCH LIST.

Section 110(b)(2) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(F) COUNTRIES ON SPECIAL WATCH LIST FOR 4 CONSECUTIVE YEARS THAT ARE DOWNGRADED AND REINSTATED ON SPECIAL WATCH LIST.—Notwithstanding subparagraphs (D) and (E), a country that—

''(i) was included on the special watch list described in subparagraph (A) for 4 consecutive years after the date of the enactment of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008; and

''(ii) was subsequently included on the list of countries described in paragraph (1)(C),

may not thereafter be included on the special watch list described in subparagraph (A) for more than 1 consecutive year.''.

SEC. 7. COST LIMITATION.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' to carry out the provisions of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous materials into the RECORD that they may wish to include.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, as our House of Representatives continues its fight against human trafficking, I rise in support of this legislation, which is called the Human Trafficking Prioritization Act. This legislation will elevate consideration of trafficking issues within the Department of State to ensure that they receive the same attention as other diplomatic concerns. This is a struggle we have had for some time, trying to elevate these issues so that they are on par and given the seriousness that we have tried to drive here in Congress.

Congress created the Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. We created that institution a decade and a half ago. We did it in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. The purpose of this Office was to better communicate and coordinate U.S. Government efforts to combat both domestic and international trafficking.

In line with this mandate, the Office prepares the annual Trafficking in Persons Report, which details anti-trafficking efforts of other countries and classifies countries as falling into one of three tiers based on their efforts to combat human trafficking.

These TIP Reports and their tier rankings have proven, as you know, extremely useful in helping our diplomats fight human trafficking. It allows us to transform this issue into a global policy priority. We know that foreign governments have made real improvements in their work to combat trafficking as a result of these TIP Reports; and the reason this is so, of course, is because, as you talk to foreign governments, they are very concerned about the threat of a low tier ranking. That gets international attention today. That is sort of the leverage that we have on these governments to pass laws that are serious about going after trafficking.

But we also understand that this annual exercise is periodically constrained by the Department's regional diplomats who fear we may agitate foreign governments when hard truths surface. A former Ambassador at Large on trafficking issues testified before Congress that the Department sometimes ''pulls punches'' and defers to regional specialists on the TIP Report's tier rankings rather than the TIP Office's trafficking experts.

This is what we want to counter because what we want is the maximum pressure for foreign governments to follow through on their international commitments to try to abolish human trafficking. By elevating the Trafficking Office to a bureau, this measure will give these experts the bureaucratic standing they need to ensure their concerns are fully heard, effectively leveling the playing field for this annual process.

I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), the chairman of our Human Rights Subcommittee, for his years of leadership in this fight against human trafficking and for reintroducing this bill, which passed this House last July.

I also thank the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) specifically for his efforts, as we have traveled in Asia, to pressure these governments to end human trafficking.

I urge the Members to support this important measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in strong support of H.R. 514, the Human Trafficking Prioritization Act.

First, let me thank the gentleman from California, Chairman ROYCE, and the gentleman from New York, Ranking Member ENGEL, for their leadership on this issue. I particularly want to thank my outstanding colleague from New Jersey, Congressman CHRIS SMITH, for introducing this important piece of legislation and for the work he has done for so many years on this issue. This bill will elevate the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking to the status of a bureau within the State Department.

Put simply, human trafficking is slavery. Victims of human trafficking are deprived of their individual freedoms and suffer unimaginably harsh, coercive, and heartbreaking conditions.

Reports indicate that there is no place in the world where children, women, and men are safe from human trafficking. That means that every government in the world has a responsibility to combat this problem.

The United States has made significant progress toward responding to these crimes within our borders and abroad since Congress passed the Trafficking Victims Protection Act in 2000. Mr. Speaker, today we can take the next step forward by elevating the State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons to a bureau.

This Office is already doing incredible work. The annual Trafficking in Persons Report has become the global gold standard in assessing how well governments around the world are meeting this challenge and how serious they take their responsibility to eradicate this horrific practice. Their work is forging partnerships and driving innovation on how best to approach this problem, and the Office plays a key role in coordinating our whole-of-government approach to this problem. Elevating the Trafficking Office to a bureau sends a strong message to the world that the United States remains committed to combating modern-day slavery.

Passing this legislation alone will not end this despicable practice, and it is not a problem that we will solve quickly or easily. However, every step we take enhances our ability to prevent these crimes, protect victims, and punish those responsible.

Mr. Speaker, we passed the same bill last Congress. I urge my colleagues to support and pass this important legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, the author of this bill, but also, frankly, the architect of a long-running strategy in this institution, in this Congress, to abolish this form of human slavery. When I think of William Wilberforce, the one Member I know who exemplifies that spirit today is the gentleman from New Jersey, CHRIS SMITH, who has worked on this mightily since the late nineties, and we are pleased that his bill is up before us today.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California, Chairman ROYCE, for his very kind words and for working to expedite the consideration of these important bills. This is an historic week in the House as we seek to pass 12 bills to fight human trafficking.

As the prime author of the landmark Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, as well as reauthorizations in '03 and '05, I believe the bills under consideration by the House today will further prevent the horrific crimes of human trafficking, protect and assist the victims, and aid the prosecution of those who exploit and abuse.

I would also like to offer my profound appreciation to Majority Leader KEVIN MCCARTHY for ensuring that all of the hard work done in a bipartisan way in the House in the 113th session is not lost nor will it be delayed but, rather, immediately sent back to the Senate for action.

Leader MCCARTHY has explored numerous ways, in meeting after meeting with Members, again, on both sides of the aisle, to find ways to prevent, to prosecute traffickers, and to protect victims. His deep personal commitment to ending modern-day slavery has and will continue to make a major difference.

Mr. Speaker, I offer this bill on behalf of myself and the gentlewoman from California, Ranking Member KAREN BASS, who is the chief cosponsor.

I am proud to say the United States continues to lead the world in our trafficking responses at home and abroad, charting the course of best practices for other countries to follow. One of the most successful ways the U.S. transmits our best practices and ensures accountability for the minimum standards to eliminate human trafficking is the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons in the U.S. Department of State.

Over the last 15 years, this Office has been led by talented and dedicated Ambassadors—including the most recent one, Luis CdeBaca, with whom we work very closely—who have produced the annual Trafficking in Persons Reports, laying bare the record of almost every country for the world to see and summarizing the country's progress in what we call the annual tier rankings.

□ 1545

For the record, the TVPA established Tier 1 countries. They are the ones that fully meet the minimum standards prescribed in the law. Tier 2 countries do not meet the minimum standards but are making a significant effort to do so. Tier 2 Watch List countries are in a grace period and in real danger of becoming Tier 3 without real action, not just promises of action.

Tier 3 countries do not meet the standards and are not making significant effort to do so. Along with the embarrassment of being listed on Tier 3, Tier 3 countries are susceptible to sanctions by the U.S. Government.

Since the TIP Report's inception, Mr. Speaker, more than 100 countries have enacted anti-trafficking laws, and many countries have taken other steps required to significantly raise their tier rankings—citing the TIP Report as a key factor in their new anti-trafficking efforts. It is a very robust effort in our Embassies, and every country of the world is a part of it.

We have found a system that works; but, tragically, it is sometimes misguided, muffled, and marginalized by unrelated bilateral concerns and by the internal structure of the U.S. Department of State.

As my dear friend, the chairman of the committee, said a moment ago, it was Ambassador Mark Lagon who talked about how they produce a great report, but then, typically, due to the urging of regional specialists rather than the TIP Office's dedicated experts, the ranking and the process goes awry.

The Human Trafficking Prioritization Act, or H.R. 514, will remedy this problem by keeping the fight against human trafficking from being lost in the politics of other U.S. interests.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. ROYCE. I yield the gentleman an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 514 will raise the status of the J/TIP Office to that of a bureau, ensuring that the leadership of J/TIP is present and has an equal voice at meetings with the other bureaus and the Secretary of State.

Former colleague, John Miller, an Ambassador at Large from 2002 to 2006 said:

> Upgrading the status of the Office to a bureau will not create additional bureaucracy—it will simply give J/TIP and the Ambassador at Large who heads it equal standing with regional and functional bureaus at the State Department. That standing is absolutely essential for the issue to remain a priority, especially when multiple U.S. interests are engaged.

We are not authorizing the J/TIP Office to be larger, but for the excellent work of the Office to be consistently heard at a higher level.

In addition, the bill stops countries and other State Department bureaus from gaming the tier ranking system by limiting the time problem countries can use promises of action to avoid a tier downgrade.

Currently, a country can sit on the Tier 2 Watch List for up to 4 years with Presidential waivers, effectively stringing the U.S. along with promises to take action, but never actually taking action. After 4 years, by law, the country must be automatically downgraded to Tier 3.

The law worked very well in its first implementation in the 2013 reporting cycle, but we discovered a problem in 2013, when China was prematurely upgraded from Tier 3 to the Tier 2 Watch List. As the law is currently written, Mr. Speaker, China can, again, game the system with promises and no action for 4 years.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has again expired.

Mr. ROYCE. I yield the gentleman as much time as he might consume.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the Human Trafficking Prioritization Act will hold countries like China accountable by limiting to 1 year the amount of time a country can stay on the Tier 2 Watch List after the country was previously auto-downgraded to Tier 3.

The Human Trafficking Prioritization Act builds on the successes of J/TIP and the tier ranking system for the sake of approximately 21 million people still living in modern-day slavery and, again, does so without increasing the cost of government.

The Human Trafficking Prioritization Act will give J/TIP the integration, it will give it the voice it deserves within the State Department, and it will ensure accurate accountability for countries failing to meet minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and, again, I thank my friend.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, seeing that I have no further requests for time, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, I have already mentioned the impact that these TIP Reports have. I want to point out that it is not every day that we can claim this kind of impact for a U.S. Government report.

Mr. Speaker, those of us who have traveled and tried to enforce these laws know how effective this is. This legislation here would make the TIP Report an even more influential diplomatic tool.

I, again, want to thank Subcommittee Chairman SMITH for his authoring the legislation and moving it through committee.

I urge Members to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 514.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

INTERNATIONAL MEGAN'S LAW TO PREVENT DEMAND FOR CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 515) to protect children from exploitation, especially sex trafficking in tourism, by providing advance notice of intended travel by registered child-sex offenders outside the United States to the government of the country of destination, requesting foreign governments to notify the United States when a known child-sex offender is seeking to enter the United States, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 515

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings.
Sec. 3. Definitions.
Sec. 4. Angel Watch Center.
Sec. 5. Sense of Congress provisions.
Sec. 6. Enhancing the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.
Sec. 7. Assistance to foreign countries to meet minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.
Sec. 8. Rules of construction.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Megan Nicole Kanka, who was 7 years old, was abducted, sexually assaulted, and murdered in 1994, in the State of New Jersey by a violent predator living across the street from her home. Unbeknownst to Megan Kanka and her family, he had been convicted previously of a sex offense against a child.

(2) In 1996, Congress adopted Megan's Law (Public Law 104–145) as a means to encourage States to protect children by identifying the whereabouts of sex offenders and providing the means to monitor their activities.

(3) In 2006, Congress passed the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–248) to protect children and the public at large by establishing a comprehensive national system for the registration and notification to the public and law enforcement officers of convicted sex offenders.

(4) Law enforcement reports indicate that known child-sex offenders are traveling internationally, and that the criminal background of such individuals may not be known to local law enforcement prior to their arrival.

(5) The commercial sexual exploitation of minors in child sex trafficking and pornography is a global phenomenon. The International Labour Organization has estimated that 1.8 million children worldwide are victims of child sex trafficking and pornography each year.

(6) Child sex tourism, where an individual travels to a foreign country and engages in sexual activity with a child in that country, is a form of child exploitation and, where commercial, child sex trafficking.

(7) According to research conducted by The Protection Project of The Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, sex tourists from the United States who target children form a significant percentage of child sex tourists in some of the most significant destination countries for child sex tourism.

(8) In order to protect children, it is essential that United States law enforcement be able to identify child-sex offenders in the United States who are traveling abroad and child-sex offenders from other countries entering the United States. Such identification requires cooperative efforts between the United States and foreign governments. In exchange for providing notice of child-sex offenders traveling to the United States, foreign authorities will expect United States authorities to provide reciprocal notice of child-sex offenders traveling to their countries.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CENTER.—The term ''Center'' means the Angel Watch Center established pursuant to section 4(a).

(2) CHILD-SEX OFFENDER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''child-sex offender'' means an individual who is a sex offender described in paragraph (3) or (4) of section 111 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16911) by reason of being convicted of a child-sex offense.

(B) DEFINITION OF CONVICTED.—In this paragraph, the term ''convicted'' has the meaning given the term in paragraph (8) of section 111 of such Act.

(3) CHILD-SEX OFFENSE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''child-sex offense'' means a specified offense against a minor, as defined in paragraph (7) of section 111 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16911), including—

(i) an offense (unless committed by a parent or guardian) involving kidnapping;

(ii) an offense (unless committed by a parent or guardian) involving false imprisonment;

(iii) solicitation to engage in sexual conduct;

(iv) use in a sexual performance;

(v) solicitation to practice prostitution;

(vi) video voyeurism as described in section 1801 of title 18, United States Code;

(vii) possession, production, or distribution of child pornography;

(viii) criminal sexual conduct involving a minor, or the use of the Internet to facilitate or attempt such conduct; and

(ix) any conduct that by its nature is a sex offense against a minor.

(B) OTHER OFFENSES.—The term ''child-sex offense'' includes a sex offense described in paragraph (5)(A) of section 111 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 that is a specified offense against a minor, as defined in paragraph (7) of such section.

(C) FOREIGN CONVICTIONS; OFFENSES INVOLVING CONSENSUAL SEXUAL CONDUCT.—The limitations contained in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 111(5) of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 shall apply with respect to a child-sex offense for purposes of this Act to the same extent and in the same manner as such limitations apply with respect to a sex offense for purposes of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006.

(4) JURISDICTION.—The term ''jurisdiction'' means any of the following:

(A) A State.

(B) The District of Columbia.

(C) The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(D) Guam.

(E) American Samoa.

(F) The Northern Mariana Islands.

(G) The United States Virgin Islands.

(H) To the extent provided in, and subject to the requirements of, section 127 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16927), a federally recognized Indian tribe.

(5) MINOR.—The term ''minor'' means an individual who has not attained the age of 18 years.

SEC. 4. ANGEL WATCH CENTER.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish within the Child Exploitation Investigations Unit of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) of the Department of Homeland Security a Center, to be known as the ''Angel Watch Center'', to carry out the activities specified in subsection (d).

(b) LEADERSHIP.—The Center shall be headed by the Director of ICE, in collaboration with the Commissioner of United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and in consultation with the Attorney General.

(c) MEMBERS.—The Center shall consist of the following:

(1) The Director of ICE.

(2) The Commissioner of CBP.

(3) Individuals who are designated as analysts in ICE or CBP.

(4) Individuals who are designated as program managers in ICE or CBP.

(d) ACTIVITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall carry out the following activities:

(A) Receive information on travel by child-sex offenders.

(B) Establish a system to maintain and archive all relevant information, including the response of destination countries to notifications under subsection (e) where available, and decisions not to transmit notification abroad.

(C) Establish an annual review process to ensure that the Center is consistent in procedures to provide notification to destination countries or not to provide notification to destination countries, as appropriate.

(2) INFORMATION REQUIRED.—The United States Marshals Service's National Sex Offender Targeting Office shall make available to the Center information on travel by child-sex offenders in a timely manner for purposes of carrying out the activities described in paragraph (1) and subsection (e).

(e) NOTIFICATION.—

(1) TO COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Center may transmit notice of impending or current international travel of a child-sex offender to the country or countries of destination of the child-sex offender, including to the visa-issuing agent or agents in the United States of the country or countries.

(B) FORM.—The notice under this paragraph may be transmitted through such means as determined appropriate by the Center, including through an ICE attaché.

(A) GENERAL NOTIFICATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Center transmits notice under paragraph (1) of impending international travel of a child-sex offender to the country or countries of destination of the child-sex offender, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in conjunction with any appropriate agency, shall make reasonable efforts to provide constructive notice through electronic or telephonic communication to the child-sex offender prior to the child-sex offender's arrival in the country or countries.

(ii) EXCEPTION.—The requirement to provide constructive notice under clause (i) shall not apply in the case of impending international travel of a child-sex offender to the country or countries of destination of the child-sex offender if such constructive notice would conflict with an existing investigation involving the child-sex offender.

(B) SPECIFIC NOTIFICATION REGARDING RISK TO LIFE OR WELL-BEING OF OFFENDER.—If the Center has reason to believe that to transmit notice under paragraph (1) poses a risk to the life or well-being of the child-sex offender, the Center shall make reasonable efforts to provide constructive notice through electronic or telephonic communication to the child-sex offender of such risk.

(C) SPECIFIC NOTIFICATION REGARDING PROBABLE DENIAL OF ENTRY TO OFFENDER.—If the Center has reason to believe that a country of destination of the child-sex offender is highly likely to deny entry to the child-sex offender due to transmission of notice under paragraph (1), the Center shall make reasonable efforts to provide constructive notice through electronic or telephonic communication to the child-sex offender of such probable denial.

(3) SUNSET.—The authority of paragraph (1) shall terminate with respect to a child-sex offender beginning as of the close of the last day of the registration period of such child-sex offender under section 115 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16915).

(f) COMPLAINT REVIEW.—The Center shall establish a mechanism to receive complaints from child-sex offenders affected by notifications of destination countries of such child-sex offenders under subsection (e).

(g) CONSULTATIONS.—The Center shall seek to engage in ongoing consultations with—

(1) nongovernmental organizations, including faith-based organizations, that have experience and expertise in identifying and preventing child sex tourism and rescuing and rehabilitating minor victims of international sexual exploitation and trafficking;

(2) the governments of countries interested in cooperating in the creation of an international sex offender travel notification system or that are primary destination or source countries for international sex tourism; and

(3) Internet service and software providers regarding available and potential technology to facilitate the implementation of an international sex offender travel notification system, both in the United States and in other countries.

(h) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State may provide technical assistance to foreign authorities in order to enable such authorities to participate more effectively in the notification program system established under this section.

SEC. 5. SENSE OF CONGRESS PROVISIONS.

(a) BILATERAL AGREEMENTS.—It is the sense of Congress that the President should negotiate memoranda of understanding or other bilateral agreements with foreign governments to further the purposes of this Act and the amendments made by this Act, including by—

(1) establishing systems to receive and transmit notices as required by title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16901 et seq.); and

(2) establishing mechanisms for private companies and nongovernmental organizations to report on a voluntary basis suspected child pornography or exploitation to foreign governments, the nearest United States embassy in cases in which a possible United States citizen may be involved, or other appropriate entities.

(b) NOTIFICATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF CHILD-SEX OFFENSES COMMITTED ABROAD.—It is the sense of Congress that the President should formally request foreign governments to notify the United States when a United States citizen has been arrested, convicted, sentenced, or completed a prison sentence for a child-sex offense in the foreign country.

SEC. 6. ENHANCING THE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF TRAFFICKING.

Section 108(b)(4) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7106(b)(4)) is amended by adding at the end before the period the following: '', including severe forms of trafficking in persons related to sex tourism''.

SEC. 7. ASSISTANCE TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES TO MEET MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF TRAFFICKING.

The President is strongly encouraged to exercise the authorities of section 134 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2152d) to provide assistance to foreign countries directly, or through nongovernmental and multilateral organizations, for programs, projects, and activities, including

training of law enforcement entities and officials, designed to establish systems to identify sex offenders and provide and receive notification of child sex offender international travel.

SEC. 8. RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.

(a) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to preclude or alter the jurisdiction or authority of the Department of Justice under the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16901 et seq.), including section 113(d) of such Act, or any other provision of law, or to affect the work of the United States Marshals Service with INTERPOL.

(b) ANGEL WATCH CENTER.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to preclude the Angel Watch Center from transmitting notice with respect to any sex offender described in paragraph (3) or (4) of section 111 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16911) or with respect to any sex offense described in paragraph (5) of such section.

(c) DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS.—Activities carried out under this Act shall not impede, hinder, or otherwise impact negatively any investigations of the Department of Homeland Security.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) each will control 20 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking will strengthen law enforcement efforts to combat this rather horrific crime that damages hundreds of thousands of young children worldwide every year.

This bill before us today was passed unanimously by the House in the last Congress in substantially the same form. This year, we hope to engage the Senate and get it to the President's desk.

Over the years, Congress has passed laws, including Megan's Law and the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act, to require the registration and require the public notification of convicted sex offenders. These steps have helped families and communities protect their children and have helped law enforcement officials investigate and certainly prosecute domestic cases involving repeat sex offenders.

A growing problem, however, is the appalling industry of child sex ''tourism,'' in which adults travel overseas to exploit children in other countries. Unfortunately, a significant number of Americans are engaging in this practice and engage in it while the countries of destination lack sufficient resources to deal with the rising number of child predators.

Many children victimized by this terrible crime have also been trafficked—that is, recruited or transferred to be exploited for someone else's profit. The International Megan's Law helps us fight back.

At present, there are multiple U.S. agencies seeking to combat human trafficking and combat child sex tourism. By better coordinating their efforts, we can be much more effective. Importantly, our proactive efforts to help countries identify incoming child predators will also encourage them to alert us when those foreigners convicted of sex offenses against children attempt, themselves, to enter into the United States.

In particular, this bill officially recognizes an Angel Watch center within the Department of Homeland Security's Child Exploitation Investigations Unit. Operation Angel Watch originated as a partnership with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and currently collects and analyzes the foreign travel data of convicted child sex offenders to determine whether notification to U.S. officials or foreign governments is warranted.

Last year alone, Angel Watch sent over 2,000 leads to nearly 100 countries as part of this effort to proactively and strategically alert international law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, this bill solidifies the Angel Watch center as an important part of the U.S. response to child sex tourism. Importantly, it improves the timeliness of the information that the center receives by requiring the Justice Department to share its travel records promptly. This will allow Angel Watch to better detect and report the travel of child predators.

Now, we do have one change in the bill from last year, and that change is an additional rule of construction which states that nothing in this act will impede any investigations being carried out by the Department of Homeland Security.

This was added at the request of nongovernmental organizations who were concerned that the bill's activities could divert resources from the Department's other investigative work. To avoid any confusion, I want to make clear that this rule of construction does not supersede the bill's general notification provisions which require the Department of Homeland Security to attempt to alert a convicted offender whose travel is reported to their country of destination.

These general notification provisions were the product of a bipartisan agreement, and I want to state my appreciation for the good work of those staffers who came together from across the aisle and from different committees to develop them.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the bill's author, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), for his persistent leadership and his persistent dedication to this issue.

I would also like to recognize the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary, as well as Ranking Member ENGEL and Mr. CICILLINE for their collaboration on this bill, which I encourage all Members to support.

I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, January 26, 2015.

Hon. ED ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE, I am writing with respect to H.R. 515, the ''International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking,'' which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary. As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions in H.R. 515 that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary, I agree to discharge our Committee from further consideration of this bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

The Judiciary Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 515 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction. Our Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and asks that you support any such request.

I would appreciate a response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R., and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during Floor consideration of H.R. 515.

Sincerely,

BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, January 26, 2015.

Hon. BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on H.R. 515, the International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking, and for agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of that bill.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 515 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with the Committee on the Judiciary as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 515, known as the International Megan's Law, and yield myself such time as I might consume.

I would first like to commend my colleague, the chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health,

Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), for his leadership on human rights and anti-trafficking issues and for his hard work and the hard work of his staff on this bill, as well as Ranking Member KAREN BASS of California.

I also want to recognize the contributions of the Judiciary Committee to this legislation. I am pleased that the two committees, Foreign Affairs and Judiciary, were able to come together to work on this important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, around the world, as many as 27 million people are victims of human trafficking. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime reported that among reported incidents of human trafficking, one in three is a child. Many sex offenders target children in regions with extreme poverty and low levels of law enforcement and prosecution. These repulsive acts violate our deepest moral values, and we have a responsibility to respond appropriately.

The International Megan's Law would help prevent child sex offenders and traffickers from exploiting vulnerable children when they cross an international border. The bill would establish an Angel Watch center within Immigration and Customs Enforcement at the Department of Homeland Security that would provide advance notice to foreign countries when a convicted child sex offender travels to that country. The bill also calls on the President to negotiate agreements with foreign governments that would encourage information sharing on known child sex offenders.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to encourage governments around the world to devote their respective resources toward combating this issue. Protecting trafficked children provides timely victim identification, placing victims in a safe environment, and providing them with widespread support services, such as physical and mental health care, educational opportunities, legal assistance, and reintegration with their families and communities.

Unfortunately, a single law cannot abolish child sex tourism or child sex trafficking, but the International Megan's Law represents a huge step in the right direction by protecting victims and potential victims from terrifying harm.

□ 1600

Mr. Speaker, we passed the same bill last Congress, and I urge my colleagues to do so again.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), chairman of the Foreign Affairs Human Rights Subcommittee and the author of this bill.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman ROYCE for yielding me this time, and I thank him for his leadership and for marking this bill up in the last Congress. We went through it in regular order. Chairman ROYCE, ELIOT ENGEL, and staff were outstanding.

I also want to thank BOB GOODLATTE, who has been a very strong proponent of this legislation, as well as ALBIO SIRES, who is the chief Democratic sponsor, and our other cosponsors: Mrs. HARTZLER, CAROLYN MALONEY, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. POE of Texas, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. YOHO.

Mr. Speaker, there is no higher duty or responsibility of government than to protect children from violence and predatory behavior. We have a duty to protect the weakest and the most vulnerable. The International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking, H.R. 515, will protect children from child sex tourism by notifying destination countries when convicted pedophiles plan to travel. And to protect American children, the bill encourages the President to use bilateral agreements and assistance to establish reciprocal notification so we will know when convicted child sex offenders are coming here.

Mr. Speaker, I actually got the idea of International Megan's Law in a conversation with a Trafficking in Persons delegation from Thailand during a meeting in my office in 2007. I asked the Thai officials what would they do if we were to notify them of travel by a convicted pedophile. Each of the dozen officials said they would bar entry into their nation of such a predator.

Today will mark the third time in 8 years that this bill has passed the House—and I do hope it will pass—with strong support from both sides of the aisle, the second in its present, more streamlined form. The only change in this version is an additional clause in 8(c) underscoring the fine investigatory work of the Department of Homeland Security in the area of child exploitation and Congress' support for its continuance in Angel Watch, as well as in the investigations of the Cyber Crimes Center.

This provision is not intended to supersede notification requirements elsewhere in the bill.

I am encouraged that the Senate has signaled its support and willingness to improve commonsense U.S. procedures preventing the sex trafficking of children by high-risk predators. I look forward to working with our colleagues in the other body.

Mr. Speaker, child sex predators thrive on secrecy, a secrecy that allows them to commit heinous crimes against children. In 1994, a young girl from my district was lured into the home of a convicted pedophile who lived across the street from her. Megan Kanka, 7, was raped and murdered. No one, including Megan's parents, knew that their neighbor had been convicted of child sexual assault. The outrage over this tragedy led to the enactment of Megan's Laws—public sex offender registries—in every State in the country.

It is imperative that we take the lessons we have learned on how to protect our children from known child sex predators within our borders and expand those protections globally.

Mr. Speaker, a deeply disturbing 2010 report by the GAO, entitled ''Current Situation Results in Thousands of Passports Issued to Registered Sex Offenders,'' found that at least 4,500 U.S. passports were issued to registered sex offenders in fiscal year 2008 alone.

Meanwhile, law enforcement and media reports continue to document Americans on the U.S. sex offender registries who were caught sexually abusing children in East Asia, Central and South America, and elsewhere in the world. It is the same horror movie replayed over and over.

Homeland Security's Angel Watch program has been doing an outstanding job in alerting countries about potential danger from American sex offenders. H.R. 515 would codify and streamline this excellent program, ensuring that actionable information about child sex offender travel actually gets to the destination country in time for those countries to assess the potential dangers and respond appropriately, whether that is to allow entry, deny entry or a visa, monitor travel, or limit travel. Once notified, nations are empowered to take protective action.

International Megan's Law also directs the President to include guidance in diplomacy, training, and technical assistance abroad on how other countries can create their own public or private sex offender registries similar to what we have in the United States, and how we can use these registries to alert the United States when a child sex offender is intending to travel here to abuse our children. The goal is reciprocity, reciprocal notice to protect children at home and abroad from known sex offenders.

I personally have spoken to foreign officials and nongovernment representatives who have asked me when the United States Congress is going to do something about American sex offenders who are traveling to their country to rape their children. I hear this especially in the developing world. H.R. 515, the International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking, is a serious response to that question.

I would also point out parenthetically, as the Special Representative for Combating Trafficking at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Parliamentary Assembly last year, we got passed a resolution calling for this kind of noticing country to country so the secrecy is taken out of sex tourism designed to exploit and abuse children.

I urge Members to support the bill.

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

One last comment about the bill before us. The rule of construction was added to the bill, and I would like to make it clear that this rule of construction does not supersede the bill's

general notification requirements, which require the Department of Homeland Security to try to alert a convicted child sex offender whose travel is reported to their country of destination, which is one way of deterring them.

Child sex tourism is an outrageous crime, and we have the responsibility to do everything we can to make it difficult for offenders to prey on their victims. I strongly support this bill and encourage my colleagues to do so as well.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

You have heard today about the horrific child sex tourism industry. This is only going to get worse if we do not take action. Furthermore, there are child victims here at home, too. An increasingly mobile society has made it easier for child predators to commit, and evade justice for, their heinous crimes.

The bill before us today represents a concerted effort to combat this appalling injustice. Better communications among U.S. officials and our foreign counterparts all around this globe means more of these criminals can and will be stopped from exploiting children overseas.

Again, I commend Chairman SMITH for his work on this bipartisan legislation. I encourage Members to support passage of H.R. 515, International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 515.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION ACT

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 357) to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to expand the training for Federal Government personnel relating to trafficking in persons, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 357

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 ''Human Trafficking Prevention Act''.

SEC. 2. EXPANDED TRAINING RELATING TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

Section 105(c)(4) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(c)(4)) is amended—

(1) by inserting '', including members of the Service (as such term is defined in section 103 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3903))'' after ''Department of State''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following: ''Training under this paragraph shall include, at a minimum, the following:

''(A) A distance learning course on trafficking-in-persons issues and the Department of State's obligations under this Act, targeted for embassy reporting officers, regional bureaus' trafficking-in-persons coordinators, and their superiors.

''(B) Specific trafficking-in-persons briefings for all ambassadors and deputy chiefs of mission before such individuals depart for their posts.

''(C) At least annual reminders to all such personnel, including appropriate personnel from other Federal departments and agencies, at each diplomatic or consular post of the Department of State located outside the United States of key problems, threats, methods, and warning signs of trafficking in persons specific to the country or jurisdiction in which each such post is located, and appropriate procedures to report information that any such personnel may acquire about possible cases of trafficking in persons.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a committed participant in this body's decade-and-a-half-long fight against human trafficking since the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. Although we have made some progress and raised global awareness on this issue, there are still today somewhere around 20 million people around the world who remain subject to the horrors of this modern day slavery, either through trafficking for exploitation for work or child sex trafficking. Most of these victims are women, and many, as you know, Mr. Speaker, are children.

Given the high stakes, U.S. officials working overseas must be able to recognize the signs, the telltale signs, of this terrible crime. If they do not know which groups are most vulnerable, or what activities should raise their suspicions, then successful action is very unlikely.

Though current law requires that State Department personnel be trained to identify trafficking victims, it does not prescribe how they should be trained. This bill does. The Human Trafficking Prevention Act would specify minimum training requirements for the Department of State. These would include a training course for Department personnel who deal with trafficking issues, in addition to trafficking briefings for all of our Ambassadors and all of our deputy chiefs of mission before they depart for their posts. It also ensures that U.S. officials stationed overseas get annual updates on trafficking-related developments related to the countries where they are working.

We have done a lot to move legislation to force other countries to adopt legislation. But our Ambassadors overseas and their deputies overseas need this education.

While the State Department currently appears to be meeting many of the standards, we all know that practices can change, and by specifying reasonable minimal requirements for such training, this bill strengthens existing law at no additional cost to our taxpayers.

I want to recognize the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY), who authored this measure, which passed as H.R. 4449 during the last Congress, and I want to thank him for reintroducing the bill that is before us today.

While we are discussing improvements to the anti-trafficking practices of our foreign affairs agencies, I also want to invite my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 400, the bipartisan Trafficking Prevention in Foreign Affairs Contracting Act, that my ranking member of the committee, ELIOT ENGEL, and I recently introduced and which we hope to move forward promptly.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in strong support of H.R. 357, the Human Trafficking Prevention Act.

Mr. Speaker, I would first like to thank my friend and colleague, the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY), for introducing this important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, human trafficking is modern-day slavery. Its victims are robbed of both their freedom and dignity. Human trafficking violates the founding principles of the United States—life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness—and humanity's very fundamental principle of respect.

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, almost every nation in the world is affected by trafficking. There are at least 152 countries of origin and 124 countries of destination affected by human trafficking, totaling over 510 trafficking flows around the world.

Human trafficking victims often pay to be illegally transported into various countries, only to find themselves at the mercy of their captors, deprived of their freedom. They are forced into various forms of servitude to repay their debts. Frighteningly, the U.N. also reports that 1 in 3 known victims

of human trafficking is a child. In some areas of the world, such as Africa and the Middle East, children constitute 62 percent of their human trafficking incidents. Women and girls account for 70 percent of trafficking victims worldwide, and men make up over 60 percent of trafficking incidents for forced labor. Human trafficking victimizes people of all ages, genders, and ethnicities.

□ 1615

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a cosponsor of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act which is designed to ensure that representatives of our government recognize incidents of human trafficking when they see it.

H.R. 357 would expand Federal training requirements for State Department personnel on identifying and preventing human trafficking. This training includes specific training in persons, briefings for all Ambassadors and deputy chiefs of mission before such individuals depart for their post.

This bill would also require that annual reminders be sent to appropriate diplomatic personnel about the key problems, threats, methods, and warning signs of trafficking in persons at their respective Embassy and consular post.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will better prepare our Nation's public servants to quickly identify incidents of human trafficking and take swift action as they serve abroad. We passed the same bill last year, and I urge my colleagues to do so again.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time to close.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY), the author of this important bill.

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my bill, H.R. 357, the Human Trafficking Prevention Act.

I would like to thank my colleagues Mr. ROYCE and Mr. CICILLINE and my cosponsors, and I would like to acknowledge Majority Leader MCCARTHY for his leadership on taking up this legislation at the beginning of this new Congress.

No matter what part of the country you are from, human trafficking is an issue that we have to address now because lives are at stake. The State Department estimates that millions of children, women, and men are trafficked each year and forced into modern-day slavery as part of an evil and fast-growing industry.

We know that the crime of human trafficking is dramatically underreported, and most of it happens invisibly; therefore, a critical part of the work we are doing today is to bring human trafficking out in the open, so we can raise awareness and prevent it from happening to more of the world's most vulnerable populations.

We must also remember that this happens right here in our communities, all across our own country. Behind all of these numbers and statistics, there are real faces and real stories of women, men, and, too often, children—women like Mandy Palmer of western New York who 4 years ago met a man named Ryan online. Ryan was not who he pretended to be. Ryan turned out to be a human trafficker, a pimp who forced Mandy into prostitution and threatened her family.

New York continues to be one of the top hubs of human trafficking where sex trafficking, child labor, and indentured servitude happen all too frequently. Just one organization in New York, Safe Horizon, has worked with more than 600 victims in recent years.

In the Hudson Valley, we have seen it in Newburgh, in Poughkeepsie, places like Wappingers Falls, places like New Windsor, and even small villages like Pound Ridge. Story after story tells us that this disgusting, this horrifying practice of modern-day slavery happens right here, right in our own neighborhoods, in our own backyards.

Just 10 days ago, authorities took action against a major sex trafficking ring in Albany, New York. Nine women who had traveled here from a foreign country were forced into prostitution at four different massage parlors.

In another community in the Hudson Valley, about an hour away from New York City, a man tricked teenage girls to travel to the United States on tourist visas from countries like Brazil, Hungary, and France. He instructed these women to lie to both Immigration and State Department officials in order to gain access to our country.

It is precisely this type of situation that my legislation seeks to stop. We must ensure that our men and women on the front lines of our borders have the resources and training they need in order to identify and stop human trafficking at its source, before these women, children, and men enter the United States out of their own culture, away from their own language many times, and become isolated and become victims.

As part of our goal to end human trafficking, we can make sure that our Foreign Service officers and other government personnel have the tools and training they need to spot and to identify these victims and to stop this trafficking across international borders.

In the past, the State Department estimated that between 14,000 and 17,000 foreign nationals were trafficked into the United States every single year. Although the Federal Government has a zero tolerance policy on human trafficking, our Foreign Service officers, who often have face-to-face contact with these victims when they are obtaining U.S. visas, currently undergo minimal training to define, identify, and recognize the indicators of this human trafficking so they can stop it at the source.

My legislation would expand new minimum training procedures for Foreign Service officers and other government personnel in order to identify and stop this human trafficking before people cross these boundaries and end up in our own communities, before it becomes too late, when they are here and victimized.

We know criminals will do just about anything to adapt to our new methods and to avoid getting caught, so this bipartisan legislation also requires annual updates to keep on top of key problems, threats, the new methods, and to identify new warning signs of trafficking.

I want to thank my colleagues across the aisle because, by working together, we have a new opportunity to come together to combat this monstrous practice of trafficking in children, women, and men. Victims of human trafficking cannot wait another day. Today, we have an opportunity to do something together to combat this growing problem.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support my legislation, H.R. 357, the Human Trafficking Prevention Act.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the fight to end human trafficking has been a priority in my tenure as chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee here in the House, but I am pleased that the House leadership and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have chosen to make it our focus during this early week of the session.

Our actions today are not a conclusion on this issue. They are an opening salvo by the 114th Congress to continue our fight against modern slavery. This bill seeks to ensure that U.S. personnel overseas are properly equipped to combat the scourge of human trafficking and deserves our unanimous support.

There are other steps which we need to take, frankly, as an institution in order to continue to put leverage at the disposal of our diplomats and new measures into law to protect the victims of trafficking. As we go forward, we will do that.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 357, the Human Trafficking Prevention Act by the gentleman from New York, SEAN PATRICK MALONEY.

Mr. Speaker, human trafficking is a global scourge. Time and time again, there are missed opportunities to identify and assist victims of human trafficking. This may be due to a lack of training to recognize signs of trafficking, or perhaps a hesitancy to intrude into the "privacy" of others.

There are numerous points of contact with the victims of trafficking, however, and at each point there are people who can intervene if they know how to identify victims of trafficking.

Traffickers often move their victims to avoid detection. Whether by plane, train or bus, they come into contact with flight attendants and the like, as well as border officials.

In July of 2010, I chaired a conference in Washington, D.C., to bring together the relevant U.S. agencies, such as the Customs

and Border Patrol, various U.S. airlines, and non-governmental organizations to focus on interdicting traffickers by training commercial transportation employees to recognize the indicators for trafficking. Speakers, including Deborah Sigmund, founder of a non-government organization called Innocents at Risk, explained how flight attendants were the ''first line of defense'' in the fight against human trafficking.

Flight attendants are in the unique position to observe a potential trafficking in progress and then call a trafficking hotline or inform the pilot to radio ahead so that the proper authorities can intervene.

Former flight attendant Nancy Rivard, President of Airline Ambassadors International, told us how she and other flight attendants compared notes one day and were shocked and dismayed at how often they had noticed what they suspected was a trafficked woman or child on their flight, but had no training or protocol to do something about it. Nancy has been doing a great deal about it ever since, training airline employees around the United States and world.

Just last year, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) released a similar training initiative, the Blue Lightning program, to domestic U.S. airlines—including Delta, JetBlue, Allegiant, and North American Airlines. With minimal modifications, the training is also easily adaptable to bus drivers and station operators, train conductors, trucking associations, and other transportation industry professionals.

In December 2013, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, or OSCE, which comprises 57 countries from Europe and North America, endorsed my plan to make anti-trafficking training for airline employees, other public and commercial carriers, as well as hotel employees, a primary goal in the international strategy to combat human trafficking. In an earlier session, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (OSCEPA) adopted my resolution to implement such training in each member country.

But what about our State Department personnel working overseas? Are they properly trained to be able to recognize the signs of this heinous crime and violation of fundamental human rights?

Current law does require that State Department personnel be trained to identify trafficking victims, and there are many fine foreign service officers tasked with addressing trafficking issues.

But, it does not prescribe any minimum training requirements. H.R. 357, the Human Trafficking Prevention Act, would mandate several minimum training requirements on this issue within the Department of State.

These would include a training course for Department personnel who deal with trafficking issues, in addition to trafficking briefings for all Ambassadors and Deputy Chiefs of Mission before they depart for their posts. The legislation also requires that annual reminders be sent to appropriate personnel on key trafficking issues related to their countries of focus.

By specifying the minimum requirements for such training, this bill strengthens the existing law. And notably, it does so at no additional cost to taxpayers.

I want to thank Mr. MALONEY for authoring this measure, and adding to the body of legislation developed by the House to address this critical issue.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 357.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ENHANCING SERVICES FOR RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS VICTIMS OF YOUTH TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2015

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 468) to amend the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act to increase knowledge concerning, and improve services for, runaway and homeless youth who are victims of trafficking.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 468

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 ''Enhancing Services for Runaway and Homeless Victims of Youth Trafficking Act of 2015''.

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 343(b)(5)—

(A) in subparagraph (A) by inserting '', severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103(9) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9))), and sex trafficking (as defined in section 103(10) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 7102(10)))'' before the semicolon at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B) by inserting '', severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103(9) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9))), and sex trafficking (as defined in section 103(10) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 7102(10)))'' after ''assault''; and

(C) in subparagraph (C) by inserting '', including such youth who are victims of trafficking (as defined in section 103(15) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(15)))'' before the semicolon at the end; and

(2) in section 351(a) by striking ''or sexual exploitation'' and inserting ''sexual exploitation, severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103(9) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9))), or sex trafficking (as defined in section 103(10) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 7102(10)))''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALBERG. 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. 468.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Enhancing Services for Runaway and Homeless Victims of Youth Trafficking Act, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, human trafficking is not just a concern in foreign countries. It is happening right here in the United States and many times in our own backyards.

In Michigan, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has referred more than 13,000 CyberTipline reports of suspected child sexual exploitation to law enforcement.

Last Congress, I hosted a series of human trafficking forums in my district which brought together county prosecutors, sheriffs, the State police, and members of the southern Michigan Task Force on Human Trafficking to discuss how our community is dealing with these heinous crimes and hear feedback on what additional actions Congress can take to help local law enforcement combat trafficking.

One of the things I heard at my district roundtables is the need for improved resources for victims' advocacy and support, especially for youth victims and at-risk youth. Federal and State officials, law enforcement, the courts, all of us have a moral obligation to eradicate trafficking and support its victims.

It will take close coordination between all stakeholders to achieve the dual goals of ending the human trafficking epidemic and assisting the victims. That is why I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 468, the Enhancing Services for Runaway and Homeless Victims of Youth Trafficking Act.

This legislation will help better serve our most vulnerable youth who are victims of extreme trafficking. This legislation amends the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act to use existing grant resources to train staff on the effects of human trafficking in runaway and homeless youth victims and for developing statewide strategies to reach such youth.

It also allows the Secretary to utilize the existing Street Outreach Program to provide street-based services for runaway and homeless youth who are victims of trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague, Congressman JOE HECK, for his leadership on this bill, as well as the Education and the Workforce Committee chairman, Mr. KLINE, and the ranking member, Mr. SCOTT, for their work on moving this legislation forward. Our Nation's runaway and homeless youth deserve access to services that will help them escape a life of crime, abuse, and neglect.

Passing this simple fix to the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act will help ensure that those suffering from the trauma of these deplorable crimes

will have access to the care and support they need.

I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 468, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 468, the Enhancing Services for Runaway and Homeless Victims of Youth Trafficking Act of 2015.

I am honored to join my colleagues, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HECK), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG), and the chairman of the full committee, Mr. KLINE, and appreciate their leadership on this important issue.

Our bill makes important changes in the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, so that victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking can get more of the help that they need. We know that trafficking and youth homelessness are often affecting the same populations.

Young people that have run away or are homeless are particularly vulnerable to sexual exploitation and trafficking, and programs targeted towards the runaway and homeless youth should be simultaneously equipped to support victims of trafficking when there is such an overlap.

Research consistently confirms the correlation between running away and becoming exploited through prostitution. For example, according to a 2006 FBI Uniform Crime Report, girls who run away from their homes, group homes, foster homes, or treatment centers are at high risk of being targeted by a trafficker or becoming exploited.

Street outreach programs were created to provide services to runaway and homeless and street youth who have been subjected to or are at risk of being subjected to sexual abuse. Every year, 25,000 of these young people find shelter as a result of these programs.

The legislation being considered today ensures that street outreach programs can rely on funding already available through the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act. This allows the Department of Health and Human Services to provide street-based services such as individual assessments, treatment, counseling, or other shelter for runaway and homeless youth who are also victims of trafficking.

Additionally, the bill authorizes States, organizations, and other entities to use runaway and homeless youth research grants for staff training to work with these young victims. Such additional training will allow service providers to successfully address the behavioral and emotional effects of the abuse and assault that these victims endure.

Our bill also enhances training programs so that staff will be able to recognize and respond to the unique needs of trafficking victims. This is a small but important change, one necessary to improve services available.

Updating the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act with this legislation is an important first step, but it is also important for Congress to consider reauthorizing the entire act, which expired last year.

□ 1630

In the 113th Congress, the Senate Judiciary Committee approved a bipartisan reauthorization bill that would provide other critical support to runaway and homeless youth, including extending time for safe and appropriate shelter, establishing performance standards for assistance programs, strengthening data collection, and ensuring that adequate resources for all runaway and homeless youths are available.

It is my hope that the House can continue the spirit of bipartisanship and comprehensively update the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act. Our Nation's most vulnerable youth need us to come together and work together on their behalf.

Meanwhile, Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KLINE), the chairman of the Education and the Workforce Committee.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding the time and for his consistent, continuous leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, as a father and grandfather, I find it difficult to imagine anything more terrifying than a loved one falling victim to youth sex trafficking. Yet each year, hundreds of thousands of children and families are forced to live with the pain and suffering that stems from this deplorable crime.

Mr. Speaker, let me be clear. This crime is taking place right here in our own country. It is impacting our communities, our families, and our children. We face a national crisis, and it demands a national response.

Fortunately, there are heroic efforts underway to fight this heinous crime, care for the victims, and support their families.

The dedicated staff at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, or NCMEC, are on the front lines every day identifying victims, assisting law enforcement in the recovery of missing children, and returning children to their loved ones.

NCMEC is also partnering with schools and employers to enhance support for victims and their families. Parents with children in school are probably familiar with Lifetouch photography. Through its SmileSafe Kids initiative, Lifetouch is making it easier for parents and NCMEC to alert law enforcement of a missing child in order to accelerate the search and rescue.

NCMEC and others are always finding new ways to help, and so should we, and that is why we are here today. We have learned too often victims fall through the cracks of States' child welfare systems. Those who may be runaway or homeless youth do not have access to the full range of services they need.

And believe it or not, due to a flaw in the law, there are times when children are treated as criminals—as criminals, Mr. Speaker—rather than the victims of a violent crime.

Congress has an opportunity to address these challenges and strengthen our support for victims of youth sex trafficking. I want to thank my Republican and Democratic colleagues for working with us on this important effort, including Mr. WALBERG, as I mentioned earlier; the ranking member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, Mr. SCOTT; and Representatives JOE HECK, KAREN BASS, and JOYCE BEATTY.

I am pleased that in the early days of the 114th Congress, we are taking action to address youth sex trafficking. It reflects both the seriousness of this crime and our commitment to the victims and their families.

I urge my colleagues to support these important legislative proposals.

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for his statements in support of this legislation, I thank Mr. HECK for sponsoring it, and Mr. KLINE as the leader on this committee.

This is a privilege of service in this body, when we can come together in a bipartisan fashion to do what is right for our country; but, in this case, to do what is right for our defenseless young people, many of whom have been caught into a web that offers nothing but pain and misfortune for the future. To take a stand on this issue, to stand for opportunity, to push back against the dark clouds of crime that prey on young people is something that we can stand together on.

I think we have said significant words in support of this legislation. Now it is time to get to work, and the best way to do that, Mr. Speaker, as you and I both know, is to pass it.

So I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 468, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 468.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STRENGTHENING CHILD WELFARE RESPONSE TO TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2015

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 469) to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to enable State child protective services

systems to improve the identification and assessment of child victims of sex trafficking, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 469

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 ''Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2015''.

SEC. 2. CAPTA AMENDMENTS.

Section 106 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (xxii); and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

''(xxiv) provisions and procedures to identify and assess reports involving children who are sex trafficking victims, and which may include provisions and procedures to identify and assess reports involving children who are victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons described in section of 103(9)(B) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9)(B));

''(xxv) provisions and procedures for training representatives of the State child protective services systems about identifying and assessing children who are sex trafficking victims, and which may include provisions and procedures for such training with respect to children who are victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons described in section 103(9)(B) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9)(B)); and

''(xxvi) provisions and procedures for identifying services (including the services provided by State law enforcement officials, the State juvenile justice system, and social service agencies, such as runaway and homeless youth shelters) and procedures for appropriate referral to address the needs of children who are sex trafficking victims, and which may include provisions and procedures for the identification of such services and procedures with respect to children who are victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons described in section 103(9)(B) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9)(B));'';

(B) in paragraph (2)(D)—

(i) by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (v);

(ii) by inserting ''and'' at the end of clause (vi); and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(vii) the provisions and procedures described in clauses (xxiv) and (xxvi) of subparagraph (B);''; and

(C) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (A);

(ii) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIM.—The term 'sex trafficking victim' means a victim of—

''(i) sex trafficking (as defined in section 103(10) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(10))); or

''(ii) a severe form of trafficking in persons described in section 103(9)(A) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 7102(9)(A)).''; and

(2) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the following:

''(17) The number of children identified under clause (xxiv) of subsection (b)(2)(B), and of such children—

''(A) the number identified as sex trafficking victims (as defined in subsection (b)(4)(C)); and

''(B) in the case of a State that has provisions and procedures to identify children who are victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons described in section 103(9)(B) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9)(B)), the number so identified.''.

SEC. 3. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, a report that—

(1) describes the specific type and prevalence of severe form of trafficking in persons to which children who are identified for services or intervention under the placement, care, or supervision of State, Indian tribe, or tribal organization child welfare agencies have been subjected as of the date of enactment of this Act;

(2) summarizes the practices and protocols utilized by States to identify and serve—

(A) under section 106(b)(2)(B) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)(2)(B)), children who are victims of trafficking; and

(B) children who are at risk of becoming victims of trafficking; and

(3) specifies any barriers in Federal laws or regulations that may prevent identification and assessment of children who are victims of trafficking, including an evaluation of the extent to which States are able to address the needs of such trafficked children without altering the definition of child abuse and neglect under section 3 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note).

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

(1) SEVERE FORM OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.—The term ''severe form of trafficking in persons'' has the meaning given the term in section 103(9) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9)).

(2) VICTIM OF TRAFFICKING.—The term ''victim of trafficking'' has the meaning given the term in section 103(15) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(15)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALBERG. 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. 469.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, domestic child trafficking is a serious problem, sadly, in the United States. Around 300,000 American youth are at risk of sexual commercial exploitation and trafficking each year. That is why the House of Representatives is considering a number of bills this week that seek to ensure that human trafficking victims are treated as victims and have access to the services they desperately need.

As a Member of Congress, I have worked on legislation to help address this problem in the past and will continue that important work this year. I have also held local roundtables in Michigan with victims, advocacy, and law enforcement groups to do everything I can to work with my communities to address this heinous crime.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children estimates that 68 percent of likely sex trafficking victims were involved in the child welfare system at one time. Instead of properly identifying and assisting trafficked and exploited children, these children are often sent to the juvenile justice system, where they are labeled and treated as criminals. These innocent victims are victimized by the very system that was designed to protect them.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 469. The Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2015 will help protect child victims by improving practices within State child welfare systems to identify, assess, and document sex trafficking victims. The House passed this legislation by a voice vote last summer, and I thank my colleague, Congresswoman KAREN BASS, for her work on this important legislation again this Congress.

H.R. 469 amends the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to direct States to implement and maintain procedures to identify and assess reports involving children who are victims of sex trafficking.

The bill also requires that States train child protective services workers on how to identify these children and the services necessary to meet their needs, and it would improve reporting on the number of children identified as sex trafficking victims.

Mr. Speaker, this bill requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to report on the type and prevalence of youth trafficking victims in the welfare system, provide a summary of State practices for serving youth trafficking victims, and report on any barriers in Federal law that prevent identification and assessment of youth victims of trafficking.

It is imperative that we continue to pass legislation that helps victims of both labor and sex trafficking, to ensure that victims receive the services they need to escape a life of abuse.

Again, I would like to thank Congresswoman KAREN BASS and Chairman KLINE of the Education and the Workforce Committee for their work on this important bill.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 469, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2015, sponsored by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS).

This bill will support victims of child sex trafficking by helping them find services they need, by training child protective services workers to identify cases of child sex trafficking, and by improving data collection on the number of child sex trafficking victims.

This legislation would also require the Department of Health and Human Services to submit a report to Congress that describes the type and prevalence of severe forms of trafficking to which identified victims are subjected.

This bill also summarizes State practices to identify and serve trafficking victims and those at risk of trafficking and describes Federal statutory or regulatory barriers that may prevent child trafficking victims from getting the services they need, including an evaluation of the State's capacity to address such victim's needs.

The bill would also allow the State welfare agencies to include child labor trafficking in their provisions of staff training. Under the bill, if a State includes child labor trafficking in those responsibilities, the States must also collect data on the number of those victims.

The bill is a product of good bipartisan work and diligent negotiations by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS) and her staff and Democratic and Republican staffs in the Education and the Workforce Committee.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, which has the backing of child welfare advocates and will improve services and responses to child trafficking victims.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas, Judge POE, one who understands this process from his time in the court of law as a judge.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time.

This bill, Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act, H.R. 469, is an excellent piece of legislation. As mentioned, it is a bipartisan piece of legislation.

I want to thank KAREN BASS from California and Chairman KLINE from Minnesota for bringing this to the floor.

This is one of many, many pieces of legislation dealing with trafficking that have come and will come to the House floor the rest of today and tomorrow, bipartisan pieces of legislation.

In my short tenure of 10 years here in Congress, I have never seen a subject that had so many people interested on both sides of the aisle and so many pieces of legislation coming to the House floor, all with the purpose of trying to rein in this scourge of human trafficking in the United States.

The public seems to be a little more concerned about other matters than the issue of trafficking, at least the media does. They spend a lot of time talking about how much air is in footballs when we probably should be dealing with how much criminal activity is taking place in America where America's children are being kidnapped and put into slavery.

One example of this is the bill that Ms. BASS has brought to us, and that is the one regarding child welfare agencies in States.

I understand, Mr. Speaker, that 60 percent of American children involved in human trafficking, somewhere in their background they were in foster care. I am not saying foster care caused that. I am just saying that somewhere they make the route through foster care. We are not doing what we should do in dealing with our children to protect them from this scourge of trafficking.

This legislation goes a long way to help people in States, State government, to take care and make sure that children do not get taken up in this human trafficking that is taking place in the United States.

□ 1645

I come from Houston. Unfortunately, Houston is one of the hubs in the United States for human trafficking. Because of our location in the United States—near an international border—we have not only domestic trafficked victims go through our city but international trafficked victims and their children, their young people.

I want to congratulate Ms. BASS and the House and the leadership of the House for bringing this legislation and legislation like it up to the floor to make sure that America understands and criminals understand America's children are not for sale.

And that is just the way it is.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS), the sponsor of the bill and a strong supporter and advocate for foster children.

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the bipartisan Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act, which I introduced with a group of bipartisan Members of Congress.

The same version of this bill was unanimously passed in the 113th Congress. This legislation demonstrates how critical it is that Members of Congress work together to move policy that protects children from being sexually exploited. The work that both sides of the aisle have done on sex trafficking demonstrates a strong commitment to preventing our most vulnerable populations from becoming victims.

First, I would like to thank Chairman KLINE, Representative WALBERG, and Ranking Member SCOTT for their leadership on continuing to support this legislation that works towards ensuring that no child in the United States becomes a victim of sex trafficking. I am grateful for their knowledge and assistance that helped bring this important bill to the floor today. I would also like to thank Judge POE for his ongoing leadership on this issue.

My colleague and friend, Representative TOM MARINO, has been a leader in fighting for children in the foster care system. Mr. MARINO, along with the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth cochairs—JIM MCDERMOTT, TRENT FRANKS, JIM LANGEVIN, and DIANE BLACK—all served as original cosponsors of H.R. 469 and have demonstrated leadership by both making significant change in the child welfare system and by bringing attention to the horrendous intersection between sex trafficking and our child welfare system.

The U.S. Department of Justice reports that between 2008 and 2010 40 percent of sex trafficking cases involved the exploitation of children. Tragically, many of these children are forgotten without the appropriate services to ensure their safety. This highlights the failure of our system to prevent them from becoming victims.

More than 200,000 youth in our country are at risk of trafficking per year. In my hometown of Los Angeles, the Probation Department reports that 61 percent of identified trafficking victims are foster youth. It is noteworthy that this statistic comes from the Probation Department and not the child welfare department. This legislation hopes to correct that. We want to make sure that child welfare agencies, in addition to juvenile justice, begin to document this problem.

In Los Angeles, we are fortunate to have the STAR Court, which is a specialized, collaborative courthouse designed to serve youth who have been trafficked. The STAR Court team reports that 80 percent of the girls entering their courtroom have previously been involved in the child welfare system.

As cochair of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, I have had the opportunity to travel throughout the country as part of our Nationwide Listening Tour. Unfortunately, I have heard far too many stories about youth in foster care falling through the cracks in the system. Sometimes they are thought to be runaways. Sadly, they report that no one looked for them and that, in fact, they had not run away but had been abducted or tricked or drugged by a pimp when the system assumed they were bad girls who had just run away.

Most of us were so moved by one woman that we often repeat her story. She told us in hearings that she felt the foster care system prepared her for exploitation because her pimp was the first person who told her that he loved her and that, while in foster care, she was moved so often and told so often that she was just a paycheck that she formed no healthy attachments and had nowhere to turn.

We have to close the cracks in our system that leave a child feeling her

pimp is the only one she can turn to or that she would rather be with a pimp than be bounced around from foster home to foster home. The system that is supposed to be designed to help vulnerable children should not turn around and victimize the children or allow them to fall into the hands of exploiters.

Many of the young survivors we have met told us that, during the time they were being trafficked, they had numerous encounters with the child welfare system but that no one asked what was happening to them, especially girls in group homes. Pimps know this population is especially vulnerable. H.R. 469 will allow child welfare agencies across the Nation to develop State protection plans to outline provisions and procedures to identify and assess all reports of children known or suspected to be victims of sex trafficking.

H.R. 469 begins to prepare the child welfare system for this population. A first step is to document the extent of the problem. Another step is to ensure that each State has a plan to train social workers to identify and address the needs of this population. Arresting these children should not be the way we provide services. Arresting them treats them as criminals, and one has to question if jail is ever an appropriate place to provide the type of services these children need.

H.R. 469 also requires that, within 1 year, the Department of Health and Human Services report to Congress on the prevalence and type of trafficking they have encountered. The report will assess State practices used to identify and serve trafficking victims and Federal laws and policies that might, in fact, prevent States from supporting these victims, including the absence of trafficking in the Federal definition of ''child abuse and neglect'' under CAPTA, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

I am encouraged by the momentum that has been created to reform our child welfare system and to ensure that vulnerable children are provided with the resources they need. I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 469, the Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act, and to continue to work together in Congress to combat domestic minor sex trafficking.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri, Congresswoman WAGNER, an aggressive and outspoken advocate for children since arriving here in Congress, an opponent of trafficking, and who has much to say but who also has had much evidence of action on this issue.

Mrs. WAGNER. I thank the gentleman for yielding and for his leadership on this issue.

I also want to thank Judge POE, who has fought this fight for so very many years.

It is marvelous to have seen in the 113th Congress five pieces of legislation on human trafficking move through this Chamber. Now, tomorrow, we will pass 12 pieces of human trafficking to end the scourge of sex slavery in this country and beyond, and I could not be more proud of this Chamber and of the bipartisan effort to get this done.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 469, the Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2015, sponsored by Representative KAREN BASS.

Congresswoman BASS has been a long-time leader in Congress on the issue of human trafficking. Her legislation will strengthen the child welfare response to trafficking by ensuring that each State develops a plan that would identify children at risk of becoming victims of human trafficking. According to the Department of Justice, upwards of 300,000 American children are at risk of becoming the victims of crime.

One of the greatest challenges we face in combating this problem is a lack of accurate and reliable statistics. Frequently, those most at risk of falling victim to human trafficking are not identified early enough to intervene. By ensuring that child welfare agencies have systems in place to properly identify, to assess, and to document child victims of trafficking, H.R. 469 will move us towards a comprehensive, total solution to the scourge of human trafficking in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased to be sponsoring, at the end of our debate here, a Special Order on the issue of human trafficking. I invite all of my colleagues to join me on the floor as we talk about this important issue and about the 12 pieces of human trafficking legislation that will come forward tomorrow.

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), who, in arriving here just this term, has rolled up his sleeves and has already taken aggressive action on issues that make a difference.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. I thank the gentleman from Michigan for yielding this time and for his efforts in this most noble fight.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, in support of H.R. 469, the Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2015, which directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop and publish guidelines to assist State child welfare agencies in efforts to serve youth who are victims or who are, perhaps, most importantly, at risk of becoming victims of human trafficking. In addition, this bill amends the Foster Care and Adoption Assistance Act to require a State plan for foster care and adoption assistance to identify children who are victims of human trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, as the father of three sons and as the grandfather of precious, precious twin granddaughters, nothing terrifies me more than the thought of a loved one's falling victim to human sex trafficking. However, families all across our country suffer this horrific situation every day. I believe all of my colleagues would agree that protecting every child in this country is our number one priority; yet children in State welfare systems slip through the cracks and go unnoticed every day.

In the Georgia General Assembly, where I had the honor and privilege of serving for the past 10 years, I worked alongside my friend, State Senator Renee Unterman, to enact one of the Nation's toughest crackdowns on human trafficking by strengthening protections for the victims of these crimes and by increasing penalties for those who commit them. In fact, last year, we went a step further by requiring businesses to post information on a 24-hour, toll-free hotline for victims of human trafficking so that they could call for help.

I hope the guidelines that have been established under this law will encourage other States to follow Georgia's lead. Our utmost priority should be providing to these children, who have suffered at the hands of evil, access to care and support. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I would like to thank the chief sponsor and other supporters of the legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the remainder of my time.

I think much has been said today that causes us to understand that what we are dealing with in this bill is the fact that there are entities that are supposed to be protecting children, that are supposed to be providing resources—law enforcement and welfare and human service entities—that are missing the mark. A lot of that comes from inadequate recordkeeping statistics and from the lack of knowledge of how this is having the greatest impact in negative ways on children's lives. We would do very well today to follow the advice and direction from speakers who have already spoken on this issue.

Pass this legislation, and provide further hope for children caught in the trap of human trafficking and enslavement that comes from this crime. I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 469.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2015. I would like to thank my friend and colleague, Congresswoman KAREN BASS, for introducing this bill and for all she does on behalf of foster youth.

As an original cosponsor of this bill and a co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, I encourage all my colleagues to support this important legislation. In the previous Congress, similar legislation passed the

House by a vote of 399–0—a strong show of support for foster youth.

Foster youth are some of the most at-risk children in our society. They are often the victims of abuse or neglect; and too many face trials and tribulations beyond their years. So much that we take for granted—a stable home, living with our siblings, or returning to the same school year after year—are constant obstacles for these children.

This legislation will specifically address the link between girls in foster care and sex trafficking, and will require states to develop a child protection plan to identify and assess all reports involving children known or suspected to be victims of trafficking. Additionally, states must provide training plans for child protective services workers to appropriately respond to reports of child trafficking and have procedures in place that will connect child victims to public or private specialized services.

I am proud to support this bipartisan legislation, and again I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 469.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

MISSING CHILDREN'S ASSISTANCE ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 246) to improve the response to victims of child sex trafficking.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 246

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

SECTION 1. RESPONSE TO VICTIMS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING.

Section 404(b)(1)(P)(iii) of the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5773(b)(1)(P)(iii)) is amended by striking ''child prostitution'' and inserting ''child sex trafficking, including child prostitution''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

□ 1700

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALBERG. 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. 246.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 246, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives continues its commitment to bolstering enforcement efforts against human traffickers in the United States and ensuring that we properly identify and serve victims.

I want to thank Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY for her leadership on this issue and for introducing H.R. 246, which will improve the ability of law enforcement officials and others to respond to and assist these victims.

The House voted 409–0 to pass this legislation last summer, and as previous House efforts have done, the bills being considered today attempt to change for the better how we view victims.

For too long, these victims have been seen as willing participants and treated as actors in the criminal scheme; however, we now know that, oftentimes, individuals are trapped as victims by human trafficking organizations and, sadly, many of these victims are children.

Congresswoman BEATTY's legislation will ensure that we view victims of sex trafficking not as participants, but as victims, and ensure that child sex trafficking crimes are reported.

Under current law, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children operates the CyberTipline to provide online users and electronic service providers a means of reporting Internet-related child sexual exploitation in many areas, including child prostitution.

H.R. 246 would replace the term ''child prostitution'' with ''child sex trafficking'' in the CyberTipline reporting categories to reinforce that children who are sex-trafficked or sexually exploited are victims whose situation should be taken seriously when reported.

It would also ensure the public recognizes that child prostitution is included in how NCMEC uses the term ''child sex trafficking'' and thus should still be reported to the CyberTipline.

Again, I want to thank Congresswoman BEATTY, along with the Education and the Workforce Committee and House leadership for recognizing the need to steadfastly address this dreadful practice.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 246, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 246, a bill to improve the response to victims of child sex trafficking.

The bipartisan bill, sponsored by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY), would amend the Missing Children's Assistance Act by adding the term ''child sex trafficking'' to the list of items which may be reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's CyberTipline.

Under the act, the center operates the CyberTipline to allow online users and electronic service providers a way of reporting Internet-related child sexual exploitation, including child prostitution.

The term ''trafficking'' more accurately describes the circumstances by which children are sexually exploited and reinforces the notion that they are victims, not criminals. Adding trafficking to the list of items that may be reported to the center will not only help the center continue its outstanding work of finding and helping victims, but it will also help experts in the field of missing and exploited children better understand the nature and extent of the problem.

I am grateful to the gentlewoman from Ohio for introducing this important legislation, and I appreciate her partnership with the majority, including the chairman of the full Committee on Education and the Workforce, Chairman KLINE; the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG); and other sponsors.

I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 246, a bipartisan bill I introduced which will help victims of child sex trafficking by decriminalizing their behavior.

First, I would like to thank Chairman KLINE from Minnesota and Ranking Member SCOTT from Virginia of the Education and the Workforce Committee for bringing this important bill to the floor for consideration.

I want to also thank Representative WALBERG, who is managing the bill, for his kind words and his leadership. He is managing the bill today for the Republicans. I also thank Congresswoman KAREN BASS and Congresswoman ANN WAGNER for their leadership and support.

Also, I would like to thank Senator PORTMAN, who I partnered with on this issue last Congress and who introduced the companion legislation in the Senate. I look forward to working with him again during the 114th Congress to advance this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, last Congress, the House passed this exact bill unanimously by a vote of 409–0. Today, I hope that my colleagues in the House will again approve this legislation with overwhelming bipartisan support so we can better assist victims of child sex trafficking and ensure they are viewed and treated as victims, not criminals.

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to participate in Ohio's sixth annual Human Trafficking Awareness Day, which was held in my district at the Ohio statehouse. It was standing

room only. The event was chaired by State Representative Teresa Fedor from Toledo, who has spent a lifetime on this issue. There, we heard story after story from victims, survivors, and advocates, just like the ones we heard on the House floor earlier today.

Almost every time I am home in my district in Ohio, I hear from people who are concerned about the victims of child sex trafficking. Constituents implore me to have Congress do more to protect those among us who are the most vulnerable, those who are being forced into what many deem modern-day slavery.

This is for a good reason. Human trafficking is one of the fastest-growing crimes in the world. In fact, according to the U.S. State Department, human trafficking is the world's second largest criminal enterprise, after the illegal drug trade. Criminals involved in trafficking trade prey on those children already at risk in our society, the children who fall through the cracks in our society.

In the United States, some 300,000 children are at risk each year of commercial sexual exploitation. Mr. Speaker, many of these children are runaways, homeless, and in and out of foster care. These children deserve better.

The average age of a trafficked victim in the United States is 12 years of age. Mr. Speaker, this is shameful. At 12 years old, children should be playing sports, participating in their school science fair, learning new languages, or just being children. They should not be for sale night after night.

In my home State of Ohio, each year, there is an estimated 1,100 Ohio children who become victims of human trafficking, and over 3,000 more are at risk. Ohio is the fifth leading State for human trafficking because of its proximity to a waterway that leads to an international border and a system of interstate highways that allow an individual to exit the State within 2 hours to almost anywhere.

The I–75 corridor runs through Toledo, Dayton, and Cincinnati. It is infamous for subjecting children to the horrors of sex trafficking, with reports of victims being repeatedly abused.

We know that no single system can successfully combat trafficking. Preventing, identifying, and serving victims of trafficking requires a multi-coordinated approach across all levels of government. We need to encourage all people: when they see something, say something.

How can concerned citizens report activities of suspected child exploitation? Currently, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children operates a CyberTipline, which receives leads and tips regarding suspected crimes of sexual exploitation committed against children.

This CyberTipline is operated in partnership with the FBI, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the United States Postal Inspection Service, United States Secret Service, United States Department of Justice, as well as other State and local enforcement agencies.

These reports are constantly monitored to help ensure children in imminent danger get first priority. More than 2.8 million reports of suspected child exploitation have been made to the CyberTipline between 1998 and October of 2014.

Under current law, child sex trafficking is not identified as one of the types of sexual exploitation that should be reported to the CyberTipline, even though the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children encounters child victims of sex trafficking and currently uses this term on its Web site in order to encourage the public's reporting of these types of crimes.

Instead, the statute uses the term ''child prostitution''—yes, child prostitution, Mr. Speaker—which we know does not fully and accurately capture these types of crimes against children. My bill would add the phrase ''child sex trafficking, including child prostitution,'' to section b(1)(p) of the Missing Children's Assistance Act.

This legislation was crafted in order to improve and update the law in order to reflect the current state of Federal laws and to reinforce that children who are sex-trafficked or sexually exploited are victims and not criminals.

Mr. Speaker, children in sex trafficking situations are often misidentified as ''willing'' participants. We know there is a widespread lack of awareness and understanding of trafficking.

Take, for instance, a story I recently heard about Holly, who is a survivor of human trafficking. When Holly was 14 years old, she ran away from home with a man she had met at a shopping mall. Holly and this man exchanged phone numbers. He continued to pursue Holly over the course of many months.

Convincing her to run away with him was not an overnight accomplishment. He got to know her, analyzed her troubles, and asked about her dreams. He did this so that when Holly was on her summer break from the eighth grade, the pressures of her 14-year-old world boiled to the surface.

With all this confusion and pressure Holly was feeling, this predator was able to convince her to flee towards what she thought was opportunity, possibility, and freedom. In reality, Holly ran right into the clutches of a sexual trafficking ring. Within hours of running away with what turned out to be a manipulative and threatening pimp, she was coerced into prostitution.

Fortunately for Holly, eventually an officer on the street thought that she seemed underage, so he approached her and arrested her. She was soon recognized to be a victim and began the long journey toward healing. Today, I am proud to say that Holly is an advocate for stronger anti-trafficking laws and greater protection for survivors of all forms of human trafficking.

This bill, H.R. 246, is intended to protect young children like Holly, to rescue and restore them. By adding the term ''child sex trafficking, including child prostitution,'' to the Missing Children's Assistance Act, we will be able to continue to fight the perception that sex trafficking is a voluntary, victimless crime, and this will exclude them from prostitution.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

□ 1715

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers at this time, and so I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, how much time is available on this side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia has 8½ minutes remaining.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS), who has worked on all of the bills we have considered today.

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 246, a bill to improve the response to victims of child trafficking.

First, I would like to commend my colleague, Representative JOYCE BEATTY, for her commitment to transforming the language that we use to discuss child victims of sex trafficking and for taking the lead on this important legislation. After all, a child cannot consent to sex, so a child cannot be considered a prostitute. And her exploiter should never be called a john; he should be called what he is, a child molester.

While trafficking advocates and organizations have worked tirelessly over the years to ensure that the framework and language we use to describe child victims of trafficking recognizes that they are, in fact, victims, we still have a long way to go. These children have gone through enough trauma. They do not need to continue to hear language that places the blame on them for a crime that an adult committed.

Phone hotlines and cyber tip lines operated by organizations throughout the country are critical to ensuring that individuals have a means to report these incidents of human trafficking and child exploitation.

Under this legislation, reports of domestic minor sex trafficking to the CyberTipline of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children would be classified as ''child sex trafficking'' and no longer as ''child prostitution.'' This change would reinforce the fact that the children are victims and not criminals.

Representative BEATTY's bill is another critical building block to transforming the framework and dialogue around child victims of sex trafficking. I look forward to continuing to change the conversation and urge my colleagues in the House to support this important legislation.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, we have no further requests for time. I want to thank all of the sponsors of the legislation for bringing it forward, this and the other two bills that we have also considered.

I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the remainder of my time.

The passage of this legislation shows the House's commitment to providing the necessary tools and policies to help reduce child sex trafficking and better serve these victims, and on the recommendations and admonition of my colleagues today, again I would say, these victims in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, this is good work that we are doing here. I submit, it is probably the type of work that our constituents are calling us to work across the aisle to accomplish.

During the human trafficking roundtables I have held in my district, law enforcement officials have consistently raised the need to make community members aware of the real and present threat of human trafficking. We must work to not only educate children, but also families and the general public, about the safety risks.

The statistics on sex trafficking and exploitation among young people are startling. Approximately one out of six runaway youth are likely victims of sex trafficking, and roughly one out of three youth are lured into prostitution, victimization, sex-trafficked within 48 hours of running away from home.

This is happening all over the country and not just in my home State. Therefore, I urge all Members to lead efforts in their districts to continue the conversation about human trafficking to learn what more we can do in our communities and to curtail this heinous crime.

H.R. 246 is another step to educating our communities about human trafficking victims, and it continues our work to ensure that we are doing what we can to help reduce this horrible crime.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 246.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 246.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

PRIME MINISTER NETANYAHU, IRAN, AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I support Speaker BOEHNER's invitation to Prime Minister Netanyahu to address this body to discuss the Iranian threat and the growing instability in the Middle East due to the rise of global jihadist networks.

A nuclear-capable Iran will spark an arms race in the region and directly threaten America's interests as Iran continues to make progress on its intercontinental ballistic missile program. But as grave as this threat is to America, it pales in comparison to the existential threat that it poses to our democratic ally, the Jewish State of Israel.

No other nation is more familiar with the Iranian threat and the pitfalls of our ongoing nuclear negotiations than Israel, and that is why it is imperative that we hear firsthand from Prime Minister Netanyahu on Israel's assessment of Iran's nuclear program and other terrorist threats that are emanating from the Middle East.

Thank you, Speaker BOEHNER, for that invitation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JERMAINE KEARSE

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

Mr. HECK of Washington. Mr. Speaker, Gandhi once famously said: ''Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.''

Jermaine Kearse has been making plays in Washington State for more than 10 years, first as a Lancer at Lakes High, then as a Husky at the University of Washington, and since 2012 as, of course, a Seattle Seahawk.

You may very well have seen his game-winning catch in the NFC Championship game in the end zone. But that game wasn't a cakewalk for Jermaine by any means. There were interceptions and there were drops.

It was on the sidelines, however, that one of Jermaine's injured teammates said to him to forget about it and to remember that there are still plays to be made here.

Ever want to give up? Ever think it is too hard? Ever think the odds are stacked against you? Remember the will of Jermaine Kearse and the Seattle Seahawks. Tell yourself there are still plays to be made.

Congratulations, number 15. Lakewood and the entire 10th Congressional District are very, very proud of you and, frankly, we can't wait to see you fly in Glendale and make the New England Patriots shake and the earth move.

Go, Hawks.

ANWR DESIGNATION IS AN ENERGY MORATORIUM

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an area of great concern. The Obama administration has just announced their intention to designate more than 12 million acres of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska as wilderness.

Now, this move would place a de facto moratorium on oil and gas production on the largest onshore, unexplored, and potentially productive areas in the United States.

While this area only represents about 8 percent of the total size of ANWR, the Energy Information Administration suggests a great potential for the recovery of oil and gas based upon nearby plays in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, the President often touts America's move towards greater energy independence. The irony is that most of that, much of this production has occurred on private lands and by private hands. Placing new prohibitions on Federal lands is simply doublespeak.

Thomas Edison once said, and I quote, ''Seeming to do is not doing.''

Mr. Speaker, while we may not be focused on energy prices at the moment, planning for the future is as prudent as it is wise. I encourage the administration to think about our future. The American people deserve as much.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HILL) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 26, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for documents issued by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana in connection with a criminal case currently pending before that court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will determine whether compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) is recognized

for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of packages of human trafficking legislation to be considered by the House of Representatives this week, 12 different pieces of legislation. I also rise today in support of all the good work done by my colleagues here in Congress on the issue of human trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, as a former United States Ambassador, I was exposed firsthand to the horrors of human trafficking on an international level. I witnessed and reported on devastating consequences of human trafficking, where innocent women and children were dragged into the dark abyss of sex slavery. But never in my wildest dreams did I ever think human trafficking was so rampant right here in the United States of America. Americans are being forced into sexual slavery by ruthless human traffickers.

Mr. Speaker, right now there are young women being forced into prostitution in virtually every district across this Nation. It is hiding in plain sight. In fact, I was shocked to learn that my own hometown of St. Louis, Missouri, has been identified as one of the top 20 areas for sex trafficking in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, this problem is before our eyes. It is in our communities, it is in our neighborhoods, and it is in our cul-de-sacs. It is right here before us. Every year, thousands of young Americans' lives are impacted by this despicable crime. However, there is hope.

I take hope from the work done by the law enforcement professionals who are on the front lines every day protecting our Nation's children from those who would seek to exploit them. I take hope from those who work in victims services and their tireless efforts to help survivors recover, heal, and forge new lives out of the horrors of sexual enslavement. Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, I take hope from all the survivors, the survivors of this hideous crime. Their strength gives us strength, their resolve gives us inspiration, and their steadfast commitment to ending sex trafficking gives us all the courage to fight.

□ 1730

Mr. Speaker, because of the efforts of many individuals and groups, I am happy to report that Congress has taken notice of this serious problem. Years of work by Representatives NOEM, POE, PAULSEN, HULTGREN, REICHERT, SMITH, among many others, have raised awareness of this issue and have laid the foundation for the long overdue action Congress is presently taking. I am grateful that many of my colleagues have held events in their home districts to raise awareness and education of this crime.

Last year in St. Louis, I participated, along with Judge POE, in a conference at which the private and public sectors came together to share best practices about combating human trafficking. Representatives DAVIS, HUDSON, WALBERG, ROSKAM, COFFMAN, HUIZENGA, and HECK, among so many other Members of my colleagues, have all held human trafficking events in their districts to raise awareness and offer solutions to end sexual assault and human trafficking. I applaud these efforts, and I look forward to continuing this work for years to come.

However, Mr. Speaker, there is much, much work to be done. As legislators, we have an obligation to come together and do something because we can, because we should, and because we must.

The legislation that we are voting on this week in the House of Representatives will provide prosecutors with the tools they need to prosecute traffickers and will provide social service providers with the resources they need to assist victims in healing. These bills will mandate much-needed awareness and training, and will provide government agencies with the accurate, dependable statistics they need to combat this terrible crime.

I am so proud of the action this body has taken to recognize and address this problem, which has so long festered in the shadows.

I am equally proud of all my colleagues today who have come to the floor to speak up for the victims of human trafficking, to show them they are not alone, that we are with them, and that we will no longer be silent in the face of such depravity.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield to one of my colleagues, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HULTGREN). He is reintroducing his bill, the Sex Trafficking Demand Reduction Act. The bill urges nations to recognize the link between the purchase of commercial sex and the prevalence of human trafficking in society, and to confront the former in order to effectively combat the latter. The bill targets demand.

He has hosted anti-trafficking forums for Members of Congress at which the anti-trafficking documentary ''Nefarious'' was shown. The producers of the film from Exodus Cry attended.

He is a member of the House leadership Human Trafficking Task Force and the Human Trafficking Caucus, and he has worked with the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission on efforts to help human trafficking victims both in the U.S. and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois, RANDY HULTGREN.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in recognition of Human Trafficking Awareness Month and Human Trafficking Awareness Week here in the House of Representatives.

I especially want to thank my good friend and colleague from Missouri, ANN WAGNER, for hosting tonight's Special Order.

Today, human trafficking represents a modern form of slavery. It is a crisis that victimizes 21 million people worldwide. In my home State of Illinois, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center estimates that 25,000 women and girls are exploited each year by sex traffickers. Because of its strategic location as a major transportation and commercial center, Chicago has become a major national hub for human trafficking.

As a member of the Congressional Human Trafficking Task Force, we are working to coordinate the efforts of the congressional leadership and international anti-trafficking groups to punish perpetrators, rescue and bring hope to victims, and assist nations in their fight against the global epidemic of trafficking in human beings.

Through legislation like that which the House will bring to the floor this week, I am pleased to see this body take critical steps to target the perpetrators of human trafficking and enhance efforts toward eradicating it.

Later this week, I will be reintroducing my own bill, the Sex Trafficking Demand Reduction Act. Evidence suggests a clear link between the purchase of commercial sex and the prevalence of sex trafficking in a society. Where there is a robust demand for commercial sex, human trafficking as an industry and practice thrives as well. The Sex Trafficking Demand Reduction Act highlights this link and requires national governments to factor in their efforts to combat demand as part of their overall fight against human trafficking.

Human trafficking is the most insidious of criminal enterprises. It targets the youngest and most vulnerable in society, stealing their innocence and depriving them of any hope of escaping a downward spiral of depravity and despair. Thankfully, we are all becoming increasingly aware of the extent of human trafficking and the magnitude of the effects on its victims. Through the persistent efforts of international anti-human trafficking groups, national, State, and local governments, the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, and dedicated individuals concerned about the communities in which they live, we have made sustained inroads towards eradicating the scourge of human trafficking. We can envision the day when human trafficking will no longer represent a blight on humanity, a day when victims will experience complete restoration.

Again, I want to thank my colleague from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) for this opportunity to speak.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw attention to this bracelet that I have on that many of my colleagues are going to be wearing over

the next 2 days as we pass 12 pieces of human trafficking legislation. This tab bracelet was handmade by dedicated volunteers to raise funds for Crisis Aid International safe homes in my own hometown of St. Louis, Missouri. The safe homes provide comfort and support for young women rescued from the horrors of sex trafficking.

The bracelet project, which was inspired by an 11-year-old victim wanting to make a difference, has become the symbol of hope for these precious young people.

Join me. I ask all my colleagues to join me in wearing this bracelet to spread awareness about the scourge of sex slavery.

Next, it is my pleasure to yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio, Representative JOYCE BEATTY.

Last year, Congresswoman BEATTY partnered with Senator PORTMAN from Ohio to introduce bipartisan, bicameral legislation, the Bringing Missing Children Home Act, to improve law enforcement reporting and response procedures in cases of missing children, the most vulnerable victims of child trafficking and sexual exploitation.

This Congress, she introduces H.R. 246, which would improve and update the Missing Children's Assistance Act in order to reflect the current state of Federal law and reinforce that children who are sex-trafficked or sexually exploited are victims and not criminals.

I am a proud cosponsor of the gentlewoman's legislation, and it is my pleasure to yield to the gentlelady from Ohio, Representative JOYCE BEATTY.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, first let me just say thank you to my colleague from Missouri, Congresswoman ANN WAGNER, for organizing tonight's Special Order hour but, probably more importantly, a bipartisan Special Order hour. And let me say, I proudly wear this bracelet in honor of all of those survivors.

I also want to note that her work as a former United States Ambassador exposed her firsthand to the horrors of human trafficking on an international level. Her work has raised awareness of this problem and has laid the foundation for congressional action.

Despite international efforts to eradicate human trafficking, it still exists and affects communities in every country, including the United States. This transnational crime exploits the weakest and often subjects victims to mental and physical abuse.

Human trafficking is an estimated multibillion-dollar-a-year international enterprise that forces the weakest among us into the horrors of modern day slavery.

It is also one of the fastest-growing crimes in the world. In fact, according to the United States State Department, human trafficking is the world's second-largest criminal enterprise, Mr. Speaker, after illegal drug trade. It is forced prostitution, domestic slavery, and forced labor.

It is also oftentimes underground and masked so well that it is difficult to recognize. These victims are our housekeepers, our farmworkers brought into the United States by labor brokers who promised a job but enslaved these victims instead. Sex traffickers target the weakest members of our society by using violence or threats or other coercive means to keep victims enslaved.

Human trafficking deprives individuals of their most basic and unalienable rights—life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That is why we must continue to work to end human trafficking and support the victims by providing resources and assistance during their time of need.

My home State of Ohio is the fifth-leading State for human trafficking. In Ohio, an estimated 1,100 Ohio children become victims, with some 3,000 more at risk. In fact, a preliminary report on the scope of the problem in Ohio cited that 13 years of age is the most common age for youth to become victims of child sex trafficking.

During my time in public service, as a public servant both in the Ohio Legislature and here, I have heard story after story of heartbreaking personal human trafficking experiences from Ohio. Just 2 weeks ago, my hometown paper, The Columbus Dispatch, reported that a massage spa in central Ohio was serving as a front for organized prostitution, where 18 women who spoke little or no English were forced to work there, eat there, and sleep there. Authorities believe that these women were likely trafficked into the United States to work in a sex trade.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to have a copy of this article placed into the RECORD.

[From the Columbus Dispatch, Jan. 15, 2015]

(By Theodore Decker)

Behind the Powell storefront—between a dentist's office and a dessert shop—the women slept each night on massage tables.

Rarely, investigators say, did they appear to leave the Amsun Massage Spa, a business that caught the attention of Powell police not long after it opened last fall in a strip mall at 128 E. Olentangy St.

The women worked there. They ate there. They slept there. They might not have had a choice, authorities said.

Local, state and federal investigators announced yesterday that the massage parlor was a front for organized prostitution and was one of four addresses raided in Delaware and Franklin counties as part of Powell's investigation. A parallel federal investigation resulted in searches of other addresses, although details of those raids were under court-ordered seal yesterday.

The combined searches turned up 18 women who speak little or no English and might have been trafficked to work in the sex trade. Investigators said various agencies have stepped in to provide shelter and other support to the women.

''They don't know the culture, they don't speak the language, and they're very untrusting of law enforcement,'' said Nathan Emery, special agent in charge of the Columbus office of the federal Homeland Security Investigations agency.

The women fear deportation, a threat that was used by their employers to keep them in line, police said. Authorities are trying to pin down their identities and countries of origin.

''We are not just arresting those who are suspected of trafficking women for sex, we are also rescuing those who may be victims of this heinous crime,'' said Cmdr. Gary Cameron of the Columbus police narcotics bureau.

Powell's search warrants were served at Amsun Massage in Powell; Amsun Massage, 1000 High St., Worthington; Rainbow Massage, 5564 Hilliard-Rome Rd. on the Far West Side; and a Jasmine Court residence on the Far West Side.

A man and woman from Columbus were arrested: Xiao Shuang Chao, 56, and Qing Xu, whose age was unknown. Investigators aren't sure of the couple's relationship but said they operated the businesses locally. They face organized-crime charges in Delaware County Common Pleas Court.

Powell Police Chief Gary Vest said that soon after Amsun opened, his department was tipped that women were living there and providing sex-related services to clients.

Emery said women are brought to the United States by human traffickers and, instead of finding a better life, ''to pay off their debts, they're put into forced servitude.''

Mrs. BEATTY. Because of the importance of this issue in my State and in our Nation, I engaged during my first term in Congress to pass a sex trafficking bill, 400–9. Last year, as you heard from Congresswoman WAGNER, I partnered with Senator PORTMAN from Ohio to introduce bipartisan, bicameral legislation, the Bringing Missing Children Home Act, H.R. 3905.

This Congress, I have introduced H.R. 246, which would improve and update the Missing Children's Assistance Act in order to reflect the current state of Federal law and reinforce that children who are sex-trafficked or sexually exploited are victims and not criminals.

Lastly, my bill would add the phrase ''sex child trafficking, including child prostitution'' to section b(1)(P) of the Missing Children's Assistance Act to fight the perception that sex trafficking is a voluntary, victimless crime.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, in speaking against and bringing awareness of human trafficking. Our country, our constituents, our children need our help.

Mrs. WAGNER. I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership and her friendship. Thank you so much, Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY.

Next, Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield to the gentleman from Texas, Congressman TED POE. Judge POE has been a longstanding advocate for victims of crime. He has dedicated his life to promoting justice and giving voice to survivors and, as a Member of Congress, has been a tireless advocate for legislation that provides a comprehensive approach to address the problem of human trafficking in the United States. Congressman POE has been a friend and a colleague and a kindred spirit to me in the House of Representatives. His championing of victims' rights has inspired countless survivors of crime to stand up for their rights and demand change.

I yield to the Congressman from Texas, Judge TED POE.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentlewoman from Missouri for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, it is worth noting that this effort to combat human trafficking in the United States, in my opinion, is led by the ladies of the House on both sides, the Republicans and the Democrats. The spunk of my friend from Missouri and all of the others who have spoken and will speak later on these pieces of legislation is obvious.

□ 1745

There are 12 bills, Mr. Speaker. They are bipartisan bills on one subject. As long as I have been here, I have never seen so much attention by all Members of the House on both sides of the aisle moving and trying to fix a problem as this.

Twelve pieces of legislation—many of those passed last year, they just never got voted on in the Senate—and we are bringing them up again. Once again, it is the ladies to whom America owes a great gratitude to. My grandmother used to say that there is nothing more powerful than a woman who has made up her mind. The ladies of the House have made up their mind on the issue of trafficking. They are not going to tolerate it, and neither are the rest of us.

Mr. Speaker, it is ironic to me that this tremendous amount of legislation—this important subject—is getting so little play in the national media. It seems that the media and America, I guess, is more concerned about the disappearance of air in footballs than they are about the disappearance of America's children that are being trafficked across the United States.

The worst thing that is taking place among our youth is the slavery that is happening to them. The runaways, the throwaways, and the stowaways of America's children are disappearing into this scourge of slavery, as it has been rightfully called.

Many of us remember how we got involved in trying to prevent this. My first experience was meeting a little girl in Peru at the age of 7 whose name is Lilly. Lilly could not speak because of the numerous assaults that had been committed against her before she was rescued. It is not just kids in South America or Central America or overseas; it is America's children that are being trafficked.

We have to make it clear that these young girls, primarily, that are on the streets and that are being sold and bartered by these slave masters are not criminals. These are not prostitutes. These are victims of crimes. America needs to change its focus and its understanding that when we see that occurring, that person is a victim, not a criminal.

As has been mentioned, Mr. Speaker, this is one of the leading ways that criminal organizations are making money because, in the drug trade, you get drugs and you sell them one time; plus the risk of apprehension is greater for drug sales than with the selling of kids. Children can be sold multiples times a night, and they are.

When the trafficker is captured, very often, nothing happens, so that is why this lucrative trade continues to make money, but it also continues to make money because there is a demand in this country for this scourge.

These men, primarily, that abuse children are criminals. They are sex offenders. They are child molesters. Some call them johns. They are not johns. John was a good guy. He is in the Bible. Why would we call them that?

They are child molesters, and we need to recognize them for what they are. We need to know who they are. Their names need to be published, and they need to go to jail for what they do because we have to go after the demand.

That is why I have introduced the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act along with my friend CAROLYN MALONEY from New York. CAROLYN MALONEY—a New York Democrat and a Texas conservative Republican, that is just about as bipartisan as you can get, Mr. Speaker. We are separated by a common language, to coin the phrase; but on this issue, like most Members of the House, we are united that we are going to stop this.

This bill does a few things. It goes after the trafficker, the slave master. It helps law enforcement capture them and put them in jail. That is why we build prisons. Then it goes after the victim—the child—rescues them, restores them, and finds a place for them.

Did you know, Mr. Speaker, that in the United States, according to the Humane Society, there are about 3,000 animal shelters? We need them all. I have got three Dalmatians. I got one of them from a shelter in Dallas. I call him the weapon of mass destruction. We need those shelters.

But did you know that, according to Shared Hope International, there are only about 300 beds for minor sex-trafficked victims in the United States? That ought not to be. They need more places to go when the police rescue them.

God bless the police. Many times, when they find these children, they know they are sex-trafficked victims, but there is no place to put them, so they put them in the juvenile justice system. That is not a good idea, but that is the only place they are safe. We need to find residences and homes for them. That is what this bill does.

The third thing it does is it goes after the demand, the person in the middle, the customer that abuses children, the rapist. We are going after those guys, Mr. Speaker. The days of ''boys being boys'' is over. Those people are going to be arrested and prosecuted for the crimes that they have committed.

Mr. Speaker, I insert into the RECORD some of the numerous anti-trafficking organizations that have helped all of us in this legislation.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING, CHILD WELFARE, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Children at Risk (Houston), Rights for Girls, Shared Hope International, End Child Prostitution and Trafficking—USA, National Children's Alliance, National Association to Protect Children, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Equality Now, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, Fraternal of Police, National Association of Police Organizations, National Conference of State Legislatures, National Criminal Justice Association, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I call these groups the victims' posse that helps us in this issue.

The last thing I want to mention, Mr. Speaker, is I used to prosecute criminals. I was a judge in criminal court for 22 years. Sexual assault is what it is called now, but the crime really is rape. It is rape of America's greatest resource: children.

We cannot tolerate this. We ask sometimes: Why are we even here? Well, I can tell you why we are here. We are here to make sure that all Americans, including American children and those immigrants that have been sold into the United States, are protected from crimes like rape.

Mr. Speaker, children are not for sale. I am glad to see that the House is making sure that they will not be for sale in the future. I thank the gentlelady for the time.

And that is just the way it is.

Mrs. WAGNER. Thank you, Judge POE, for your tremendous leadership in this area and so many others dealing with victims' rights.

It is now my pleasure to recognize the gentlewoman from New Hampshire, Representative ANN KUSTER. Representative KUSTER has been a strong proponent of human and women's rights, advocating for a number of bills that support fighting sexual assault and human trafficking, including her bipartisan legislation to improve whistleblower protections which was passed into law last year to protect military members who report instances of sexual abuse.

Last Congress, Representative KUSTER and I joined together in coauthoring a letter condemning the kidnapping of nearly 300 girls by the terrorist group Boko Haram and calling on the United States Government to work with the United Nations to enact more comprehensive financial sanctions against the organization.

I thank her for her leadership on this area, and it is my pleasure to yield to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire, Representative ANN KUSTER.

Ms. KUSTER. Thank you, Judge POE, and to my dear colleague, ANN WAGNER, and to all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for tackling this issue.

I am proud to join my colleagues in passing these six commonsense bills

which I have pushed for across the aisle to strengthen protections for victims of sex trafficking, and Judge POE has done a great job setting the stage here for the child who is the victim of sex trafficking.

I think we all need to work on our language and our understanding. He is absolutely correct. I look forward to passing more of these reforms tomorrow and to continuing our bipartisan work together.

It saddens and astonishes me that in today's world, human trafficking remains such a serious problem both here at home and abroad. Throughout the world, thousands of women and underage children are being trafficked and forced to commit sexual acts against their will.

As Judge POE so eloquently stated, rape, that is what we are talking about. It is sickening that individuals advertise and promote this heinous practice in order to make a quick profit. Representative WAGNER's legislation, the SAVE Act, which I helped to cointroduce, would penalize individuals who knowingly host and sell advertisements for the commercial exploitation of minors and trafficking victims.

Last Congress, as she eloquently stated, I was very proud to reach across the aisle and join Representative WAGNER to lead all House women—every single House woman Member, Republican and Democrat—in urging the Obama administration to push the United Nations Security Council to add Boko Haram to the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, following the abduction of nearly 300 schoolgirls threatened to be sold into sexual slavery by this terrorist group.

The horrific kidnapping of the female Nigerian school students captured the world's shock and horror; however, human trafficking is not just a foreign issue. Together, we can be a powerful bipartisan voice against the horrors of this and other instances of human trafficking.

Both Democrats and Republicans in the House understand the importance of working together to protect women and girls, and they know that trafficking isn't just a political issue, it is a human issue.

I have organized discussions on this topic back home in New Hampshire where I have heard from community leaders, law enforcement officials, academic researchers, advocates, and—most importantly and, frankly, most eloquently—the trafficking victims themselves about the ongoing occurrence of human and sex trafficking taking place right here in our own backyard.

Domestic child sex trafficking is a serious problem in the United States, with an estimated 293,000 American youth at risk of commercial sex trafficking and exploitation.

It is imperative that we pass these bills to help law enforcement rescue domestic victims, track down their exploiters, provide additional tools for prosecutors to treat trafficked minors as victims instead of criminals, and ensure access to protective services. Again, I commend Judge POE for his eloquent description.

I applaud the House leadership for bringing to a vote these bipartisan bills to prevent trafficking and provide support to victims. As a mother, I honestly cannot even imagine the anguish and the pain that these families go through as they fight to bring their loved ones back home.

It is essential that we pass these bills and, moving forward, that we do everything together to support States' and countries' efforts to eliminate human trafficking.

Thank you, Representative WAGNER, and to all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for organizing this worthy effort.

Mrs. WAGNER. I thank the gentlewoman from New Hampshire for her leadership and her friendship on so many matters that we come together.

Mr. Speaker, it is now my pleasure to introduce the gentlewoman from Tennessee, Representative DIANE BLACK. She was an original cosponsor of my SAVE Act that we will be introducing tomorrow and that I will have the pleasure to talk about on the floor during debate tomorrow.

She has sponsored roundtables in her district with law enforcement and community leaders on the impact of human trafficking in her home State of Tennessee, and she has worked with End Slavery Tennessee to see firsthand their efforts to combat trafficking in her State.

She is a leader among us for all victims, all those who have no voice. She is a friend and a dear colleague. It is my pleasure to yield to the representative from Tennessee, Congresswoman DIANE BLACK.

Mrs. BLACK. I thank the gentlelady and my good friend from Missouri for yielding to me, and I also thank her for all her tireless hours of work in not only bringing up this issue so that we will be more aware, but also in finding solutions so that we can help those that are victims.

I am honored to wear the bracelet that is made by the survivors, and I thank her for her endless and tireless work on behalf of these young women—young women and men—who have become victims.

Mr. Speaker, for many Americans, the issue of human trafficking is far removed from their daily lives, something that is relegated to foreign countries and maybe history books, but the truth is human sex trafficking is the third largest criminal enterprise in the world, with an estimated 300,000 young Americans at risk of becoming victims.

According to the Department of Justice, those most likely to fall prey to this heartbreaking crime are 12-to 14-year-old girls. These young women are someone's daughters, and we cannot turn a blind eye to their plight.

Last year, I had the opportunity to visit End Slavery Tennessee, a nonprofit that works tirelessly to confront trafficking in my State. Their mission is taken from the Book of Isaiah, ''to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives, and release from darkness for the prisoners.''

This week, the House will take meaningful steps to fulfill this vision by taking up a series of bipartisan bills addressing the impact of trafficking. This includes the SAVE Act, sponsored by my good friend from Missouri, legislation that I cosponsored to go after the online advertisers who profit off of the sale of these innocent victims.

□ 1800

Mr. Speaker, no single act of Congress will stop all acts of trafficking, or even bring justice for every victim whose innocence has been stolen by this evil activity, but we cannot let our inability to do everything stop us from doing something.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership on this issue and so many others.

It is now my pleasure to yield to a brandnew freshman Member, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER). Combating human trafficking is a priority for Congressman WALKER, and this is his very first bill introduced here in Washington, the Human Trafficking Detection Act of 2015. It aims to help end this unconscionable industry. North Carolina is ranked as a top State for labor and sex trafficking, and this vital legislation works to effectively train and inform Department of Homeland Security personnel to better detect and intersect human traffickers and their victims.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman WAGNER for her work in organizing this Special Order, and I also thank Representative MARK MEADOWS in allowing us to lead with such an important piece of legislation.

It was only a week ago that we celebrated the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., who famously said: ''Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.''

We now have the opportunity to act upon one of the greatest injustices of our time—the growing criminal industry of human trafficking.

All across America, vulnerable young men, women, children, and even entire families, are being victimized and exploited in unspeakable ways. These precious human beings are seen by their traffickers as a commodity, valued only for the profit they can turn. We must not remain silent about such depravity. Rather, we must engage with immediate fervor on this significant humanitarian crisis.

Victims of human trafficking can literally be hidden in plain sight. However, we know that the United States is considered a leading destination for human traffickers. It is a top source of income for organized crime and involves more than half the street gangs in our Nation. From our big cities to our small towns, this billion-dollar industry is here. And unless we move

quickly, it will be here for some time. It is growing, and it must be eradicated.

Law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and nonprofit groups such as Alamance for Freedom in my own Sixth Congressional District of North Carolina are on the front lines of this battle, and they are pleading for our help. Here in Congress, we hear your voices. Most importantly, we hear the voices of those trapped in this evil, modern-day slavery.

There is an immediate need for training that will enable officers and agents to identify and rescue victims of human trafficking.

Last week, I introduced my first bill, H.R. 460, the Human Trafficking Detection Act of 2015. This bipartisan legislation works to effectively train and inform the Department of Homeland Security personnel to better detect and intercept human traffickers and their victims.

We took an oath a few weeks ago promising to protect the people of this great country. I am convinced that part of this high calling is to protect those who are victims of human trafficking. Our President even says that the fight against human trafficking is one of the greatest human rights causes of our time, and the United States will continue to lead it. Well, now is the time to lead.

This bill will provide the very necessary training skills in identifying victims of human trafficking as they enter and move about across this country. It is not a final step, but an important one that can immediately save these precious individuals from years of abuse. Let us do so with boldness, courage, and an unflinching dedication to those who need us the most.

Mrs. WAGNER. I thank Congressman WALKER for his leadership, and congratulations on your first piece of legislation—it is so very important—that you will be bringing forward tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure for me to cosponsor with the gentlewoman from South Dakota (Mrs. NOEM) this Special Order on human trafficking. I look forward tomorrow to a number of bills that are going to pass in this United States House of Representatives. I look forward to speaking tomorrow on the SAVE Act that will go after advertisers of this hideous and heinous crime.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield back the remainder of my time so the gentlewoman from South Dakota (Mrs. NOEM) may speak. She has been a friend and a partner on the issue of human trafficking since her time in Congress. She has been a real partner to me as we moved this legislation forward. We were able to move, as I said, five pieces of legislation last Congress and will be moving 12 tomorrow with her leadership and support on this very, very important issue. She has a wonderful piece of legislation, H.R. 350, the Human Trafficking Prevention, Intervention, and Recovery Act of 2015. I am a proud cosponsor and look forward to its passage tomorrow.

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

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to condemn the horrific tragedy of human trafficking. Globally, there are 20.9 million people who have been trafficked. Not one U.S. State has been spared—sadly men, women and children in every state have been victimized. This is not just a global problem, it is an American problem and it is right here in our own backyards.

I witnessed this problem first hand while working in Washington State for the King County Sheriffs Office. All too often, I spoke to young girls on the street one day, urging them to get off the streets, and the next they had disappeared. This was allowed to happen for far too long, because for many of us, these girls and even many boys are invisible. We do not want to see the problem and so we too often choose to look the other way and pretend it isn't real—not in our communities.

We have to make the problem—and the solutions—visible. Last year, I introduced and passed legislation which became law that helped—will help—prevent the sex trafficking of youth in foster care. The children in federal and state care are often the most vulnerable to becoming trafficking victims. According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited children, as many as 6 in 10 of the young women forced into selling their bodies on the streets are current or former foster children. I was honored to have been able to lead the efforts to change that reality last Congress. I stand today to join my colleagues in continuing to raise awareness and pledge my commitment to keeping up the fight on behalf of our children and working to enact additional legislation to end human trafficking.

This week, we will vote on legislation sponsored by Congresswomen WAGNER, ELLMERS and NOEM, Congressman PAULSEN, JOHNSON and POE and many others which will go a long ways towards preventing the trafficking of countless men, women, boys and girls. This is a fight we must all be in together. We must all join with our colleagues, with law enforcement, and with those who are dedicated to ending human trafficking across the globe to say "no more".

COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from South Dakota (Mrs. NOEM) will control the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, human trafficking is a real problem, and it is happening right here in America. It is not just happening overseas. And whether you live in a State like mine of South Dakota or in New York City, it is impacting every single State in our country, right in our backyards.

The first step to recovery is admitting you have a problem, and boy, do we have a problem. I am thrilled that we have so many Members here to speak on this important issue, not only the problems we are having, but what we are doing this week to address those here in this country, to give as many tools to our law enforcement officers to make sure that we address the problems we are seeing on our streets every single day and protect as many children and victims as possible.

I would like to yield now to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOHO). He has been extremely active in the fight to end human trafficking through legislation on Capitol Hill as well as through community engagement at his home in Florida. In his district, Congressman YOHO has brought together representatives from Homeland Security, from local police and sheriff's offices, and State's attorneys for roundtable summits to raise awareness and develop best practices for ending human trafficking in Florida.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my distinguished colleague from the great State of South Dakota.

I rise in solidarity with the growing coalition that is united in the global fight against human trafficking. The numbers are overwhelming. We have all heard the estimates of over 22 million people being trafficked worldwide; sometimes, though, they seem far away. People often say: That kind of stuff doesn't happen here. It happens overseas. It doesn't happen right here.

No, Mr. Speaker, this is happening in our own backyards. There is an estimate of over 1 million teenagers running away every year in the United States. Runaways are most at risk and vulnerable to trafficking. In fact, runaways are typically picked up and pimped out or trafficked within the first 48 hours.

Just 5 days ago in my home State of Florida, a 15-year-old girl was discovered by police in a motel being sexually abused and trafficked several times a day. Her parents had been handing out missing child flyers in the neighborhood. Luckily, someone recognized her picture from an online ad and contacted authorities. That young girl went from being a runaway to a trafficking victim in less than a month.

That precious 15-year-old child could have been anybody's child. It could have been yours or mine. However, it is not just runaways that become victims of trafficking. Traffickers don't discriminate based on economic class, race, gender, or age. Traffickers are motivated by profit, solely profit.

The average cost of a slave worldwide is roughly $90. Human trafficking is a $30-plus billion industry, and it is the second largest source of revenue for terrorists around the world. As the world's fastest growing criminal enterprise, it is shocking how little people know about this horrendous practice. Furthermore, it is appalling how little is put forward in effort to stop it.

This week, the House of Representatives will pass a series of bills designed to streamline law enforcement resources, toughen penalties for offenders, and provide resources to victims. I commend the sponsors of these bills as well as all Members up here today who are willing to stand up and say enough

is enough. Human trafficking is not a Republican or Democrat issue. Taking a stand against trafficking is something we all must do, remembering that, while January is National Human Trafficking Awareness Month, we must all be vigilant and active in our fight.

No, Mr. Speaker, your neighborhood and my neighborhood are not immune. No city is exempt, and these victims are part of our daily lives, quietly suffering with almost nowhere to turn. We cannot in good conscience continue our daily routines without making every effort to stamp out the practice of forced labor, domestic servitude, and sex trafficking.

I encourage all Americans to go to the Department of Homeland Security's Web site and watch the Blue Campaign video to become familiar with the common signs of human trafficking. Let's all work to stomp out this scourge of activity on humanity.

Mrs. NOEM. I thank the gentleman for being involved in the issue and working so hard to protect as many victims as possible across the country.

I now yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER). Last year, Congresswoman HARTZLER held a human trafficking summit in Columbia, which was one of her most successful events that she did all year. Additionally, she held a foster care listening session with Congresswoman BASS where they also listened to concerns regarding foster youth and how human trafficking does impact our children who are involved in foster care.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Representative NOEM's leadership on this and the opportunity to share tonight how horrific this crime is and how we must unite and stand together to put an end to it.

With almost 21 million victims globally and more than 293,000 American youth at risk of sexual commercial exploitation and trafficking each year, this heinous crime must be stopped. This week, I am proud to work with my colleagues to vote on legislation that will take steps to do just that.

Tonight I would like to share the story of an amazing woman in my district that I had the privilege of meeting last year. Misty, a survivor of human trafficking, was first trafficked at the age of 14, and it would be 16 more years before she would finally escape a world in which she was brutally beaten and tortured regularly to keep her submissive. When she was severely injured 5 years ago, she thought she was going to die and was too tired to go on anymore. It was then that she agreed to go with a kind police officer who found her that day to get some help.

There aren't words to adequately describe the strength and courage of this woman who testified against her trafficker; who, thankfully, because of Misty's testimony this fall, was found guilty of all charges. Despite the horrific conditions Misty had to endure, she willingly shares her story with others and says her experience motivates her to help others who have been in similar situations. It is women like Misty who inspire me to fight against this scourge in our society. It is a crime against humanity, and it must be stopped.

Mrs. NOEM. I thank the gentlewoman for being involved in the issue and for telling the stories that so many of us need to hear. It is when you hear these stories that truly your heart is impacted to where you can't let it go, where you start to work day in and day out to do all that you can to make sure that we have the tools necessary to stop this industry.

I turn next to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), who is a longtime advocate for human rights and for the alleviation of human suffering. He is the sponsor of International Megan's Law, which cracks down on the practice of sex tourism. He is also sponsor of the Human Trafficking Prioritization Act, which will make sure that our government gives human trafficking the top priority it deserves in our diplomacy with other countries.

With that, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank Mrs. NOEM for yielding and for the leadership that she has demonstrated, along with Congresswoman WAGNER. As Judge POE said, women of our caucus have stood up and are leading the fight to combat human trafficking with a zero tolerance policy.

This is an historic week in the House as we seek to pass 12 bills to fight human trafficking. As the prime author of the landmark Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 as well as reauthorizations of that law in 2003 and 2005, I believe the bills under consideration by the House today and tomorrow will further prevent horrific crimes of human trafficking, protect and assist victims, and aid the prosecution of those who exploit and abuse.

A special thanks to our Republican leadership, especially Conference Chair CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS and Majority Leader KEVIN MCCARTHY, who have made this a priority for the House. Hopefully, it will be extended to the Senate, and the President will follow that lead.

When I first introduced TVPA, Trafficking Victims Protection Act, in 1998, the legislation was met with a wall of skepticism and opposition. People both inside of government and out thought the bold new legislation that included sheltering, asylum, and other protections for the victims, long jail sentences and asset confiscation for the traffickers, and tough sanctions for governments that failed to meet minimum standards was merely a solution in search of a problem.

□ 1815

Mr. Speaker, for most people at the time, the term ''trafficking'' applied almost exclusively to illicit drugs or weapons. Reports of vulnerable persons, especially women and children, being reduced to commodities for sale were often met with surprise and credulity or indifference. It took 2 years and numerous congressional hearings to overcome opponents and muster the votes for passage.

Now, according to the ILO, approximately 21 million people are victimized. Some put the number as high as 36 million subjected to modern-day slavery. The ILO also says that traffickers make profits in excess of $150 billion a year.

We do have a tier system. We have a trafficking office, an Ambassador at Large; we have a robust effort on the State level. Many States have passed laws that mirror what we have done on the Federal level, so that there are more tools in the tool box to put these traffickers behind bars and to liberate the women and children.

For the past 15 years, we have seen progress on a number of anti-trafficking fronts, including laws, over 300 laws around the world to combat trafficking; and an estimated 125,000 victims have been rescued worldwide.

We also, over the past decade, have had federally funded some 42 anti-human trafficking task forces and 85,000 law enforcement officers have been trained; still, there are still far too little prosecutions and far too few liberations of those who have been trafficked.

The best estimates available now are that there are at least 100,000 American children, mostly runaways. The average age of initial enslavement is 13 years old. Let me say that again: 13-year-old girls are exploited in the commercial sex industry each year.

These children, when found, are often unnecessarily charged for prostitution, fined or put in juvenile detention, when there are other options available. They need to be protected, not prosecuted.

Again, I want to thank our leadership for making this such a high priority. This is modern-day slavery. I thank my good friend and colleague for her leadership. We have got to end modern-day slavery.

Mrs. NOEM. I thank the gentleman for his continued leadership on this issue. For years, he has invested time and effort and heart and soul into protecting as many victims as possible, and for that, we will always be grateful.

I want to yield to the good Representative from Minnesota (Mr. PAULSEN). Representative PAULSEN has been a longtime defender of the victims of human trafficking. In fact, in 2006, when he was a member of the Minnesota Legislature, he was the author of legislation that would form the first statewide human trafficking task force.

That task force was the first step toward Minnesota's safe harbor law. The legislation that he will have here on the floor this week is modeled after that on a Federal level, and I certainly appreciate his time and investment in

protecting as many children and victims as possible.

I yield to Representative PAULSEN.

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady for yielding, and I want to thank her for her leadership, along with Representative WAGNER, in coordinating and drawing attention to what this horrific crime truly is, spending a little bit of time on the House floor.

When you hear the words ''sex trafficking'' and ''human trafficking,'' a lot of people just think this is something that happens in faraway countries, that it doesn't happen in the United States. It is very sad to say that it is happening right here in our own backyards, knowing that these traffickers are exploiting young girls for their own financial gain, right in our own communities.

We are talking about 12-, 13-, and 14-year-old young girls. It is pretty hard to imagine, but it is true. It is happening in our cities. It is happening in our suburbs. It is happening in rural towns. I will say I realize how critical it is now to educate our community about what I have learned from actually speaking and talking with some of these victims.

I remember speaking with Deyanna. Deyanna is age 13. She tells the story about how, within days of meeting this so-called boyfriend, she finds herself in Philadelphia, in Chicago, being trafficked and has the wherewithal to escape with her life.

Then I meet the mother of another young girl who was violently raped and murdered this last February. The only good news I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, is that the Twin Cities, which is home now to Minneapolis, being number 13 in the level of sex trafficking, human trafficking that occurs, is also home to many leaders now in the fight against human trafficking.

Over the last 2 years, I have met with great leaders that are inspiring the community to make a difference and pass model legislation that is now being replicated across the country.

I think of Vednita Carter at Breaking Free. I think of Grant Snyder who is a Minneapolis police sergeant who was the very first officer in Minneapolis that was dedicated to working with trafficking victims; and now, he leads his department in teaching local law enforcement, both in Minnesota and in other States around the country, about how to build trust and better relationships with at-risk youth.

We have also got our county attorneys like John Choi, who has been leading the fight, getting top convictions now for a lot of these abusers.

The nonprofit community has been topnotch as well, with Catholic Charities, Brittany's Place, the Harriet Tubman Center, and the Family Partnership all making a difference.

It does give you hope, Mr. Speaker, that such a large and passionate group of people now are working together to put an end to this modern-day slavery, so the message is spreading.

I will tell you this: we need more safe harbor laws. We need them. Minnesota became the fifth State in the country to approve safe harbor legislation. That means we are essentially treating these children as victims, giving them the services they need and not treating them as criminals. That is really critical.

After the safe harbor legislation went into effect in Minnesota, guess what? We started arresting more johns than ever before. Trafficking convictions more than doubled. It is time that we bring what is working in Minnesota to the national level as well.

I know tomorrow we are going to be voting on this legislation to have this safe harbor legislation that I have authored pass with bipartisan support. A number of other legislation will pass with bipartisan support.

The good news, as the gentlewoman knows, is this is about saving lives, and we are going to make a difference.

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his work on establishing safe harbor laws. Truly, what they do is that they make sure the victims are not prosecuted, that they are treated like the victims that they truly are.

It is so important that we get his bill passed tomorrow, along with my bill and the other bills that will be coming to the floor. A lot of time and effort has been put into these to make sure that they are right, that they give the tools to our law enforcement officers to make sure that this industry is ended as soon as possible.

I now would like to turn to the gentleman from Minnesota, Representative EMMER. He is from Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District and is a member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations; and the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere.

As part of his responsibility through his committee work, Mr. EMMER works closely with the committee to oversee Federal agencies, international organizations, and NGOs to discuss and to improve governmental responses to human trafficking.

With that, I yield to the Representative from Minnesota.

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues, Congresswoman KRISTI NOEM and Congresswoman ANN WAGNER, for their leadership here tonight.

Nearly a year ago, Boko Haram terrorists in Nigeria kidnapped more than 200 teenage girls with the intent of selling them off into slavery. This crime against humanity sparked international outrage, but a distracted world soon turned their attention and their backs on these young women.

Unfortunately, this was not an isolated tragedy in some faraway nation. We are in the midst of a global crisis. On every continent and in every nation, millions of human beings are sold and enslaved, forced into labor and prostitution against their will.

In the United States alone, hundreds of thousands are trafficked by transnational drug cartels and criminal organizations. The Justice Department estimates there are more than 200,000 children across the U.S. at risk of trafficking.

Human trafficking is a $30 billion per year enterprise, with thousands trafficked annually. This is not just an American problem, but there is work that we can do at home to combat this growing problem.

Congress must do everything within its power and authority to ensure that resources and judicial tools are being used to improve prosecutions, protect victims, and prevent future trafficking. Thankfully, we are not starting with nothing.

One way we can combat trafficking is through safe harbor laws that have been instituted across the country, including my home State of Minnesota. I would like to thank my colleague, Senator AMY KLOBUCHAR, for her leadership on protecting victims and assisting prosecutors by forwarding safe harbor laws at the national level.

Her leadership, with the support of countless others—including especially my colleagues JOHN KLINE and ERIC PAULSEN—comes from an ongoing effort from everyday Minnesotans looking to make an impact and rescue young men and women trapped in the sex trade.

There is also an existing network of organizations that provide services to victims of trafficking that are both life altering and lifesaving.

In my district, three such organizations stand out. Breaking Free and Heartland Girls' Ranch help women escape sexual exploitation through housing, mental health support, and education. The Link, in Carver County, provides support programs to youth and families to combat homelessness and works with at-risk children to help them reach their full potential.

Organizations like these are vital in the fight against trafficking. They make a real difference, and their efforts should be celebrated.

Congress will take important votes tomorrow to streamline agency processes and responses, improve the effectiveness of grant awards, and expand the scope of outreach and child protection initiatives.

To our collective shame, the tragedy of human trafficking persists. The words spoken tonight and the votes cast in this Chamber tomorrow cannot merely be symbolic gestures. They must be followed by action and constant vigilance. Our children deserve nothing less.

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his words and for his actions and the actions that we will be taking here on the House floor this week.

I turn now to the gentlewoman from Virginia, Representative COMSTOCK. She has been a leader in the fight against human trafficking in the Commonwealth of Virginia and now here on

the House floor. I yield to the Representative from Virginia.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues for this opportunity to recognize this month as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, and I thank my colleagues Congresswomen ANN WAGNER and KRISTI NOEM for organizing this effort.

I really appreciate how we are working together to raise awareness about this terrible crime that is happening in my district in northern Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley, throughout Virginia, and throughout—unfortunately—our country. This growing criminal enterprise we know knows no boundaries.

Mr. Speaker, the Fairfax County Police Department in my district has established the northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force to crack down on this scourge. In the past 12 months alone, just to give you an idea of this crime that is in the local area, the task force has had 156 leads, 109 victim recoveries, 267 victims identified, and 73 suspects.

Mr. Speaker, while we have done great work to combat this terrible crime in Virginia, we clearly have more work to do on every level: the local level, State level, and national level.

Four years ago, Virginia, for example, was at the bottom of the Polaris Project anti-human trafficking State rankings. Now, we are at the top because we passed many of the kind of bills that we are going to be able to pass here tomorrow and additional bills that are going to be here tomorrow.

I am very honored to be able to join all of my colleagues and with our faith-based organizations and our law enforcement officials and to be able to continue this work now on a national level and to be able to vote for these important bills that we will be addressing tomorrow.

Mrs. NOEM. I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks.

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

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 351, LNG PERMITTING CERTAINTY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114–5) on the resolution (H. Res. 48) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 351) to provide for expedited approval of exportation of natural gas, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS A TRAGEDY

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased to come to the floor at the end of the Special Order hour that Mrs. NOEM and Mrs. WAGNER have organized to join my colleagues in talking about the bills that are before us.

Human trafficking is an issue that affects every single county and community across this country—every single one. In my State of Tennessee and in the greater Nashville area, we have a wonderful organization, End Slavery Tennessee, that is doing great work to reach out, to minister, and to help.

I am so pleased that this week we are going to take the time to bring to the floor legislation that will be of help in training our medical personnel, that will also empower and encourage our law enforcement organizations and our faith-based and not-for-profit organizations.

This is a tragedy, modern-day slavery, that is taking place, the sex trafficking and the human trafficking, and I am so pleased that Congress is standing together to do something about it.

□ 1830

STRENGTHENING CHILD WELFARE RESPONSE TO TRAFFICKING ACT

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

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to be able to stand here in support of H.R. 469, the Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act. This is one of many pieces of legislation this week that we are going to be doing in the Congress, and I am so grateful to all of the people who have been involved in this critically important issue. I would especially mention the cochair of the Congressional Foster Youth Caucus, KAREN BASS, for introducing this groundbreaking legislation.

Mr. Speaker, Hubert Humphrey said a society is measured by how it treats those in the dawn of life, those in the shadows of life, and those in the twilight of life. This is such a critical issue to protect the 400,000 children in America who find themselves in foster care and vulnerable to being preyed upon by traffickers who know all too well how to exploit a child's hunger for love, acceptance, and a sense of belonging.

We must put the structures in place to treat child victims of trafficking like victims instead of treating them like criminals.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I remind us all that our first job here is to protect those who cannot protect themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to able to stand here today in support of H.R. 469, the Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act. I commend my colleague Representative KAREN BASS, the founder of the Co-chair of the Congressional Foster Youth Caucus, for introducing this groundbreaking legislation and for continuing to devote herself tirelessly to making a better future for these abused and neglected children.

Hubert Humphrey said a society is measured by how it treats those in the dawn of life, those in the shadows of life, and those in the twilight of life. Mr. Speaker, this is so applicable to our nation's foster youth. Right now over 400,000 children in America find themselves in foster care for no fault of their own. . . . And it is that trauma of abuse or neglect, that brought them into foster care in the first place, on top of being in unfamiliar circumstances, that makes them exponentially more vulnerable to be preyed upon by traffickers, who know all too well how to exploit a child's hunger for love, acceptance, and a sense of belonging.

For too long, and far too often, victims of trafficking have been allowed to fall through the cracks in the system. We have not put structures in place to treat child victims of trafficking like victims, and not treat them like criminals.

This legislation will begin to bridge the gaps where law enforcement and child protection workers need to be better equipped in order to best protect children known or suspected to be victims of sex trafficking. It also requires the submission of annual reports on the number of child victims of sex trafficking, and the reporting of that data to Congress so that we can better assess how to prevent child sex trafficking, and remove barriers that keep us from truly serving those that have become victims, and most of all, to protect the hundreds of thousands of vulnerable children to keep them from ever having to endure the evil of sex trafficking.

I am grateful for my colleague Representative BASS's leadership on this issue, and to House Leadership for recognizing the priority that must be placed upon protecting some of our nation's most vulnerable children. And I pray we will continue to work and stand together for the right of every child to be safe, protected, cherished, and loved.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

(Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California. Mr. Speaker, although slavery was abolished 150 years ago, today, modern slavery still exists in the form of human trafficking.

Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to control other people for the purpose of forced labor or sexual exploitation. According to the FBI, sex trafficking is the fastest-growing business of organized crime in the world.

Approximately 20.9 million victims of human trafficking exist in our world today, and hundreds of thousands of those victims are here in the United States.

California is not excluded from this criminal activity. In fact, within my congressional district in Orange County, there have been over 350 cases of human trafficking since 2004.

Victims are lured and manipulated by false promises of lucrative jobs, a loving relationship, or new opportunities and are usually between the ages of 12 to 14 when they first become victims of sex trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, if there is one thing we can all agree on, it is this: we must put an end to human trafficking and bring those responsible to justice.

Through bipartisan efforts, we can work to stop human trafficking both in our communities at home and abroad.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HECK of Nevada (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today and the balance of the week on account of mandatory military duty.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, January 23, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am pleased to submit for printing in the Congressional Record, pursuant to Rule XI, clause 2(a) of the Rules of the House, a copy of the Rules of the Committee on Agriculture, which were adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee on January 22, 2015.

Appendix A of the Committee Rules will include excerpts from the Rules of the House relevant to the operation of the Committee. Appendix B will include relevant excerpts from the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. In the interests of minimizing printing costs, Appendices A and B are omitted from this submission.

Sincerely,

K. MICHAEL CONAWAY,
Chairman.

Enclosure.

(As adopted January 22, 2015)

RULE I.—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) Applicability of House Rules.—(1) The Rules of the House shall govern the procedure of the Committee and its subcommittees, and the Rules of the Committee on Agriculture so far as applicable shall be interpreted in accordance with the Rules of the House, except that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are nondebatable privileged motions in the Committee and its subcommittees. (See Appendix A for the applicable Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives.)

(2) As provided in clause 1(a)(2) of House Rule XI, each Subcommittee is part of the Committee and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and its Rules so far as applicable. (See also Committee Rules III, W, V, VI, VII, VIII and XI, infra.)

(b) Authority to Conduct Investigations.—The Committee and its subcommittees, after consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, may conduct such investigations and studies as they may consider necessary or appropriate in the exercise of their responsibilities under Rule X of the Rules of the House and in accordance with clause 2(m) of House Rule XI.

(c) Authority to Print.—The Committee is authorized by the Rules of the House to have printed and bound testimony and other data presented at hearings held by the Committee and its subcommittees. All costs of stenographic services and transcripts in connection with any meeting or hearing of the Committee and its subcommittees shall be paid from applicable accounts of the House described in clause 1(i)(1) of House Rule X in accordance with clause 1(c) of House Rule XI. (See also paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) of Committee Rule IX.)

(d) Vice Chairman.—The Member of the majority party on the Committee or Subcommittee designated by the Chairman of the full Committee shall be the vice chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee in accordance with clause 2(d) of House Rule XI.

(e) Presiding Member.—If the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee is not present at any Committee or Subcommittee meeting or hearing, the vice chairman shall preside. If the Chairman and vice chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee are not present at a Committee or Subcommittee meeting or hearing the ranking Member of the majority party who is present shall preside in accordance with clause 2(d), House Rule XI.

(f) Publication of Rules.—The Committees Rules shall be publicly available in electronic form and published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the Chair is elected in each odd-numbered year as provided in clause 2(a) of House Rule XI.

(g) Joint Committee Reports of Investigation or Study.—A report of an investigation or study conducted jointly by more than one committee may be filed jointly, provided that each of the committees complies independently with all requirements for approval and filing of the report.

RULE II.—COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETINGS—REGULAR, ADDITIONAL AND SPECIAL

(a) Regular Meetings.—Regular meetings of the Committee, in accordance with clause 2(b) of House Rule XI, shall be held on the first Wednesday of every month to transact its business if notice is given pursuant to clause 2(g)(3) of House Rule XI. The Chairman shall provide each Member of the Committee, as far in advance of the day of the regular meeting as practicable, a written agenda of such meeting. Items may be placed on the agenda by the Chairman or a majority of the Committee. (See paragraph (f) of Committee Rule XI for provisions that apply to meetings of subcommittees.)

(b) Additional Meetings.—(1) The Chairman may call and convene, as he or she considers necessary, which may not commence earlier than the third day on which Members have notice thereof after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or after concurrence with the Ranking Minority Member, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committee shall meet for such additional meetings pursuant to the notice from the Chairman.

(2) A hearing or meeting may begin sooner than specified in clause (1) (in which case the chair shall make the announcement specified at the earliest possible time) if the Committee so determines by majority vote in the presence of the number of Members required under the Rules of the Committee for the transaction of business.

(3) At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of a measure or matter the Chair shall cause the text of such measure or matter to be made publicly available in electronic form.

(c) Special Meetings.—If at least three Members of the Committee desire that a special meeting of the Committee be called by the Chairman, those Members may file in the offices of the Committee their written request to the Chairman for such special meeting. Such request shall specify the measure or matters to be considered Immediately upon the filing of the request, the Majority Staff Director (serving as the clerk of the Committee for such purpose) shall notify the Chairman of the filing of the request. If, within 3 calendar days after the filing of the request, the Chairman does not call the requested special meeting to be held within 7 calendar days after the filing of the request, a majority of the Members of the Committee may file in the offices of the Committee their written notice that a special meeting of the Committee will be held, specifying the date and hour thereof, and the measures or matter to be considered at that special meeting in accordance with clause 2(c)(2) of House Rule XI. The Committee shall meet on that date and hour. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the Majority Staff Director (serving as the clerk) of the Committee shall notify all Members of the Committee that such meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour and the measure or matter to be considered, and only the measure or matter specified in that notice may be considered at that special meeting.

RULE III.—OPEN MEETINGS AND HEARINGS; BROADCASTING

(a) Open Meetings and Hearings.—Each meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, and each hearing by the Committee or a Subcommittee shall be open to the public unless closed in accordance with clause 2(g) of House Rule XI. (See Appendix A.)

(b) Broadcasting and Photography.—Whenever a Committee or Subcommittee meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, or a hearing is open to the public, that meeting or hearing shall:

(1) To the maximum extent practicable the Committee shall provide audio and video coverage of each hearing or meeting for the transaction of business in a manner that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings and shall maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public.

(2) Be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance with clause 4 of House Rule XI (See Appendix A). When such radio coverage is conducted in the Committee or Subcommittee, written notice to that effect shall be placed on the desk of each Member. The Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee, shall not limit the number of television or still cameras permitted in a hearing or meeting room to fewer than two representatives from each medium (except for legitimate space or safety considerations, in which case pool coverage shall be authorized).

(c) Closed Meetings—Attendees.—No person other than Members of the Committee or Subcommittee and such congressional staff and departmental representatives as the Committee or Subcommittee may authorize shall be present at any business or markup session that has been closed to the public as provided in clause 2(g)(1) of House Rule XI.

(d) Addressing the Committee.—A Committee Member may address the Committee or a Subcommittee on any bill, motion, or other matter under consideration (See Committee Rule VIII(e) relating to questioning a witness at a hearing). The time a Member may address the Committee or Subcommittee for any such purpose shall be limited to 5 minutes, except that this time limit may be waived by unanimous consent. A Member shall also be limited in his or her remarks to the subject matter under consideration, unless the Member receives unanimous consent to extend his or her remarks beyond such subject.

(e) Meetings to Begin Promptly.—Subject to the presence of a quorum, each meeting or hearing of the Committee and its subcommittees shall begin promptly at the time so stipulated in the public announcement of the meeting or hearing.

(f) Prohibition on Proxy Voting.—No vote by any Member of the Committee or Subcommittee with respect to any measure or matter may be cast by proxy.

(g) Location of Persons at Meetings.—No person other than the Committee or Subcommittee Members and Committee or Subcommittee staff may be seated in the rostrum area during a meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee unless by unanimous consent of Committee or Subcommittee.

(h) Consideration of Amendments and Motions.—A Member, upon request, shall be recognized by the Chairman to address the Committee or Subcommittee at a meeting for a period limited to 5 minutes on behalf of an amendment or motion offered by the Member or another Member, or upon any other matter under consideration, unless the Member receives unanimous consent to extend the time limit. Every amendment or motion made in Committee or Subcommittee shall, upon the demand of any Member present, be reduced to writing, and a copy thereof shall be made available to all Members present. Such amendment or motion shall not be pending before the Committee or Subcommittee or voted on until the requirements of this paragraph have been met.

(i) Demanding Record Vote.—

(1) A record vote of the Committee or Subcommittee on a question or action shall be ordered on a demand by one-fifth of the Members present.

(2) The Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee may postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving a measure or matter or on adopting an amendment. If the Chairman postpones further proceedings:

(A) the Chairman may resume such postponed proceedings, after giving Members adequate notice, at a time chosen in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member; and

(B) notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, the underlying proposition on which proceedings were postponed shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

(j) Submission of Motions or Amendments In Advance of Business Meetings.—The Committee and Subcommittee Chairman may request and Committee and Subcommittee Members should, insofar as practicable, cooperate in providing copies of proposed amendments or motions to the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or the Subcommittee twenty-four hours before a Committee or Subcommittee business meeting.

(k) Points of Order.—No point of order against the hearing or meeting procedures of the Committee or Subcommittee shall be entertained unless it is made in a timely fashion.

(l) Limitation on Committee Sittings.—The Committee or subcommittees may not sit during a joint session of the House and Senate or during a recess when a joint meeting of the House and Senate is in progress.

(m) Prohibition of Wireless Telephones.—Use of wireless phones during a Committee or Subcommittee hearing or meeting is prohibited.

RULE IV.—QUORUMS.

(a) Working Quorum.—One-third of the Members of the Committee or a Subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for taking any action, other than as noted in paragraphs (b) and (c).

(b) Majority Quorum.—A majority of the Members of the Committee or Subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for:

(1) the reporting of a bill, resolution or other measure (See clause 2(h)(1) of House Rules XI, and Committee Rule IX);

(2) the closing of a meeting or hearing to the public pursuant to clauses 2(g), 2(k)(5) and 2(k)(7) of the Rule XI of the Rules of the House;

(3) the authorizing of a subpoena as provided in clause 2(m)(3), of House Rule XI (See also Committee Rule VII.); and

(4) as where required by a Rule of the House.

(c) Quorum for Taking Testimony.—Two Members of the Committee or Subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence.

RULE V.—RECORDS.

(a) Maintenance of Records.—The Committee shall keep a complete record of all Committee and Subcommittee action which shall include:

(1) in the case of any meeting or hearing transcripts, a substantially verbatim account of remarks actually made during the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical and typographical corrections authorized by the person making the remarks involved, and

(2) written minutes shall include a record of all Committee and Subcommittee action and a record of all votes on any question and a tally on all record votes.

The result of each such record vote shall be made available by the Committee for inspection by the public at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee and by telephone request and also made publicly available in electronic form within 48 hours of such record vote. Not later than 24 hours after adoption of an amendment to a measure or matter, the chair of the Committee shall cause the text of such amendment adopted thereto to be made publicly available in electronic form. Information so available for public inspection shall include a description of the amendment, motion, order or other proposition and the name of each Member voting for and each Member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, and the names of those Members present but not voting.

(b) Access to and Correction of Records.—Any public witness, or person authorized by such witness, during Committee office hours in the Committee offices and within 10 calendar days of the close of hearings, may obtain a transcript copy of that public witness's testimony and make such technical, grammatical and typographical corrections as authorized by the person making the remarks involved as will not alter the nature of testimony given. There shall be prompt return of such corrected copy of the transcript to the Committee. Members of the Committee or Subcommittee shall receive copies of transcripts for their prompt review and correction and prompt return to the Committee. The Committee or Subcommittee may order the printing of a hearing record without the corrections of any Member or witness if it determines that such Member or witness has been afforded a reasonable time in which to make such corrections and further delay would seriously impede the consideration of the legislative action that is subject of the hearing. The record of a hearing shall be closed 10 calendar days after the last oral testimony, unless the Committee or Subcommittee determines otherwise. Any person requesting to file a statement for the record of a hearing must so request before the hearing concludes and must file the statement before the record is closed unless the Committee or Subcommittee determines otherwise. The Committee or Subcommittee may reject any statement in light of its length or its tendency to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

(c) Property of the House.—All Committee and Subcommittee records (including hearings data, charts, and files) shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of the Members serving as Chairman and such records shall be the property of the House and all Members of the House shall have access thereto. The Majority Staff Director shall promptly notify the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of any request for access to such records.

(d) Availability of Archived Records.—The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with House Rule VII. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee of the need for a Committee order pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of such House Rule, to withhold a record otherwise available.

(e) Special Rules for Certain Records and Proceedings.—A stenographic record of a business meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee may be kept and thereafter may be published if the Chairman of the Committee, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, determines there is need for such a record. The proceedings of the Committee or Subcommittee in a closed meeting, evidence or testimony in such meeting, shall not be divulged unless otherwise determined by a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee.

(f) Electronic Availability of Committee Publications.—To the maximum extent feasible, the Committee shall make its publications available in electronic form.

RULE VI.—POWER TO SIT AND ACT.

For the purpose of carrying out any of its function and duties under House Rules X and XI, the Committee and each of its subcommittees is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned and to hold such hearings.

RULE VII.—SUBPOENAS AND OATHS.

(a) Issuance of Subpoenas.—In accordance with clause House Rule XI, clause 2(m), a subpoena may be authorized and issued by a majority of the Committee or by the Chairman in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member. Such consultation shall occur at least 48 hours in advance of a subpoena being issued under such authority. Authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the Chairman of the Committee or by any Member designated by the Committee.

(b) Oaths.—The Chairman of the Committee, or any member of the Committee designated by the Chairman, may administer oaths to any witnesses.

RULE VIII.—HEARING PROCEDURES.

(a) Power to Hear.—For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties under House Rule X and XI, the Committee and its subcommittees are authorized to sit and hold hearings at any time or place within the United States whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned. (See Committee Rule VI and paragraph (f) of Committee Rule XI for provisions relating to Subcommittee hearings and meetings.)

(b) Announcement.—The Chairman of the Committee shall after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, make a public announcement of the date, place and subject matter of any Committee hearing at least 1 week before the

commencement of the hearing. The Chairman of a Subcommittee shall schedule a hearing only after consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee, and the Chairmen of the other subcommittees after such consultation with the Committee Chairman, and shall request the Majority Staff Director to make a public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of such hearing at least 1 week before the hearing. If the Chairman of the Committee or the Subcommittee, with concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or Subcommittee, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee or Subcommittee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee, as appropriate, shall request the Majority Staff Director to make such public announcement at the earliest possible date. The clerk of the Committee shall promptly notify the Daily Digest Clerk of the Congressional Record, and shall promptly enter the appropriate information into the Committee scheduling service of the House Information Systems as soon as possible after such public announcement is made.

(c) Scheduling of Witnesses.—Except as otherwise provided in this rule, the scheduling of witnesses and determination of the time allowed for the presentation of testimony at hearings shall be at the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee, unless a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee determines otherwise.

(d) Written Statement; Oral Testimony.—(1) Each witness who is to appear before the Committee or a Subcommittee, shall insofar as practicable file with the Majority Staff Director of the Committee, at least 2 working days before the day of his or her appearance, a written statement of proposed testimony. Witnesses shall provide sufficient copies of their statement for distribution to Committee or Subcommittee Members, staff, and the news media. Insofar as practicable, the Committee or Subcommittee staff shall distribute such written statements to all Members of the Committee or Subcommittee as soon as they are received as well as any official reports from departments and agencies on such subject matter. All witnesses may be limited in their oral presentations to brief summaries of their statements within the time allotted to them, at the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee, in light of the nature of the testimony and the length of time available.

(2) As noted in paragraph (b) of Committee Rule VII, the Chairman of the Committee or any Member designated by the Chairman, may administer an oath to any witness.

(3) To the greatest extent practicable, each witness appearing in a non-governmental capacity shall include with the written statement of proposed testimony:

(i) a curriculum vitae;

(ii) disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of any Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current calendar year or either of the 2 preceding calendar years by the witness or by an entity represented by the witness; and

(iii) the amount and country of origin of any payment or contract related to the subject matter of the hearing originating with a foreign government.

Such statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy of witnesses, shall be made publicly available in electronic form not later than 1 day after the witness appears.

(e) Questioning of Witnesses.—Committee or Subcommittee Members may question witnesses only when they have been recognized by the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee for that purpose. Each Member so recognized shall be limited to questioning a witness for 5 minutes until such time as each Member of the Committee or Subcommittee who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness for 5 minutes; and thereafter the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee may limit the time of a further round of questioning after giving due consideration to the importance of the subject matter and the length of time available. All questions put to witnesses shall be germane to the measure or matter under consideration. Unless a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee determines otherwise, no Committee or Subcommittee staff shall interrogate witnesses.

(f) Extended Questioning for Designated Members.—Notwithstanding paragraph (e), the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member may designate an equal number of Members from each party to question a witness for a period not longer than 60 minutes.

(g) Witnesses for the Minority.—When any hearing is conducted by the Committee or any Subcommittee upon any measure or matter, the minority party Members on the Committee or Subcommittee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chairman by a majority of those minority Members before the completion of such hearing, to call witnesses selected by the minority to testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least 1 day of hearing thereon as provided in clause 2(j)(1) of House Rule XI.

(h) Summary of Subject Matter.—Upon announcement of a hearing, to the extent practicable, the Committee shall make available immediately to all Members of the Committee a concise summary of the subject matter (including legislative reports and other material) under consideration. In addition, upon announcement of a hearing and subsequently as they are received, the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee shall, to the extent practicable, make available to the Members of the Committee any official reports from departments and agencies on such matter. (See Committee Rule XI(f).)

(i) Open Hearings.—Each hearing conducted by the Committee or Subcommittee shall be open to the public, including radio, television and still photography coverage, except as provided in clause 4 of House Rule XI (see also Committee Rule III(b).). In any event, no Member of the House may be excluded from nonparticipatory attendance at any hearing unless the House by majority vote shall authorize the Committee or Subcommittee, for purposes of a particular series of hearings on a particular bill or resolution or on a particular subject of investigation, to close its hearings to Members by means of the above procedure.

(j) Hearings and Reports.—(1)(i) The Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee at a hearing shall announce in an opening statement the subject of the investigation. A copy of the Committee Rules (and the applicable provisions of clause 2 of House Rule XI, regarding hearing procedures, an excerpt of which appears in Appendix A thereto) shall be made available to each witness upon request. Witnesses at hearings may be accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their constitutional rights. The Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee may punish breaches of order and decorum, and of professional ethics on the part of counsel, by censure and exclusion from the hearings; but only the full Committee may cite the offender to the House for contempt.

(ii) Whenever it is asserted by a Member of the Committee that the evidence or testimony at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or it is asserted by a witness that the evidence or testimony that the witness would give at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate the witness, such testimony or evidence shall be presented in executive session, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (i) of this rule, if by a majority of those present, there being in attendance the requisite number required under the Rules of the Committee to be present for the purpose of taking testimony, the Committee or Subcommittee determines that such evidence or testimony may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person. The Committee or Subcommittee shall afford a person an opportunity voluntarily to appear as a witness; and the Committee or Subcommittee shall receive and shall dispose of requests from such person to subpoena additional witnesses.

(iii) No evidence or testimony taken in executive session may be released or used in public sessions without the consent of the Committee or Subcommittee. In the discretion of the Committee or Subcommittee, witnesses may submit brief and pertinent statements in writing for inclusion in the record. The Committee or Subcommittee is the sole judge of the pertinency of testimony and evidence adduced at its hearings. A witness may obtain a transcript copy of his or her testimony given at a public session or, if given at an executive session, when authorized by the Committee or Subcommittee. (See paragraph (c) of Committee Rule V.)

(2) A proposed investigative or oversight report shall be considered as read if it has been available to the Members of the Committee for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such day) in advance of their consideration.

RULE IX.—THE REPORTING OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

(a) Filing of Reports.—The Chairman shall report or cause to be reported promptly to the House any bill, resolution, or other measure approved by the Committee and shall take or cause to be taken all necessary steps to bring such bill, resolution, or other measure to a vote. No bill, resolution, or measure shall be reported from the Committee unless a majority of Committee is actually present. A Committee report on any bill, resolution, or other measure approved by the Committee shall be filed within 7 calendar days (not counting days on which the House is not in session) after the day on which there has been filed with the Majority Staff Director of the Committee a written request, signed by a majority of the Committee, for the reporting of that bill or resolution. The Majority Staff Director of the Committee shall notify the Chairman immediately when such a request is filed.

(b) Content of Reports.—Each Committee report on any bill or resolution approved by the Committee shall include as separately identified sections:

(1) a statement of the intent or purpose of the bill or resolution;

(2) a statement describing the need for such bill or resolution;

(3) a statement of Committee and Subcommittee consideration of the measure including a summary of amendments and motions offered and the actions taken thereon;

(4) the results of the each record vote on any amendment in the Committee and Subcommittee and on the motion to report the measure or matter, including the names of those Members and the total voting for and the names of those Members and the total voting against such amendment or motion (See clause 3(b) of House Rule XIII);

(5) the oversight findings and recommendations of the Committee with respect to the subject matter of the bill or resolution as required pursuant to clause 3(c)(1) of House Rule XIII and clause 2(b)(1) of House Rule X;

(6) the detailed statement described in House Rule XIII clause 3(c)(2) and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 if the bill or resolution provides new budget authority (other than continuing appropriations), new spending authority described in section 401(c)(2) of such Act, new credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures, except that the estimates with respect to new budget authority shall include, when practicable, a comparison of the total estimated funding level for the relevant program (or programs) to the appropriate levels under current law;

(7) the estimate of costs and comparison of such estimates, if any, prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office in connection with such bill or resolution pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 if submitted in timely fashion to the Committee;

(8) a statement of general performance goals and objectives, including outcome-related goals and objectives, for which the measure authorizes finding;

(9) an estimate by the Committee of the costs that would be incurred in carrying out such bill or joint resolution in the fiscal year in which it is reported and for its authorized duration or for each of the 5 fiscal years following the fiscal year of reporting, whichever period is less (see House Rule XIII, clause 3(d)(2), (3) and (h)(2), (3)), together with—(i) a comparison of these estimates with those made and submitted to the Committee by any Government agency when practicable, and (ii) a comparison of the total estimated funding level for the relevant program (or programs) with appropriate levels under current law (The provisions of this clause do not apply if a cost estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 has been timely submitted prior to the filing of the report and included in the report);

(10) a list of congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits in the bill or in the report (and the name of any Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who submitted a request to the Committee for each respective item included in such list) or a statement that the proposition contains no congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits;

(11) the changes in existing law (if any) shown in accordance with clause 3 of House Rule XIII;

(12) the determination required pursuant to section 5(b) of Public Law 92–463, if the legislation reported establishes or authorizes the establishment of an advisory committee;

(13) the information on Federal and intergovernmental mandates required by section 423(c) and (d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as added by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (P.L. 104–4);

(14) a statement regarding the applicability of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act, Public Law 104–1;

(15) a statement indicating whether any provision of the measure establishes or reauthorizes a program of the Federal Government known to be duplicative of another Federal program. The Statement shall at a minimum explain whether—

(A) any such program was included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139; or

(B) the most recent catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, published pursuant to the Federal Program Information Act (Public Law 95–220, as amended by Public Law 98–169), identified other programs related to the program established or reauthorized by the measure; and

(16) a statement estimating the number of directed rule makings required by the measure.

(c) Supplemental, Minority, Additional, or Dissenting Views.—If, at the time of approval of any measure or matter by the Committee, any Member of the Committee gives notice of intention to file supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views, all Members shall be entitled to not less than 2 subsequent calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays except when the House is in session on such date) in which to file such writing and signed views, with the Majority Staff Director of the Committee. When time guaranteed by this paragraph has expired (or if sooner, when all separate views have been received), the Committee may arrange to file its report with the Clerk of the House not later than 1 hour after the expiration of such time. All such views (in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 2(1) and House Rule XIII, clause 3(a)(1)), as filed by one or more Members of the Committee, shall be included within and made a part of the report filed by the Committee with respect to that bill or resolution.

(d) Printing of Reports.—The report of the Committee on the measure or matter noted in paragraph (a) above shall be printed in a single volume, which shall:

(1) include all supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views that have been submitted by the time of the filing of the report; and

(2) bear on its cover a recital that any such supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views (and any material submitted under House Rule XII, clause 3(a)(1)) are included as part of the report.

(e) Immediate Printing; Supplemental Reports.— Nothing in this rule shall preclude—

(1) the immediate filing or printing of a Committee report unless timely request for the opportunity to file supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views has been made as provided by paragraph (c); or

(2) the filing by the Committee of any supplemental report on any bill or resolution that may be required for the correction of any technical error in a previous report made by the Committee on that bill or resolution.

(f) Availability of Printed Hearing Records.—If hearings have been held on any reported bill or resolution, the Committee shall make every reasonable effort to have the record of such hearings printed and available for distribution to the Members of the House prior to the consideration of such bill or resolution by the House. Each printed hearing of the Committee or any of its subcommittees shall include a record of the attendance of the Members.

(g) Committee Prints.—All Committee or Subcommittee prints or other Committee or Subcommittee documents, other than reports or prints of bills, that are prepared for public distribution shall be approved by the Chairman of the Committee or the Committee prior to public distribution.

(h) Post Adjournment Filing of Committee Reports.—(1) After an adjournment of the last regular session of a Congress sine die, an investigative or oversight report approved by the Committee may be filed with the Clerk at any time, provided that if a Member gives notice at the time of approval of intention to file supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views, that Member shall be entitled to not less than 7 calendar days in which to submit such views for inclusion with the report.

(2) After an adjournment of the last regular session of a Congress sine die, the Chairman of the Committee may file at any time with the Clerk the Committee's activity report for that Congress pursuant to clause 1(d)(1) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House without the approval of the Committee, provided that a copy of the report has been available to each Member of the Committee for at least 7 calendar days and the report includes any supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views submitted by a Member of the Committee.

(i) Conference.—The Chairman is directed to offer a motion under clause 1 of Rule XXII of the Rules of the House whenever the Chairman considers it appropriate.

RULE X.—OTHER COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

(a) Oversight Plan.—Not later than February 15 of the first session of a Congress, the Chairman shall convene the Committee in a meeting that is open to the public and with a quorum present to adopt its oversight plans for that Congress. Such plans shall be submitted simultaneously to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and to the Committee on House Administration. In developing such plans the Committee shall, to the maximum extent feasible—

(1) consult with other committees of the House that have jurisdiction over the same or related laws, programs, or agencies within its jurisdiction, with the objective of ensuring that such laws, programs, or agencies are reviewed in the same Congress and that there is a maximum of coordination between such committees in the conduct of such reviews; and such plans shall include an explanation of what steps have been and will be taken to ensure such coordination and cooperation;

(2) review specific problems with Federal rules, regulations, statutes, and court decisions that are ambiguous, arbitrary, or nonsensical, or that impose severe financial burdens on individuals;

(3) give priority consideration to including in its plans the review of those laws, programs, or agencies operating under permanent budget authority or permanent statutory authority;

(4) have a view toward ensuring that all significant laws, programs, or agencies within its jurisdiction are subject to review at least once every 10 years; and

(5) include proposals to cut or eliminate programs, including mandatory spending programs, that are inefficient, duplicative, outdated, or more appropriately administered by State or local governments.

The Committee and its appropriate subcommittees shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the impact or probable impact of tax policies affecting subjects within its jurisdiction as provided in clause 2(d) of House Rule X. The Committee shall include in the report filed pursuant to clause 1(d) of House Rule XI a summary of the oversight plans submitted by the Committee under clause 2(d) of House Rule X, a summary of actions taken and recommendations made with respect to each such plan, and a summary of any additional oversight activities undertaken by the Committee and any recommendations made or actions taken thereon.

(b) Annual Appropriations.—The Committee shall, in its consideration of all bills and joint resolutions of a public character within its jurisdiction, ensure that appropriations for continuing programs and activities of the Federal government and the District of Columbia government will be made annually to the maximum extent feasible and consistent with the nature, requirements, and objectives of the programs and activities involved. The Committee shall review, from time to

time, each continuing program within its jurisdiction for which appropriations are not made annually in order to ascertain whether such program could be modified so that appropriations therefor would be made annually.

(c) Budget Act Compliance: Views and Estimates (See Appendix B).—Not later than 6 weeks after the President submits his budget under section 1105(a) of title 31, United State Code, or at such time as the Committee on the Budget may request, the Committee shall, submit to the Committee on the Budget (1) its views and estimates with respect to all matters to be set forth in the concurrent resolution on the budget for the ensuing fiscal year (under section 301 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974—Appendix B) that are within its jurisdiction or functions; and (2) an estimate of the total amounts of new budget authority, and budget outlays resulting therefrom, to be provided or authorized in all bills and resolutions within its jurisdiction that it intends to be effective during that fiscal year.

(d) Budget Act Compliance: Recommended Changes.—Whenever the Committee is directed in a concurrent resolution on the budget to determine and recommend changes in laws, bills, or resolutions under the reconciliation process, it shall promptly make such determination and recommendations, and report a reconciliation bill or resolution (or both) to the House or submit such recommendations to the Committee on the Budget, in accordance with the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (See Appendix B).

(e) Conference Committees.—Whenever in the legislative process it becomes necessary to appoint conferees, the Chairman shall, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, determine the number of conferees the Chairman deems most suitable and then recommend to the Speaker as conferees, in keeping with the number to be appointed by the Speaker as provided in House Rule I, clause 11, the names of those Members of the Committee of not less than a majority who generally supported the House position and who were primarily responsible for the legislation. The Chairman shall, to the fullest extent feasible, include those Members of the Committee who were the principal proponents of the major provisions of the bill as it passed the House and such other Committee Members of the majority party as the Chairman may designate in consultation with the Members of the majority party. Such recommendations shall provide a ratio of majority party Members to minority party Members no less favorable to the majority party than the ratio of majority party Members to minority party Members on the Committee. In making recommendations of Minority Party Members as conferees, the Chairman shall consult with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

(f) Hearing on Waste, Fraud, and Abuse.—(1) The Committee, or a Subcommittee, shall hold at least one hearing during each 120-day period following the establishment of the Committee on the topic of waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement in Government programs which the Committee may authorize.

(2) A hearing described in subparagraph (1) shall include a focus on the most egregious instances of waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement as documented by any report the Committee has received from a Federal Office of the Inspector General or the Comptroller General of the United States.

(g) Hearing on Agency Financial Statements.—The Committee or a Subcommittee, shall hold at least one hearing in any session in which the Committee has received disclaimers of agency financial statements from auditors of any Federal agency that the Committee may authorize to hear testimony on such disclaimers from representatives of any such agency.

(h) Hearing on GAO High-Risk-List.—The Committee or a Subcommittee, shall hold at least one hearing on issues raised by reports issued by the Comptroller General of the United States indicating that Federal programs or operations that the Committee may authorize are at high risk for waste, fraud, and mismanagement, known as the 'high-risk-list' or the 'high-risk series'.

(i) Activities Report.—(1) Not later than January 2 of each odd-numbered year, the Committee shall submit to the House a report on the activities of the Committee. After adjournment sine die of the last regular session of a Congress, or after December 15 of an even-numbered year, whichever occurs first, the Chair may file the report, a copy of which shall be made available to each Member of the Committee for at least 7 calendar days, with the Clerk of the House at any time.

(2) Such report shall include separate sections summarizing the legislative and oversight activities of the Committee during that Congress.

(3) The oversight section of such report shall include a summary of the oversight plans submitted by the Committee pursuant to clause 2(d) of House Rule X, a summary of the actions taken and recommendations made with respect to each such plan, and a summary of any additional oversight activities undertaken by the Committee, and any recommendations made or actions taken with respect thereto.

RULE XI.—SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) Number and Composition.—There shall be such subcommittees as specified in paragraph (c) of this rule. Each of such subcommittees shall be composed of the number of Members set forth in paragraph (c) of this rule, including ex officio Members.[1] The Chairman may create additional subcommittees of an ad hoc nature as the Chairman determines to be appropriate subject to any limitations provided for in the House Rules.

(b) Ratios.—On each Subcommittee, there shall be a ratio of majority party Members to minority party Members which shall be consistent with the ratio on the full Committee. In calculating the ratio of majority party Members to minority party Members, there shall be included the ex officio Members of the subcommittees and ratios below reflect that fact.

(c) Jurisdiction.—Each Subcommittee shall have the following general jurisdiction and number of Members:

General Farm Commodities and Risk Management (____ members, ____ majority and ____ minority)—Policies, statutes, and markets relating to commodities including barley, cotton, cottonseed, corn, grain sorghum, honey, mohair, oats, other oilseeds, peanuts, pulse crops, rice, soybeans, sugar, wheat, and wool; the Commodity Credit Corporation; risk management policies and statutes, including Federal Crop Insurance; producer data and privacy issues.

Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit (____ members, ____ majority and ____ minority)—Policies, statutes, and markets relating to commodity exchanges; agricultural credit; rural development, energy; rural electrification.

Conservation and Forestry (____ members, ____ majority and ____ minority)—Policies and statutes relating to resource conservation, forestry, and all forests under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Agriculture.

Nutrition (____ members, ____ majority and ____ minority)—Policies and statutes relating to nutrition, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and domestic commodity distribution and consumer initiatives.

Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research (____ members, ____ majority and ____ minority)—Policies, statutes, and markets relating to horticulture, including fruits, vegetables, nuts, and ornamentals; bees; and organic agriculture; policies and statutes relating to marketing and promotion orders; pest and disease management; bioterrorism; adulteration and quarantine matters; research, education, and extension; and biotechnology.

Livestock and Foreign Agriculture (____ members, ____ majority and ____ minority)—Policies, statutes, and markets relating to all livestock, poultry, dairy, and seafood, including all products thereof; the inspection, marketing, and promotion of such commodities and products; aquaculture; animal welfare; grazing; foreign agricultural assistance and trade promotion.

(d) Referral of Legislation.—

(1)(a) In General.—All bills, resolutions, and other matters referred to the Committee shall be referred to all subcommittees of appropriate jurisdiction within 2 weeks after being referred to the Committee. After consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, the Chairman may determine that the Committee will consider certain bills, resolutions, or other matters.

(b) Trade Matters.—Unless action is otherwise taken under subparagraph (3), bills, resolutions, and other matters referred to the Committee relating to foreign agriculture, foreign food or commodity assistance, and foreign trade and marketing issues will be considered by the Committee.

(2) The Chairman, by a majority vote of the Committee, may discharge a Subcommittee from further consideration of any bill, resolution, or other matter referred to the Subcommittee and have such bill, resolution or other matter considered by the Committee. The Committee having referred a bill, resolution, or other matter to a Subcommittee in accordance with this rule may discharge such Subcommittee from further consideration thereof at any time by a vote of the majority Members of the Committee for the Committee's direct consideration or for reference to another Subcommittee.

(3) Unless the Committee, a quorum being present, decides otherwise by a majority vote, the Chairman may refer bills, resolutions, legislation or other matters not specifically within the jurisdiction of a Subcommittee, or that is within the jurisdiction of more than one Subcommittee, jointly or exclusively as the Chairman deems appropriate, including concurrently to the subcommittees with jurisdiction, sequentially to the subcommittees with jurisdiction (subject to any time limits deemed appropriate), divided by subject matter among the subcommittees with jurisdiction, or to an ad hoc subcommittee appointed by the Chairman for the purpose of considering the matter and reporting to the Committee thereon, or make such other provisions deemed appropriate.

(e) Participation and Service of Committee Members on Subcommittees.—(1) The Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member shall serve as ex officio Members of all subcommittees and shall have the right to vote on all matters before the subcommittees. The Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member may not be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum.

(2) Any Member of the Committee who is not a Member of the Subcommittee may have the privilege of sitting and nonparticipatory attendance at Subcommittee hearings or meetings in accordance with clause 2(g)(2) of House Rule XI. Such Member may not:

(i) vote on any matter;

(ii) be counted for the purpose of a establishing a quorum;

(iii) participate in questioning a witness under the 5-Minute Rule, unless permitted to do so by the Subcommittee Chairman in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member or a majority of the Subcommittee, a quorum being present;

(iv) raise points of order; or

(v) offer amendments or motions.

(f) Subcommittee Hearings and Meetings.—(1) Each Subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and make recommendations to the Committee on all matters referred to it or under its jurisdiction after consultation by the Subcommittee Chairmen with the Committee Chairman. (See Committee Rule VIII.)

(2) After consultation with the Committee Chairman, Subcommittee Chairmen shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their subcommittees and shall request the Majority Staff Director to make any announcement relating thereto. (See Committee Rule VIII(b).) In setting the dates, the Committee Chairman and Subcommittee Chairman shall consult with other Subcommittee Chairmen and relevant Committee and Subcommittee Ranking Minority Members in an effort to avoid simultaneously scheduling Committee and Subcommittee meetings or hearings to the extent practicable.

(3) Notice of all Subcommittee meetings shall be provided to the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee by the Majority Staff Director.

(4) Subcommittees may hold meetings or hearings outside of the House if the Chairman of the Committee and other Subcommittee Chairmen and the Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee is consulted in advance to ensure that there is no scheduling problem. However, the majority of the Committee may authorize such meeting or hearing.

(5) The provisions regarding notice and the agenda of Committee meetings under Committee Rule II(a) and special or additional meetings under Committee Rule II(b) shall apply to Subcommittee meetings.

(6) If a vacancy occurs in a Subcommittee chairmanship, the Chairman may set the dates for hearings and meetings of the Subcommittee during the period of vacancy. The Chairman may also appoint an acting Subcommittee Chairman until the vacancy is filled.

(g) Subcommittee Action.—(1) Any bill, resolution, recommendation, or other matter forwarded to the Committee by a Subcommittee shall be promptly forwarded by the Subcommittee Chairman or any Subcommittee Member authorized to do so by the Subcommittee.

(2) Upon receipt of such recommendation, the Majority Staff Director of the Committee shall promptly advise all Members of the Committee of the Subcommittee action.

(3) The Committee shall not consider any matters recommended by subcommittees until 2 calendar days have elapsed from the date of action, unless the Chairman or a majority of the Committee determines otherwise.

(h) Subcommittee Investigations.—No investigation shall be initiated by a Subcommittee without the prior consultation with the Chairman of the Committee or a majority of the Committee.

RULE XII.—COMMITTEE BUDGET, STAFF, AND TRAVEL

(a) Committee Budget.—The Chairman, in consultation with the majority Members of the Committee, and the minority Members of the Committee, shall prepare a preliminary budget for each session of the Congress Such budget shall include necessary amounts for staff personnel, travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee and subcommittees. After consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, the Chairman shall include an amount budgeted to minority Members for staff under their direction and supervision. Thereafter, the Chairman shall combine such proposals into a consolidated Committee budget, and shall take whatever action is necessary to have such budget duly authorized by the House.

(b) Committee Staff.—(1) The Chairman shall appoint and determine the remuneration of, and may remove, the professional and clerical employees of the Committee not assigned to the minority. The professional and clerical staff of the Committee not assigned to the minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the Chairman, who shall establish and assign the duties and responsibilities of such staff members and delegate such authority as he or she determines appropriate. (See House Rule X, clause 9)

(2) The Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall appoint and determine the remuneration of, and may remove, the professional and clerical staff assigned to the minority within the budget approved for such purposes. The professional and clerical staff assigned to the minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee who may delegate such authority as he or she determines appropriate.

(3) From the funds made available for the appointment of Committee staff pursuant to any primary or additional expense resolution, the Chairman shall ensure that each Subcommittee is adequately funded and staffed to discharge its responsibilities and that the minority party is fairly treated in the appointment of such staff (See House Rule X, clause 6(d)).

(c) Committee Travel.—(1) Consistent with the primary expense resolution and such additional expense resolution as may have been approved, the provisions of this rule shall govern official travel of Committee Members and Committee staff regarding domestic and foreign travel (See House Rule XI, clause 2(n) and House Rule X, clause 8 (reprinted in Appendix A)). Official travel for any Member or any Committee staff member shall be paid only upon the prior authorization of the Chairman. Official travel may be authorized by the Chairman for any Committee Member and any Committee staff member in connection with the attendance of hearings conducted by the Committee and its subcommittees and meetings, conferences, facility inspections, and investigations which involve activities or subject matter relevant to the general jurisdiction of the Committee. Before such authorization is given there shall be submitted to the Chairman in writing the following:

(i) The purpose of the official travel;

(ii) The dates during which the official travel is to be made and the date or dates of the event for which the official travel is being made;

(iii) The location of the event for which the official travel is to be made; and

(iv) The names of Members and Committee staff seeking authorization.

(2) In the case of official travel of Members and staff of a Subcommittee to hearings, meetings, conferences, facility inspections and investigations involving activities or subject matter under the jurisdiction of such Subcommittee to be paid for out of funds allocated to the Committee, prior authorization must be obtained from the Subcommittee Chairman and the full Committee Chairman. Such prior authorization shall be given by the Chairman only upon the representation by the applicable Subcommittee Chairman in writing setting forth those items enumerated in clause (1).

(3) Within 60 days of the conclusion of any official travel authorized under this rule, there shall be submitted to the Committee Chairman a written report covering the information gained as a result of the hearing, meeting, conference, facility inspection or investigation attended pursuant to such official travel.

(4) Local currencies owned by the United States shall be made available to the Committee and its employees engaged in carrying out their official duties outside the United States, its territories or possessions. No appropriated funds shall be expended for the purpose of defraying expenses of Members of the Committee or is employees in any country where local currencies are available for this purpose; and the following conditions shall apply with respect to their use of 35 such currencies;

(i) No Member or employee of the Committee shall receive or expend local currencies for subsistence in any country at a rate in excess of the maximum per diem rate set forth in applicable Federal law; and

(ii) Each Member or employee of the Committee shall make an itemized report to the Chairman within 60 days following the completion of travel showing the dates each country was visited, the amount of per diem furnished, the cost of transportation furnished, and any funds expended for any other official purpose, and shall summarize in these categories the total foreign currencies and appropriated funds expended. All such individual reports shall be filed by the Chairman with the Committee on House Administration and shall be open to public inspection.

RULE XIII.—AMENDMENT OF RULES

These Rules may be amended by a majority vote of the Committee. A proposed change in these Rules shall not be considered by the Committee as provided in clause 2 of House Rule XI, unless written notice of the proposed change has been provided to each Committee Member 2 legislative days in advance of the date on which the matter is to be considered. Any such change in the Rules of the Committee shall be published in the Congressional Record within 30 calendar days after its approval.

ENDNOTES

1. The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee serve as ex officio Members of the Subcommittees. (See paragraph (e) of this Rule).

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully submit the Rules of the Committee on Armed Services for the 114th Congress, as adopted by the committee on January 14, 2015.

RULE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on Armed Services (hereinafter referred to in these rules as the ''Committee'') and its subcommittees so far as applicable.

(b) Pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee's rules shall be publicly available in electronic form and published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the chair of the committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

RULE 2. FULL COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

(a) The Committee shall meet every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., when the House of

Representatives is in session, and at such other times as may be fixed by the Chairman of the Committee (hereinafter referred to as the ''Chairman''), or by written request of members of the Committee pursuant to clause 2(c) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(b) A Wednesday meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with by the Chairman, but such action may be reversed by a written request of a majority of the members of the Committee.

RULE 3. SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the Committee on all matters referred to it. Insofar as possible, meetings of the Committee and its subcommittees shall not conflict. A subcommittee Chairman shall set meeting dates after consultation with the Chairman, other subcommittee Chairmen, and the Ranking Minority Member of the subcommittee with a view toward avoiding, whenever possible, simultaneous scheduling of Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings.

RULE 4. JURISDICTION AND MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) Jurisdiction

(1) The Committee retains jurisdiction of all subjects listed in clause 1(c) and clause 3(b) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives and retains exclusive jurisdiction for: defense policy generally, ongoing military operations, the organization and reform of the Department of Defense and Department of Energy, counter-drug programs, security and humanitarian assistance (except special operations-related activities) of the Department of Defense, acquisition and industrial base policy, technology transfer and export controls, joint interoperability, detainee affairs and policy, force protection policy and inter-agency reform as it pertains to the Department of Defense and the nuclear weapons programs of the Department of Energy. In addition the committee will be responsible for intelligence policy (including coordination of military intelligence programs), national intelligence programs, and Department of Defense elements that are part of the Intelligence Community. While subcommittees are provided jurisdictional responsibilities in subparagraph (2), the Committee retains the right to exercise oversight and legislative jurisdiction over all subjects within its purview under rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(2) The Committee shall be organized to consist of seven standing subcommittees with the following jurisdictions:

Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces: All Army, Air Force and Marine Corps acquisition programs (except Marine Corps amphibious assault vehicle programs, strategic missiles, space, lift programs, special operations, science and technology programs, and information technology accounts) and the associated weapons systems sustainment. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for Navy and Marine Corps aviation programs and the associated weapons systems sustainment, National Guard and Army, Air Force and Marine Corps Reserve modernization, and ammunition programs.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel: Military personnel policy, Reserve Component integration and employment issues, military health care, military education, and POW/MIA issues. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for Morale, Welfare and Recreation issues and programs.

Subcommittee on Readiness: Military readiness, training, logistics and maintenance issues and programs. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for all military construction, depot policy, civilian personnel policy, environmental policy, installations and family housing issues, including the base closure process, and energy policy and programs of the Department of Defense.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces: Navy acquisition programs, Naval Reserve equipment, and Marine Corps amphibious assault vehicle programs (except strategic weapons, space, special operations, science and technology programs, and information technology programs), deep strike bombers and related systems, lift programs, seaborne unmanned aerial systems and the associated weapons systems sustainment. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for Maritime programs under the jurisdiction of the Committee as delineated in paragraphs 5 and 9 of clause 1(c) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces: Strategic weapons (except deep strike bombers and related systems), space programs (including national intelligence space programs), ballistic missile defense, the associated weapons systems sustainment, the Cooperative Threat Reduction program, and Department of Energy national security programs.

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities: Defense-wide and joint enabling activities and programs to include: Special Operations Forces; counter-proliferation and counter-terrorism programs and initiatives; science and technology policy and programs; information technology programs; homeland defense and Department of Defense related consequence management programs; related intelligence support; and other enabling programs and activities to include cyber operations, strategic communications, and information operations.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations: Any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee, subject to the concurrence of the Chairman of the Committee and, as appropriate, affected subcommittee chairmen. The subcommittee shall have no legislative jurisdiction.

(b) Membership of the Subcommittees

(1) Subcommittee memberships, with the exception of membership on the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, shall be filled in accordance with the rules of the Majority party's conference and the Minority party's caucus, respectively.

(2) The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations shall be filled in accordance with the rules of the Majority party's conference and the Minority party's caucus, respectively. Consistent with the party ratios established by the Majority party, all other Majority members of the subcommittee shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee, and all other Minority members shall be appointed by the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

(3) The Chairman of the Committee and Ranking Minority Member thereof may sit as ex officio members of all subcommittees. Ex officio members shall not vote in subcommittee hearings or meetings or be taken into consideration for the purpose of determining the ratio of the subcommittees or establishing a quorum at subcommittee hearings or meetings.

(4) A member of the Committee who is not a member of a particular subcommittee may sit with the subcommittee and participate during any of its hearings but shall not have authority to vote, cannot be counted for the purpose of achieving a quorum, and cannot raise a point of order at the hearing.

RULE 5. COMMITTEE PANELS AND TASK FORCES

(a) Committee Panels

(1) The Chairman may designate a panel of the Committee consisting of members of the Committee to inquire into and take testimony on a matter or matters that fall within the jurisdiction of more than one subcommittee and to report to the Committee.

(2) No panel appointed by the Chairman shall continue in existence for more than six months after the appointment. A panel so appointed may, upon the expiration of six months, be reappointed by the Chairman for a period of time which is not to exceed six months.

(3) Consistent with the party ratios established by the Majority party, all Majority members of the panels shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee, and all Minority members shall be appointed by the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee. The Chairman of the Committee shall choose one of the Majority members so appointed who does not currently chair another subcommittee of the Committee to serve as Chairman of the panel. The Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall similarly choose the Ranking Minority Member of the panel.

(4) No panel shall have legislative jurisdiction.

(b) Committee and Subcommittee Task Forces

(1) The Chairman of the Committee, or a Chairman of a subcommittee with the concurrence of the Chairman of the Committee, may designate a task force to inquire into and take testimony on a matter that falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee or subcommittee, respectively. The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or subcommittee shall each appoint an equal number of members to the task force. The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee shall choose one of the members so appointed, who does not currently chair another subcommittee of the Committee, to serve as Chairman of the task force. The Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or subcommittee shall similarly appoint the Ranking Minority Member of the task force.

(2) No task force appointed by the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee shall continue in existence for more than three months. A task force may only be reappointed for an additional three months with the written concurrence of the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or subcommittee whose Chairman appointed the task force.

(3) No task force shall have legislative jurisdiction.

RULE 6. REFERENCE AND CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

(a) The Chairman shall refer legislation and other matters to the appropriate subcommittee or to the full Committee.

(b) Legislation shall be taken up for a hearing or markup only when called by the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate, or by a majority of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate.

(c) The Chairman, with approval of a majority vote of a quorum of the Committee, shall have authority to discharge a subcommittee from consideration of any measure or matter referred thereto and have such measure or matter considered by the Committee.

(d) Reports and recommendations of a subcommittee may not be considered by the Committee until after the intervention of three calendar days from the time the report is approved by the subcommittee and available to the members of the Committee, except that this rule may be waived by a majority vote of a quorum of the Committee.

(e) The Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, shall establish criteria for recommending legislation and other matters to be considered by the House of Representatives, pursuant to clause 1 of rule XV of the Rules of the House of Representatives. Such criteria shall not conflict with the Rules of the House of Representatives and other applicable rules.

RULE 7. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

(a) Pursuant to clause 2(g)(3) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Committee, or of any subcommittee, panel, or task force, shall make a public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing or meeting before that body at least one week before the commencement of a hearing and at least three days before the commencement of a meeting. However, if the Chairman of the Committee, or of any subcommittee, panel, or task force, with the concurrence of the respective Ranking Minority Member, determines that there is good cause to begin the hearing or meeting sooner, or if the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, such chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date. Any announcement made under this rule shall be promptly published in the Daily Digest, promptly entered into the committee scheduling service of the House Information Resources, and promptly made publicly available in electronic form.

(b) At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of legislation, or at the time of an announcement under paragraph (a) made within 24 hours before such meeting, the Chairman of the Committee, or of any subcommittee, panel, or task force shall cause the text of such measure or matter to be made publicly available in electronic form as provided in clause 2(g)(4) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 8. BROADCASTING OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

(a) Pursuant to clause 2(e)(5) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee shall, to the maximum extent practicable, provide audio and video coverage of each hearing or meeting for the transaction of business in a manner that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings. The Committee shall maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public.

(b) Clause 4 of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall apply to the Committee.

RULE 9. MEETINGS AND HEARINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

(a) Each hearing and meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, conducted by the Committee, or any subcommittee, panel, or task force, to the extent that the respective body is authorized to conduct markups, shall be open to the public except when the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force in open session and with a majority being present, determines by record vote that all or part of the remainder of that hearing or meeting on that day shall be in executive session because disclosure of testimony, evidence, or other matters to be considered would endanger the national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would violate any law or rule of the House of Representatives. Notwithstanding the requirements of the preceding sentence, a majority of those present, there being in attendance no fewer than two members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force may vote to close a hearing or meeting for the sole purpose of discussing whether testimony or evidence to be received would endanger the national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would violate any law or rule of the House of Representatives. If the decision is to proceed in executive session, the vote must be by record vote and in open session, a majority of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force being present.

(b) Whenever it is asserted by a member of the Committee or subcommittee that the evidence or testimony at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or it is asserted by a witness that the evidence or testimony that the witness would give at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate the witness, notwithstanding the requirements of (a) and the provisions of clause 2(g)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, such evidence or testimony shall be presented in executive session, if by a majority vote of those present, there being in attendance no fewer than two members of the Committee or subcommittee, the Committee or subcommittee determines that such evidence may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person. A majority of those present, there being in attendance no fewer than two members of the Committee or subcommittee may also vote to close the hearing or meeting for the sole purpose of discussing whether evidence or testimony to be received would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person. The Committee or subcommittee shall proceed to receive such testimony in open session only if the Committee or subcommittee, a majority being present, determines that such evidence or testimony will not tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

(c) Notwithstanding the foregoing, and with the approval of the Chairman, each member of the Committee may designate by letter to the Chairman, one member of that member's personal staff, and an alternate, which may include fellows, with Top Secret security clearance to attend hearings of the Committee, or that member's subcommittee(s), panel(s), or task force(s) (excluding briefings or meetings held under the provisions of committee rule 9(a)), which have been closed under the provisions of rule 9(a) above for national security purposes for the taking of testimony. The attendance of such a staff member or fellow at such hearings is subject to the approval of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force as dictated by national security requirements at that time. The attainment of any required security clearances is the responsibility of individual members of the Committee.

(d) Pursuant to clause 2(g)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, no Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner may be excluded from nonparticipatory attendance at any hearing of the Committee or a subcommittee, unless the House of Representatives shall by majority vote authorize the Committee or subcommittee, for purposes of a particular series of hearings on a particular article of legislation or on a particular subject of investigation, to close its hearings to Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner by the same procedures designated in this rule for closing hearings to the public.

(e) The Committee or the subcommittee may vote, by the same procedure, to meet in executive session for up to five additional consecutive days of hearings.

RULE 10. QUORUM

(a) For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence, two members shall constitute a quorum.

(b) One-third of the members of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for taking any action, with the following exceptions, in which case a majority of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum:

(1) Reporting a measure or recommendation;

(2) Closing Committee or subcommittee meetings and hearings to the public;

(3) Authorizing the issuance of subpoenas;

(4) Authorizing the use of executive session material; and

(5) Voting to proceed in open session after voting to close to discuss whether evidence or testimony to be received would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

(c) No measure or recommendation shall be reported to the House of Representatives unless a majority of the Committee is actually present.

RULE 11. THE FIVE-MINUTE RULE

(a) Subject to rule 15, the time any one member may address the Committee or subcommittee on any measure or matter under consideration shall not exceed five minutes and then only when the member has been recognized by the Chairman or subcommittee chairman, as appropriate, except that this time limit may be exceeded by unanimous consent. Any member, upon request, shall be recognized for not more than five minutes to address the Committee or subcommittee on behalf of an amendment which the member has offered to any pending bill or resolution. The five-minute limitation shall not apply to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or subcommittee.

(b)(1) Members who are present at a hearing of the Committee or subcommittee when a hearing is originally convened shall be recognized by the Chairman or subcommittee chairman, as appropriate, in order of seniority. Those members arriving subsequently shall be recognized in order of their arrival. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member will take precedence upon their arrival. In recognizing members to question witnesses in this fashion, the Chairman shall take into consideration the ratio of the Majority to Minority members present and shall establish the order of recognition for questioning in such a manner as not to disadvantage the members of either party.

(2) Pursuant to rule 4 and subject to rule 15, a member of the Committee who is not a member of a subcommittee may be recognized by a subcommittee chairman in order of their arrival and after all present subcommittee members have been recognized.

(3) The Chairman of the Committee or a subcommittee, with the concurrence of the respective Ranking Minority Member, may depart with the regular order for questioning which is specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this rule provided that such a decision is announced prior to the hearing or prior to the opening statements of the witnesses and that any such departure applies equally to the Majority and the Minority.

(c) No person other than a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of Congress and committee staff may be seated in or behind the dais area during Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force hearings and meetings.

RULE 12. POWER TO SIT AND ACT; SUBPOENA POWER

(a) For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties under rules X and XI

of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee and any subcommittee is authorized (subject to subparagraph (b)(1) of this paragraph):

(1) to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned, and to hold hearings, and

(2) to require by subpoena, or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memorandums, papers and documents, including, but not limited to, those in electronic form, as it considers necessary.

(b)(1) A subpoena may be authorized and issued by the Committee, or any subcommittee with the concurrence of the full Committee Chairman and after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, under subparagraph (a)(2) in the conduct of any investigation, or series of investigations or activities, only when authorized by a majority of the members voting, a majority of the Committee or subcommittee being present. Authorized subpoenas shall be signed only by the Chairman, or by any member designated by the Committee.

(2) Pursuant to clause 2(m) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, compliance with any subpoena issued by the Committee or any subcommittee under subparagraph (a)(2) may be enforced only as authorized or directed by the House of Representatives.

RULE 13. WITNESS STATEMENTS

(a) Any prepared statement to be presented by a witness to the Committee or a subcommittee shall be submitted to the Committee or subcommittee at least 48 hours in advance of presentation and shall be distributed to all members of the Committee or subcommittee as soon as practicable but not less than 24 hours in advance of presentation. A copy of any such prepared statement shall also be submitted to the Committee in electronic form. If a prepared statement contains national security information bearing a classification of Confidential or higher, the statement shall be made available in the Committee rooms to all members of the Committee or subcommittee as soon as practicable but not less than 24 hours in advance of presentation; however, no such statement shall be removed from the Committee offices. The requirement of this rule may be waived by a majority vote of the Committee or subcommittee, a quorum being present. In cases where a witness does not submit a statement by the time required under this rule, the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate, with the concurrence of the respective Ranking Minority Member, may elect to exclude the witness from the hearing.

(b) The Committee and each subcommittee shall require each witness who is to appear before it to file with the Committee in advance of his or her appearance a written statement of the proposed testimony and to limit the oral presentation at such appearance to a brief summary of the submitted written statement.

(c) Pursuant to clause 2(g)(5) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, written witness statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy of the witness, shall be made publicly available in electronic form not later than one day after the witness appears.

RULE 14. ADMINISTERING OATHS TO WITNESSES

(a) The Chairman, or any member designated by the Chairman, may administer oaths to any witness.

(b) Witnesses, when sworn, shall subscribe to the following oath:

''Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you will give before this Committee (or subcommittee) in the matters now under consideration will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?''

RULE 15. QUESTIONING OF WITNESSES

(a) When a witness is before the Committee or a subcommittee, members of the Committee or subcommittee may put questions to the witness only when recognized by the Chairman or subcommittee chairman, as appropriate, for that purpose according to rule 11 of the Committee.

(b) Members of the Committee or subcommittee who so desire shall have not more than five minutes to question each witness or panel of witnesses, the responses of the witness or witnesses being included in the five-minute period, until such time as each member has had an opportunity to question each witness or panel of witnesses. Thereafter, additional rounds for questioning witnesses by members are within the discretion of the Chairman or subcommittee chairman, as appropriate.

(c) Questions put to witnesses before the Committee or subcommittee shall be pertinent to the measure or matter that may be before the Committee or subcommittee for consideration.

RULE 16. PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND MARKUPS

The transcripts of those hearings conducted by the Committee, subcommittee, or panel will be published officially in substantially verbatim form, with the material requested for the record inserted at that place requested, or at the end of the record, as appropriate. The transcripts of markups conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee may be published officially in verbatim form. Any requests to correct any errors, other than those in transcription, will be appended to the record, and the appropriate place where the change is requested will be footnoted. Any transcript published under this rule shall include the results of record votes conducted in the session covered by the transcript and shall also include materials that have been submitted for the record and are covered under rule 19. The handling and safekeeping of these materials shall fully satisfy the requirements of rule 20. No transcript of an executive session conducted under rule 9 shall be published under this rule.

RULE 17. VOTING AND ROLLCALLS

(a) Voting on a measure or matter may be by record vote, division vote, voice vote, or unanimous consent.

(b) A record vote shall be ordered upon the request of one-fifth of those members present.

(c) No vote by any member of the Committee or a subcommittee with respect to any measure or matter shall be cast by proxy.

(d) In the event of a vote or votes, when a member is in attendance at any other committee, subcommittee, or conference committee meeting during that time, the necessary absence of that member shall be so noted in the record vote record, upon timely notification to the Chairman by that member.

(e) The Chairman of the Committee or a subcommittee, as appropriate, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member or the most senior Minority member who is present at the time, may elect to postpone requested record votes until such time or point at a markup as is mutually decided. When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, the underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

RULE 18. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) If, at the time of approval of any measure or matter by the Committee, any member of the Committee gives timely notice of intention to file supplemental, Minority, additional or dissenting views, all members shall be entitled to not less than two calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays except when the House is in session on such days) in which to file such written and signed views with the Staff Director of the Committee, or the Staff Director's designee. All such views so filed by one or more members of the Committee shall be included within, and shall be a part of, the report filed by the Committee with respect to that measure or matter.

(b) With respect to each record vote on a motion to report any measure or matter, and on any amendment offered to the measure or matter, the total number of votes cast for and against, the names of those voting for and against, and a brief description of the question, shall be included in the Committee report on the measure or matter.

(c) Not later than 24 hours after the adoption of any amendment to a measure or matter considered by the Committee, the Chairman shall cause the text of each such amendment to be made publicly available in electronic form as provided in clause 2(e)(6) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 19. PUBLIC INSPECTION OF COMMITTEE ROLLCALLS

The result of each record vote in any meeting of the Committee shall be made available by the Committee for inspection by the public at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee and also made publicly available in electronic form within 48 hours of such record vote pursuant to clause 2(e)(1)B(i) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. Information so available shall include a description of the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition and the name of each member voting for and each member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition and the names of those members present but not voting.

RULE 20. PROTECTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND OTHER INFORMATION

(a) Except as provided in clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, all national security information bearing a classification of Confidential or higher which has been received by the Committee or a subcommittee shall be deemed to have been received in executive session and shall be given appropriate safekeeping.

(b) The Chairman of the Committee shall, with the approval of a majority of the Committee, establish such procedures as in his judgment may be necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any national security information that is received which is classified as Confidential or higher. Such procedures shall, however, ensure access to this information by any member of the Committee or any other Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the House of Representatives, staff of the Committee, or staff designated under rule 9(c) who have the appropriate security clearances and the need to know, who has requested the opportunity to review such material.

(c) The Chairman of the Committee shall, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, establish such procedures as in his judgment may be necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any proprietary information that is received by the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force. Such procedures shall be consistent with the Rules of the House of Representatives and applicable law.

RULE 21. COMMITTEE STAFFING

The staffing of the Committee, the standing subcommittees, and any panel or task force designated by the Chairman or chairmen of the subcommittees shall be subject to the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 22. COMMITTEE RECORDS

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of rule VII, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on the written request of any member of the Committee.

RULE 23. HEARING PROCEDURES

Clause 2(k) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall apply to the Committee.

RULE 24. COMMITTEE ACTIVITY REPORTS

Not later than January 2nd of each odd-numbered year the Committee shall submit to the House a report on its activities, pursuant to clause 1(d) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, January 22, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to clause 2(a) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I submit the Rules of the Committee on Homeland Security for the 114th Congress for publication in the Congressional Record. On January 21, 2015, the Committee on Homeland Security met in open session and adopted these Committee Rules by unanimous consent, a quorum being present.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

Enclosure.

RULE I.—GENERAL PROVISIONS.

(A) *Applicability of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives.*—The Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives (the ''House'') are the rules of the Committee on Homeland Security (the ''Committee'') and its subcommittees insofar as applicable.

(B) *Applicability to Subcommittees.*—Except where the terms ''Full Committee'' and ''subcommittee'' are specifically mentioned, the following rules shall apply to the Committee's subcommittees and their respective Chairmen and Ranking Minority Members to the same extent as they apply to the Full Committee and its Chairman and Ranking Minority Member.

(C) *Appointments by the Chairman.*—Clause 2(d) of Rule XI of the House shall govern the designation of a Vice Chairman of the Full Committee.

(D) *Recommendation of Conferees.*—Whenever the Speaker of the House is to appoint a conference committee on a matter within the jurisdiction of the Full Committee, the Chairman shall recommend to the Speaker of the House conferees from the Full Committee. In making recommendations of Minority Members as conferees, the Chairman shall do so with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

(E) *Motions to Disagree.*—The Chairman is authorized to offer a motion under clause 1 of Rule XXII of the Rules of the House whenever the Chairman considers it appropriate.

(F) *Committee Website.*—The Chairman shall maintain an official Committee web site for the purposes of furthering the Committee's legislative and oversight responsibilities, including communicating information about the Committee's activities to Committee Members, other Members, and the public at large. The Ranking Minority Member may maintain a similar web site for the same purposes. The official Committee web site shall display a link on its home page to the web site maintained by the Ranking Minority Member.

(G) *Activity Report.*—Not later than January 2 of each odd numbered year, the Committee shall submit to the House a report on the activities of the Committee. After adjournment sine die of the last regular session of a Congress, or after December 15 of an even-numbered year, whichever occurs first, the Chair may file the report with the Clerk at any time and without approval of the Committee provided that a copy of the report has been available to each Member of the Committee for at least seven calendar days and the report includes any supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views submitted by a Member of the Committee.

RULE II.—COMMITTEE PANELS.

(A) *Designation.*—The Chairman of the Full Committee, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, may designate a panel of the Committee consisting of Members of the Committee to inquire into and take testimony on a matter or matters that warrant enhanced consideration and to report to the Committee.

(B) *Duration.*—No panel appointed by the Chairman shall continue in existence for more than six months after the appointment.

(C) *Party Ratios and Appointment.*—The ratio of Majority to Minority Members shall be comparable to the Full Committee, consistent with the party ratios established by the Majority party, with all Majority members of the panels appointed by the Chairman of the Committee and all Minority members appointed by the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee. The Chairman of the Committee shall choose one of the Majority Members so appointed who does not currently chair another Subcommittee of the Committee to serve as Chairman of the panel. The Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall similarly choose the Ranking Minority Member of the panel.

(D) *Ex Officio Members.*—The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Full Committee may serve as ex-officio Members of each committee panel but are not authorized to vote on matters that arise before a committee panel and shall not be counted to satisfy the quorum requirement for any purpose other than taking testimony.

(E) *Jurisdiction.*—No panel shall have legislative jurisdiction.

(F) *Applicability of Committee Rules.*—Any designated panel shall be subject to all Committee Rules herein.

RULE III.—SUBCOMMITTEES.

(A) *Generally.*—The Full Committee shall be organized into the following six standing subcommittees and each shall have specific responsibility for such measures or matters as the Chairman refers to it:

(1) Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence;

(2) Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security;

(3) Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection and Security Technologies;

(4) Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency;

(5) Subcommittee on Transportation Security; and

(6) Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response and Communications.

(B) *Selection and Ratio of Subcommittee Members.*—The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Full Committee shall select their respective Members of each subcommittee. The ratio of Majority to Minority Members shall be comparable to the Full Committee, consistent with the party ratios established by the Majority party, except that each subcommittee shall have at least two more Majority Members than Minority Members.

(C) *Ex Officio Members.*—The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Full Committee shall be ex officio members of each subcommittee but are not authorized to vote on matters that arise before each subcommittee. The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Full Committee shall only be counted to satisfy the quorum requirement for the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence.

(D) *Powers and Duties of Subcommittees.*—Except as otherwise directed by the Chairman of the Full Committee, each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive testimony, mark up legislation, and report to the Full Committee on all matters within its purview. Subcommittee Chairmen shall set hearing and meeting dates only with the approval of the Chairman of the Full Committee. To the greatest extent practicable, no more than one meeting and hearing should be scheduled for a given time.

(E) *Special Voting Provision.*—If a tie vote occurs in a Subcommittee on the question of forwarding any measure to the Full Committee, the measure shall be placed on the agenda for Full Committee consideration as if it had been ordered reported by the Subcommittee without recommendation.

RULE IV.—TIME OF MEETINGS.

(A) *Regular Meeting Date.*—The regular meeting date and time for the transaction of business of the Full Committee shall be at 10:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday that the House is in Session each month, unless otherwise directed by the Chairman.

(B) *Additional Meetings.*—At the discretion of the Chairman, additional meetings of the Committee may be scheduled for the consideration of any legislation or other matters pending before the Committee or to conduct other Committee business. The Committee shall meet for such purposes pursuant to the call of the Chairman.

(C) *Consideration.*—Except in the case of a special meeting held under clause 2(c)(2) of House Rule XI, the determination of the business to be considered at each meeting of the Committee shall be made by the Chairman.

RULE V.—NOTICE AND PUBLICATION.

(A) *Notice.*—

(1) Hearings.—Pursuant to clause 2(g)(3) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Committee shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing before the Full Committee or subcommittee, which may not commence earlier than one week after such notice. However, if the Chairman of the Committee, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, determines that there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date. The names of all witnesses scheduled to appear at such hearing shall be provided to

Members no later than 48 hours prior to the commencement of such hearing.

(2) Meetings.—The date, time, place and subject matter of any meeting, which could be a briefing, other than a hearing or a regularly scheduled meeting, may not commence earlier than the third day on which Members have notice thereof except in the case of a special meeting called under clause 2(c)(2) of House Rule XI. These notice requirements may be waived if the Chairman with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, determines that there is good cause to begin the meeting sooner or if the Committee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business.

(a) Copies of any measure or matter to be considered for approval by the Committee at any meeting, including any mark, print or amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be provided to the Members at least 48 hours in advance. Any substitute amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be provided to the Members at least 24 hours in advance.

(b) At least 48 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of a measure or matter, the text of such measure or matter, including any mark, print or amendment in the nature of a substitute, shall be made publicly available in electronic form and posted on the official Committee web site. Any substitute amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be made publicly available in electronic form at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of a measure or matter.

(c) Not later than 24 hours after concluding a meeting to consider a measure or matter, the text of such measure or matter as ordered forwarded or reported, including any amendments adopted or defeated, shall be made publicly available in electronic form and posted on the official Committee web site.

(3) Publication.—The meeting or hearing announcement shall be promptly published in the Daily Digest portion of the Congressional Record. To the greatest extent practicable, meeting announcements shall be entered into the Committee scheduling service of the House Information Resources.

RULE VI.—OPEN MEETINGS AND HEARINGS; BROADCASTING.

(A) *Open Meetings*.—All meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be open to the public including to radio, television, and still photography coverage, except as provided by Rule XI of the Rules of the House or when the Committee, in open session and with a majority present, determines by recorded vote that all or part of the remainder of that hearing on that day shall be closed to the public because disclosure of testimony, evidence, or other matters to be considered would endanger the national security, compromise sensitive law enforcement information, tend to defame, degrade or incriminate a witness, or violate any law or rule of the House of Representatives.

(B) *Broadcasting*.—Whenever any hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee is open to the public, the Committee shall permit that hearing or meeting to be covered by television broadcast, internet broadcast, print media, and still photography, or by any of such methods of coverage, in accordance with the provisions of clause 4 of Rule XI of the Rules of the House. Operation and use of any Committee operated broadcast system shall be fair and nonpartisan and in accordance with clause 4(b) of Rule XI and all other applicable rules of the Committee and the House. Priority shall be given by the Committee to members of the Press Galleries. Pursuant to clause 2(e) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee shall, to the greatest extent practicable, provide audio and video coverage of each hearing or meeting in a manner that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings and shall maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public.

(C) *Transcripts*.—A transcript shall be made of the testimony of each witness appearing before the Committee during a Committee hearing. All transcripts of meetings or hearings that are open to the public shall be made available.

RULE VII.—PROCEDURES FOR MEETINGS AND HEARINGS.

(A) *Opening Statements*.—At any meeting of the Committee, the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member shall be entitled to present oral opening statements of five minutes each. Other Members may submit written opening statements for the record. The Chairman presiding over the meeting may permit additional opening statements by other Members of the Full Committee or of that subcommittee, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member.

(B) *The Five-Minute Rule*.—The time any one Member may address the Committee on any bill, motion, or other matter under consideration by the Committee shall not exceed five minutes, and then only when the Member has been recognized by the Chairman, except that this time limit may be extended when permitted by unanimous consent.

(C) *Postponement of Vote*.—The Chairman may postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving any measure or matter or adopting an amendment. The Chairman may resume proceedings on a postponed vote at any time, provided that all reasonable steps have been taken to notify Members of the resumption of such proceedings, including circulation of notice by the Clerk of the Committee, or other designee of the Chair. When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

(D) *Contempt Procedures*.—No recommendation that a person be cited for contempt of Congress shall be forwarded to the House unless and until the Full Committee has, upon notice to all its Members, met and considered the alleged contempt. The person to be cited for contempt shall be afforded, upon notice of at least 72 hours, an opportunity to state why he or she should not be held in contempt prior to a vote of the Full Committee, with a quorum being present, on the question whether to forward such recommendation to the House. Such statement shall be, in the discretion of the Chairman, either in writing or in person before the Full Committee.

(E) *Record*.—Members may have 10 business days to submit to the Chief Clerk of the Committee their statements for the record, and, in the case of a hearing, additional questions for the hearing record to be directed towards a witness at the hearing.

RULE VIII.—WITNESSES.

(A) *Questioning of Witnesses*.—

(1) Questioning of witnesses by Members will be conducted under the five- minute rule unless the Committee adopts a motion permitted by clause 2(j)(2) of House Rule XI.

(2) In questioning witnesses under the five-minute rule, the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member shall first be recognized. In a subcommittee meeting or hearing, the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Full Committee are then recognized. All other Members who are present before the commencement of the meeting or hearing will be recognized in the order of seniority on the Committee, alternating between Majority and Minority Members. Committee Members arriving after the commencement of the hearing shall be recognized in order of appearance, alternating between Majority and Minority Members, after all Members present at the beginning of the hearing have been recognized. Each Member shall be recognized at least once before any Member is given a second opportunity to question a witness.

(3) The Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, or the Committee by motion, may permit an extension of the period of questioning of a witness beyond five minutes but the time allotted must be equally apportioned to the Majority party and the Minority and may not exceed one hour in the aggregate.

(4) The Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, or the Committee by motion, may permit Committee staff of the Majority and Minority to question a witness for a specified period of time, but the time allotted must be equally apportioned to the Majority and Minority staff and may not exceed one hour in the aggregate.

(B) *Minority Witnesses*.—Whenever a hearing is conducted by the Committee upon any measure or matter, the Minority party Members on the Committee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chairman by a majority of those Minority Members before the completion of such hearing, to call witnesses selected by the Minority to testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least one day of hearing thereon.

(C) *Oath or Affirmation*.—The Chairman of the Committee or any Member designated by the Chairman, may administer an oath to any witness.

(D) Statements by Witnesses.—

(1) Consistent with the notice given, and to the greatest extent practicable, witnesses shall submit a prepared or written statement for the record of the proceedings (including, where practicable, an electronic copy) with the Clerk of the Committee no less than 48 hours in advance of the witness's appearance before the Committee. Unless the 48 hour requirement is waived or otherwise modified by the Chairman, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, the failure to comply with this requirement may result in the exclusion of the written testimony from the hearing record and/or the barring of an oral presentation of the testimony. The Clerk of the Committee shall provide any such prepared or written statement submitted to the Clerk prior to the hearing to the Members of the Committee prior to the commencement of the hearing.

(2) In the case of a witness appearing in a non-governmental capacity, a written statement of proposed testimony shall include a curriculum vita and a disclosure of any Federal grants or contracts, or contracts or payments originating with a foreign government, received during the current calendar year or either of the two preceding calendar years by the witness or by an entity represented by the witness and related to the subject matter of the hearing. Such disclosures shall include the amount and source of each Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) related to the subject matter of the hearing, and the amount and country of origin of any payment or contract related to the subject matter jurisdiction of the hearing originating with a foreign government. Such statements, with the appropriate redactions to protect the privacy or security of the witness, shall be made publicly available in electronic form

not later than one day after the witness appears.

RULE IX.—QUORUM.

Quorum Requirements.—Two Members shall constitute a quorum for purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence. One-third of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for conducting business, except for (1) reporting a measure or recommendation; (2) closing Committee meetings to the public, pursuant to Committee Rule IV; (3) any other action for which an actual majority quorum is required by any rule of the House of Representatives or by law. The Chairman's staff shall consult with the Ranking Minority Member's staff when scheduling meetings and hearings, to ensure that a quorum for any purpose will include at least one Minority Member of the Committee.

RULE X.—DECORUM.

(A) *Breaches of Decorum.*—The Chairman may punish breaches of order and decorum, by censure and exclusion from the hearing; and the Committee may cite the offender to the House for contempt.

(B) *Access to Dais.*—Access to the dais before, during, and after a hearing, markup, or other meeting of the Committee shall be limited to Members and staff of the Committee. Subject to availability of space on the dais, Committee Members' personal staff may be present on the dais during a hearing if their employing Member is seated on the dais and during a markup or other meeting if their employing Member is the author of a measure or amendment under consideration by the Committee, but only during the time that the measure or amendment is under active consideration by the Committee, or otherwise at the discretion of the Chairman, or of the Ranking Minority Member for personal staff employed by a Minority Member.

(C) *Wireless Communications Use Prohibited.*—During a hearing, mark-up, or other meeting of the Committee, ringing or audible sounds or conversational use of cellular telephones or other electronic devices is prohibited in the Committee room.

RULE XI.—REFERRALS TO SUBCOMMITTEES.

Referral of Bills and Other Matters by Chairman.—Except for bills and other matters retained by the Chairman for Full Committee consideration, each bill or other matter referred to the Full Committee shall be referred by the Chairman to one or more subcommittees within two weeks of receipt by the Committee. In referring any measure or matter to a subcommittee, the Chair may specify a date by which the subcommittee shall report thereon to the Full Committee. Bills or other matters referred to subcommittees may be reassigned or discharged by the Chairman.

RULE XII.—SUBPOENAS.

(A) *Authorization.*—The power to authorize and issue subpoenas is delegated to the Chairman of the Full Committee, as provided for under clause 2(m)(3)(A)(i) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member prior to issuing any subpoena under such authority. To the extent practicable, the Chairman shall consult with the Ranking Minority Member at least 24 hours in advance of a subpoena being issued under such authority, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays. The Chairman of the Full Committee shall notify Members of the Committee of the authorization and issuance of a subpoena under this rule as soon as practicable, but in no event later than one week after service of such subpoena.

(B) *Disclosure.*—Provisions may be included in a subpoena with the concurrence of the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of the Full Committee, or by the Committee, to prevent the disclosure of the Full Committee's demands for information when deemed necessary for the security of information or the progress of an investigation, including but not limited to prohibiting the revelation by witnesses and their counsel of Full Committee's inquiries.

(C) *Subpoena duces tecum.*—A subpoena duces tecum may be issued whose return to the Committee Clerk shall occur at a time and place other than that of a regularly scheduled meeting.

RULE XIII.—COMMITTEE STAFF.

(A) *Generally.*—Committee staff members are subject to the provisions of clause 9 of House Rule X and must be eligible to be considered for routine access to classified information.

(B) *Staff Assignments.*—For purposes of these rules, Committee staff means the employees of the Committee, detailees, fellows, or any other person engaged by contract or otherwise to perform services for, or at the request of, the Committee. All such persons shall be either Majority, Minority, or shared staff. The Chairman shall appoint, supervise, where applicable determine remuneration of, and may remove Majority staff. The Ranking Minority Member shall appoint, supervise, where applicable determine remuneration of, and may remove Minority staff. In consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, the Chairman may appoint, supervise, determine remuneration of and may remove shared staff that is assigned to service of the Committee. The Chairman shall certify Committee staff appointments, including appointments by the Ranking Minority Member, as required.

(C) *Divulgence of Information.*—Prior to the public acknowledgement by the Chairman or the Committee of a decision to initiate an investigation of a particular person, entity, or subject, no member of the Committee staff shall knowingly divulge to any person any information, including non-classified information, which comes into his or her possession by virtue of his or her status as a member of the Committee staff, if the member of the Committee staff has a reasonable expectation that such information may alert the subject of a Committee investigation to the existence, nature, or substance of such investigation, unless authorized to do so by the Chairman or the Committee.

RULE XIV.—COMMITTEE MEMBER AND COMMITTEE STAFF TRAVEL.

(A) *Approval of Travel.*—Consistent with the primary expense resolution and such additional expense resolutions as may have been approved, travel to be reimbursed from funds set aside for the Committee for any Committee Member or Committee staff shall be paid only upon the prior authorization of the Chairman. Travel may be authorized by the Chairman for any Committee Member or Committee staff only in connection with official Committee business, such as the attendance of hearings conducted by the Committee and meetings, conferences, site visits, and investigations that involve activities or subject matters under the general jurisdiction of the Full Committee.

(1) *Proposed Travel by Majority Party Committee Members and Committee Staff.*—In the case of proposed travel by Majority party Committee Members or Committee staff, before such authorization is given, there shall be submitted to the Chairman in writing the following: (a) the purpose of the travel; (b) the dates during which the travel is to be made and the date or dates of the event for which the travel is being made; (c) the location of the event for which the travel is to be made; (d) the estimated total cost of the travel; and (e) the names of Members and staff seeking authorization. On the basis of that information, the Chairman shall determine whether the proposed travel is for official Committee business, concerns a subject matter under the jurisdiction of the Full Committee, and is not excessively costly in view of the Committee business proposed to be conducted.

(2) *Proposed Travel by Minority Party Committee Members and Committee Staff.*—In the case of proposed travel by Minority party Committee Members or Committee staff, the Ranking Minority Member shall provide to the Chairman a written representation setting forth the information specified in items (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) of subparagraph (1) and his or her determination that such travel complies with the other requirements of subparagraph (1).

(B) *Foreign Travel.*—Committee Member and Committee staff requests for foreign travel must include a written representation setting forth the information specified in items (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) of subparagraph (A)(1) and be submitted to the Chairman and, absent extenuating circumstances, to the Ranking Minority Member, not fewer than ten business days prior to the start of the travel. Within thirty days of the conclusion of any such foreign travel authorized under this rule, there shall be submitted to the Chairman a written report summarizing the information gained as a result of the travel in question, or other Committee objectives served by such travel. The requirements of this section may be waived or abridged by the Chairman.

(C) *Compliance with Committee Travel Policy and Guidelines.*—Travel must be in accordance with the Committee Travel Policy and Guidelines, as well as with House Rules, the Travel Guidelines and Regulations and any additional guidance set forth by the Committee on Ethics and the Committee on House Administration. Committee Members and staff shall follow these rules, policies, guidelines, and regulations in requesting and proceeding with any Committee-related travel.

RULE XV.—CLASSIFIED AND CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION.

(A) *Security Precautions.*—Committee staff offices, including Majority and Minority offices, shall operate under strict security precautions administered by the Security Officer of the Committee. A security officer shall be on duty at all times during normal office hours. Classified documents and controlled unclassified information (CUI)—formerly known as sensitive but unclassified (SBU) information—may be destroyed, discussed, examined, handled, reviewed, stored, transported and used only in an appropriately secure manner in accordance with all applicable laws, executive orders, and other governing authorities. Such documents may be removed from the Committee's offices only in furtherance of official Committee business. Appropriate security procedures, as determined by the Chairman in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, shall govern the handling of such documents removed from the Committee's offices.

(B) *Temporary Custody of Executive Branch Material.*—Executive branch documents or other materials containing classified information in any form that were not made part of the record of a Committee hearing, did not originate in the Committee or the House, and are not otherwise records of the Committee shall, while in the custody of the Committee, be segregated and maintained by the Committee in the same manner as Committee records that are classified. Such documents and other materials shall be returned to the Executive branch agency from

which they were obtained at the earliest practicable time.

(C) *Access by Committee Staff.*—Access to classified information supplied to the Committee shall be limited to Committee staff members with appropriate security clearances and a need-to-know, as determined by the Chairman or Ranking Minority Member, and under the direction of the Majority or Minority Staff Directors.

(D) *Maintaining Confidentiality.*—No Committee Member or Committee staff shall disclose, in whole or in part or by way of summary, to any person who is not a Committee Member or authorized Committee staff for any purpose or in connection with any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, any testimony given before the Committee in executive session except for purposes of obtaining an official classification of such testimony. Classified information and controlled unclassified information (CUI) shall be handled in accordance with all applicable laws, executive orders, and other governing authorities and consistently with the provisions of these rules and Committee procedures.

(E) *Oath.*—Before a Committee Member or Committee staff may have access to classified information, the following oath (or affirmation) shall be executed:

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will not disclose any classified information received in the course of my service on the Committee on Homeland Security, except as authorized by the Committee or the House of Representatives or in accordance with the Rules of such Committee or the Rules of the House.

Copies of the executed oath (or affirmation) shall be retained by the Clerk of the Committee as part of the records of the Committee.

(F) *Disciplinary Action.*—The Chairman shall immediately consider disciplinary action in the event any Committee Member or Committee staff member fails to conform to the provisions of these rules governing the disclosure of classified or unclassified information. Such disciplinary action may include, but shall not be limited to, immediate dismissal from the Committee staff, criminal referral to the Justice Department, and notification of the Speaker of the House. With respect to Minority staff, the Chairman shall consider such disciplinary action in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member.

RULE XVI.—COMMITTEE RECORDS.

(A) *Committee Records.*—Committee Records shall constitute all data, charts and files in possession of the Committee and shall be maintained in accordance with clause 2(e) of House Rule XI.

(B) *Legislative Calendar.*—The Clerk of the Committee shall maintain a printed calendar for the information of each Committee Member showing any procedural or legislative measures considered or scheduled to be considered by the Committee, and the status of such measures and such other matters as the Committee determines shall be included. The calendar shall be revised from time to time to show pertinent changes. A copy of such revisions shall be made available to each Member of the Committee upon request.

(C) *Members Right To Access.*—Members of the Committee and of the House shall have access to all official Committee Records. Access to Committee files shall be limited to examination within the Committee offices at reasonable times. Access to Committee Records that contain classified information shall be provided in a manner consistent with these rules.

(D) *Removal of Committee Records.*—Files and records of the Committee are not to be removed from the Committee offices. No Committee files or records that are not made publicly available shall be photocopied by any Member.

(E) *Executive Session Records.*—Evidence or testimony received by the Committee in executive session shall not be released or made available to the public unless agreed to by the Committee. Such information may be made available to appropriate government personnel for purposes of classification. Such information Members may examine the Committee's executive session records, but may not make copies of, or take personal notes from, such records.

(F) *Availability of Committee Records.*—The Committee shall keep a complete record of all Committee action including recorded votes and attendance at hearings and meetings. Information so available for public inspection shall include a description of each amendment, motion, order, or other proposition, including the name of the Member who offered the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition, and the name of each Member voting for and each Member voting against each such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, as well as the names of those Members present but not voting. Such record shall be made available to the public at reasonable times within the Committee offices and also made publicly available in electronic form and posted on the official Committee web site within 48 hours of such record vote.

(G) *Separate and Distinct.*—All Committee records and files must be kept separate and distinct from the office records of the Members serving as Chairman and Ranking Minority Member. Records and files of Members' personal offices shall not be considered records or files of the Committee.

(H) *Disposition of Committee Records.*—At the conclusion of each Congress, non-current records of the Committee shall be delivered to the Archivist of the United States in accordance with Rule VII of the Rules of the House.

(I) *Archived Records.*—The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with Rule VII of the Rules of the House. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of the Rule, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on the written request of any member of the Committee. The Chairman shall consult with the Ranking Minority Member on any communication from the Archivist of the United States or the Clerk of the House concerning the disposition of noncurrent records pursuant to clause 3(b) of the Rule.

RULE XVII.—COMMITTEE RULES.

(A) *Availability of Committee Rules in Electronic Form.*—Pursuant to clause 2(a) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee shall make its rules publicly available in electronic form and posted on the official Committee web site and shall submit such rules for publication in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the Chairman of the Committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

(B) *Changes to Committee Rules.*—These rules may be modified, amended, or repealed by the Full Committee provided that a notice in writing of the proposed change has been given to each Member at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at which action thereon is to be taken and such changes are not inconsistent with the Rules of the House of Representatives.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, January 26, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of House of Representatives Rule XI, I am submitting the Committee on the Judiciary's Rules of Procedure for publication in the Congressional Record. These rules were adopted by a vote of the Committee on January 21, 2015.

Sincerely,

BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman.

Rule I. The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary and its Subcommittees with the following specific additions thereto.

RULE II. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee on the Judiciary for the conduct of its business shall be on Wednesday of each week while the House is in session.

(b) Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman and a regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with when, in the judgment of the Chairman, there is no need therefor.

(c) The Chairman shall furnish each Member of the Committee or Subcommittee with the date, place, and a list of bills and subjects to be considered at a Committee or Subcommittee meeting, which may not commence earlier than the third day on which Members have notice thereof (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays when the House is not in session).

(d) At least 48 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of legislation, the text of such legislation shall be made publicly available in electronic form.

(e) In an emergency that does not reasonably allow for the notice as requirements in (c) and (d), the Chairman may waive the notice requirements with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member.

(f) To the maximum extent practicable, amendments to a measure or matter shall be submitted in writing or electronically to the designee of both the Chairman and Ranking Member at least 24 hours prior to the consideration of the measure or matter. The Chairman may use his discretion to give priority to amendments submitted in advance.

(g) Committee and Subcommittee meetings for the transaction of business, i.e. meetings other than those held for the purpose of taking testimony, shall be open to the public except when the Committee or Subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(h) Every motion made to the Committee and entertained by the Chairman shall be reduced to writing upon demand, of any Member, and a copy made available to each Member present.

(i) For purposes of taking any action at a meeting of the full Committee or any Subcommittee thereof for which a majority is not required, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of not less than one-third of the Members of the Committee or Subcommittee, respectively.

(j)(1) Subject to subparagraph (2), the Chairman may postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving any measure or matter or adopting an amendment. The Chairman may resume proceedings on a postponed request at any time.

(2) In exercising postponement authority under subparagraph (1), the Chairman shall take all reasonable steps necessary to notify Members on the resumption of proceedings on any postponed record vote.

(3) When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

(k) Transcripts of markups shall be recorded and may be published in the same manner as hearings before the Committee.

(l) Without further action of the Committee, the Chairman is directed to offer a motion under clause 1 of rule XXII of the Rules of the House of Representatives whenever the Chairman considers it appropriate.

RULE III. HEARINGS

(a) The Committee Chairman or any Subcommittee Chairman shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted by it on any measure or matter at least one week before the commencement of that hearing. If the Chairman of the Committee, or Subcommittee, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee or Subcommittee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman or Subcommittee Chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date.

(b) Committee and Subcommittee hearings shall be open to the public except when the Committee or Subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(c) For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence before the Committee or any Subcommittee, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of two Members.

(d) In the course of any hearing each Member shall be allowed five minutes for the interrogation of a witness until such time as each Member who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness.

(e) The transcripts of those hearings conducted by the Committee which are decided to be printed shall be published in verbatim form, with the material requested for the record inserted at that place requested, or at the end of the record, as appropriate. Individuals, including Members of Congress, whose comments are to be published as part of a Committee document shall be given the opportunity to verify the accuracy of the transcription in advance of publication. Any requests by those Members, staff or witnesses to correct any errors other than errors in the transcription, or disputed errors in transcription, shall be appended to the record, and the appropriate place where the change is requested will be footnoted. Prior to approval by the Chairman of hearings conducted jointly with another congressional Committee, a memorandum of understanding shall be prepared which incorporates an agreement for the publication of the verbatim transcript.

RULE IV. SUBPOENAS

(a) A subpoena may be authorized and issued by the Chairman, in accordance with clause 2(m) of rule XI of the House of Representatives, in the conduct of any investigation or activity or series of investigations or activities within the jurisdiction of the Committee, following consultation with the Ranking Minority Member.

(b) In addition, a subpoena may be authorized and issued by the Committee or its Subcommittees in accordance with clause 2(m) of rule XI of the House of Representatives, in the conduct of any investigation or activity or series of investigations or activities, when authorized by a majority of the Members voting, a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee being present. Authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the Chairman or by any Member designated by the Committee.

(c) At least two business days before issuing any subpoena pursuant to subsection (a), the Chair shall consult with the Ranking Member regarding the authorization and issuance of such subpoena, and the Chair shall provide a full copy of the proposed subpoena, including any proposed document schedule, at that time.

(d) The requirements of subsection (c) may be waived in the event of an emergency that does not reasonably allow for advance written notice.

RULE V. BROADCASTING

Whenever a hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee or any Subcommittee is open to the public, those proceedings shall be open to coverage by television, radio and still photography subject to the requirements of clause 4 of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE VI. STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) The full Committee shall have jurisdiction over: copyright, and other such matters as determined by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(b) There shall be five standing Subcommittees of the Committee on the Judiciary, with jurisdictions as follows:

The Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: constitutional amendments, constitutional rights, Federal civil rights, claims against the United States, non-immigration private claims bills, ethics in government, tort liability, including medical malpractice and product liability, legal reform generally, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

The Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: Administration of U.S. Courts, Federal Rules of Evidence, Civil and Appellate Procedure, judicial ethics, patent and trademark law, information technology, other appropriate matters as referred to by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

The Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: Federal Criminal Code, drug enforcement, sentencing, parole and pardons, internal and homeland security, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, prisons, criminal law enforcement, and other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

The Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: immigration and naturalization, border security, admission of refugees, treaties, conventions and international agreements, Federal charters of incorporation, private immigration bills, non-border immigration enforcement, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

The Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: bankruptcy and commercial law, bankruptcy judgeships, administrative law, independent counsel, state taxation affecting interstate commerce, interstate compacts, antitrust matters, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(c) The Chairman of the Committee and Ranking Minority Member thereof shall be ex officio Members, but not voting Members, of each Subcommittee to which such Chairman or Ranking Minority Member has not been assigned by resolution of the Committee. Ex officio Members shall not be counted as present for purposes of constituting a quorum at any hearing or meeting of such Subcommittee.

RULE VII. POWERS AND DUTIES OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Each Subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the full Committee on all matters referred to it or under its jurisdiction. Subcommittee chairmen shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their respective Subcommittees after consultation with the Chairman and other Subcommittee chairmen with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of full Committee and Subcommittee meetings or hearings whenever possible.

RULE VIII. NON-LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

No report of the Committee or Subcommittee which does not accompany a measure or matter for consideration by the House shall be published unless all Members of the Committee or Subcommittee issuing the report shall have been apprised of such report and given the opportunity to give notice of intention to file supplemental, additional, or dissenting views as part of the report. In no case shall the time in which to file such views be less than three calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays when the House is not in session).

RULE IX. COMMITTEE RECORDS

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use according to the Rules of the House. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on the written request of any Member of the Committee.

RULE X. OFFICIAL COMMITTEE WEBSITE

(a) The Chairman shall maintain an official website on behalf of the Committee for the purpose of furthering the Committee's legislative and oversight responsibilities, including communicating information about the Committee's activities to Committee Members and other Members of the House.

(b) The Chairman shall make the record of the votes on any question on which a record vote is demanded in the full Committee available on the Committee's official website not later than 48 hours after such vote is taken. Such record shall identify or describe the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition, the name of each Member voting for and each Member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, and the names of the Members voting present.

(c) Not later than 24 hours after the adoption of any amendment to a measure or matter considered by the Committee or its Subcommittees, the Chairman shall make the text of each such amendment publicly available in electronic form.

(d) Not later than 3 days after the conclusion of a Committee meeting, the transcript of such meeting and the text of all amendments offered shall be made available on the Committee website.

(e) The Ranking Member is authorized to maintain a similar official website on behalf of the Committee Minority for the same purpose, including communicating information about the activities of the Minority to Committee Members and other Members of the House.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, January 27, 2015, at noon.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the fourth quarter of 2014, pursuant to Public Law 95–384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, AND IRAQ, EXPENDED BETWEEN DEC. 12 AND DEC. 17, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Kevin McCarthy	12/13	12/14	UAE		898.30		(3)				898.30
	12/14	12/14	Qatar				(3)				
	12/14	12/15	Saudi Arabia		459.10		(3)				459.10
	12/15	12/16	Iraq		11.00		(3)				11.00
Hon. Rodney Frelinghuysen	12/13	12/14	UAE		898.30		(3)				898.30
	12/14	12/14	Qatar				(3)				
	12/14	12/15	Saudi Arabia		459.10		(3)				459.10
	12/15	12/16	Iraq		11.00		(3)				11.00
Hon. Devin Nunes	12/13	12/14	UAE		898.30		(3)				898.30
	12/14	12/14	Qatar				(3)				
	12/14	12/15	Saudi Arabia		459.10		(3)				459.10
	12/15	12/16	Iraq		11.00		(3)				11.00
Hon. Mac Thornberry	12/13	12/14	UAE		898.30		(3)				898.30
	12/14	12/14	Qatar				(3)				
	12/14	12/15	Saudi Arabia		459.10		(3)				459.10
	12/15	12/16	Iraq		11.00		(3)				11.00
Robert Karem	12/13	12/14	UAE		898.30		(3)				898.30
	12/14	12/14	Qatar				(3)				
	12/14	12/15	Saudi Arabia		459.10		(3)				459.10
	12/15	12/16	Iraq		11.00		(3)				11.00
Committee Total					6,842.00		(3)				6,842.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

HON. KEVIN McCARTHY, Jan. 16, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY, Chairman, Jan. 20, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ETHICS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. CHARLES W. DENT, Chairman, Jan. 15, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER, Chairman, Jan. 7, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ROB BISHOP, Chairman, Jan. 22, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 21, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. PETE SESSIONS, Chairman, Jan. 5, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. BILL SHUSTER, Chairman, Jan. 14, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE 2012 TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. TREY GOWDY, Chairman, Jan. 7, 2015.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

120. A letter from the FSA Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Marketing Assistance Loans, Loan Deficiency Payments, and Sugar Loans (RIN: 0560-AI28) received January 15, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

121. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, LRA, OCC, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Subordinated Debt Issued by a National Bank [Docket ID: OCC-2014-0024] (RIN: 1557-AD73) received January 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

122. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, LRAD, OCC, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Regulatory Capital Rules, Liquidity Coverage Ratio: Interim Final Revisions to the Definition of Qualifying Master Netting Agreement and Related Definitions [Docket ID: OCC-2014-0028] (RIN: 1557-AD91) received January 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

123. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, LRAD, OCC, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's joint final rule — Community Reinvestment Act Regulations [Docket ID: OCC-2014-0026] (RIN: 1557-AD89) received January 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

124. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, LRAD, OCC, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans Exemption Threshold Adjustment [Docket No.: OCC-2014-0027] (RIN: 1557-AD90) received January 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

125. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(i), Post-Transition Table of DTV Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations (Dayton, OH) [MB Docket No.: 14-159] [RM-11735] received January 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

126. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-462, ''License to Carry a Pistol Temporary Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

127. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-537, ''Pepco Cost-Sharing Fund for DC PLUG Establishment Temporary Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

128. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-536, ''Grandparent Caregivers Program Subsidy Transfer Temporary Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

129. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-490, ''Grocery Store Restrictive Covenant Prohibition Temporary Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

130. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-505, ''Inspector General Qualifications Temporary Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

131. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-506, ''District Government Certificate of Good Standing Filing Requirement Temporary Amendment

Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

132. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-555, ''Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Support Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

133. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-475, ''H Street, N.E., Retail Priority Area Incentive Temporary Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

134. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-522, ''Standard Deduction Withholding Clarification Temporary Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

135. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-588, ''Trauma Technologists Licensure Temporary Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

136. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-499, ''Metropolitan Police Department Commencement of Discipline and Command Staff Appointment Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

137. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-498, ''Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System Conformity Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

138. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-494, ''St. Matthews Evangelical Lutheran Church Community Garden Equitable Real Property Tax Relief Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

139. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-500, ''Douglas Knoll, Golden Rule, 1728 W Street, and Wagner Gainesville Real Property Tax Exemption Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

140. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-463, ''Zion Baptist Church Way Designation Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

141. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-466, ''Bishop Iola B. Cunningham Way Designation Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

142. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-484, ''Commission on Health Disparities Establishment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

143. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-467, ''Civil Marriage Dissolution Equality Clarification Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

144. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-485, ''Disposition of District Land for Affordable Housing Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

145. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-468, ''Nap Turner Way Designation Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

146. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-488, ''Special Education Quality Improvement Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

147. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-483, ''Food Policy Council and Director Establishment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

148. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-474, ''Medical Marijuana Expansion Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

149. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-491, ''Retirement Technical Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

150. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-487, ''Enhanced Special Education Services Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

151. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-495, ''Transaction Modernization Electronic Delivery or Posting Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

152. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-471, ''N Street Village Way Designation Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

153. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-496, ''Closing of a Portion of the Public Alley System Square 368, S.O. 13-09586, Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

154. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-469, ''Stroke System of Care Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

155. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-497, ''Captive Insurance Company Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

156. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-470, ''Record Sealing Decriminalized and Legalized Offenses Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

157. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-493, ''Truth in Affordability Reporting Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

158. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-489, ''Vehicle-for-Hire Innovation Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

159. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-472, ''Solid Waste Facility Permit Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

160. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-473, ''Repeal of Prostitution Free Zones and Drug Free Zones Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

161. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-486, ''Special Education Student Rights Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

162. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-470, ''Record Sealing Decriminalized and Legalized Offenses Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

163. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-482, ''Affordable Homeownership Preservation and Equity Accumulation Amendment Act of 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

164. A letter from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting two reports pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

165. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Steller Sea Lion Protection Measures for the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Groundfish Fisheries Off Alaska [Docket No.: 140304195-4947-02] (RIN: 0648-BE06) received January 15, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

166. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0257; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-012-AD; Amendment 39-18051; AD 2014-25-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

167. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Alpha Aviation Concept Limited Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0759; Directorate Identifier 2014-CE-028-AD; Amendment 39-18052; AD 2014-26-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

168. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0566; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-041-AD; Amendment 39-18050; AD 2014-25-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

169. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0448; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-055-AD; Amendment 39-18048; AD 2014-25-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

170. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-

2014-0453; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-205-AD; Amendment 39-18049; AD 2014-25-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

171. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0057; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-210-AD; Amendment 39-18044; AD 2014-25-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

172. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Limited Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0717; Directorate Identifier 2014-CE-026-AD; Amendment 39-18045; AD 2014-25-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

173. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0053; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-174-AD; Amendment 39-18047; AD 2014-25-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

174. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-1029; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-177-AD; Amendment 39-18042; AD 2014-25-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

175. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Restricted Area Boundary Descriptions; Cape Canaveral, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0875; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ASO-13] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

176. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0450; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-250-AD; Amendment 39-18037; AD 2014-24-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

177. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Agusta S.p.A. (Agusta) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0256; Directorate Identifier 2007- SW-01-AD; Amendment 39-18046; AD 2008-14-02 R1] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

178. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0567; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-124-AD; Amendment 39-18043; AD 2014-25-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 12, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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. SESSIONS: House Committee on Rules. House Resolution 48. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 351) to provide for expedited approval of exportation of natural gas, and for other purposes (Rept. 114–5). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia (for himself and Mr. CHABOT):

H.R. 522. A bill to establish a commission to conduct a comprehensive review over 6 years of Federal agencies and programs and to recommend the elimination or realignment of duplicative, wasteful, or outdated functions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, 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. MCGOVERN (for himself and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts):

H.R. 523. A bill to aid and support pediatric involvement in reading and education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. JONES, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. CLAWSON of Florida, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. BABIN, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. COOK, Mr. ZINKE, Mrs. LOVE, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. FLORES, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. SALMON, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. GUINTA, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. POMPEO, and Mr. HUDSON):

H.R. 524. A bill to prohibit the Federal Government from mandating, incentivizing, or coercing States to adopt the Common Core State Standards or any other specific academic standards, instructional content, curricula, assessments, or programs of instruction; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MASSIE (for himself, Mr. POLIS, Mr. HANNA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. AMASH, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. FARR, Ms. GABBARD, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HONDA, Mr. CLAY, Ms. LEE, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. PETERSON, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BUCK, Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BARR, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. WALZ, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PERRY, Mr. YOHO, Mr. MULVANEY, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 525. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to exclude industrial hemp from the definition of marihuana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. FARENTHOLD (for himself and Mr. MARINO):

H.R. 526. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code to require the public disclosure by trusts established under section 524(g) of such title, of quarterly reports that contain detailed information regarding the receipt and disposition of claims for injuries based on exposure to asbestos; and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CHABOT (for himself, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. MARINO, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. HANNA, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. SMITH of Texas, and Mr. KNIGHT):

H.R. 527. A bill to amend chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the Regulatory Flexibility Act), to ensure complete analysis of potential impacts on small entities of rules, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. BENISHEK (for himself, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. PITTENGER, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. HANNA, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. GUINTA, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. MESSER, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SALMON, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. COLLINS of New York):

H.R. 528. A bill to direct Federal public land management officials to exercise their authority under existing law to facilitate use of and access to Federal public lands for fishing, sport hunting, and recreational shooting, 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 Ms. JENKINS of Kansas (for herself and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 529. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve 529 plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 530. A bill to reduce the amount of foreign assistance to Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador based on the number of unaccompanied alien children who are nationals or citizens of such countries and who in the preceding fiscal year are placed in Federal custody by reason of their immigration status; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. HIGGINS, and Mr. KING of New York):

H.R. 531. A bill to prioritize funding for the National Institutes of Health to discover treatments and cures, to maintain global leadership in medical innovation, and to restore the purchasing power the NIH had after the historic doubling campaign that ended in fiscal year 2003; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. POCAN, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. BEYER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. FATTAH, and Mr. HOYER):

H.R. 532. A bill to provide that 6 of the 12 weeks of parental leave made available to a Federal employee shall be paid leave, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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. MULLIN (for himself, Mr. COLE, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska):

H.R. 533. A bill to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma at the request of that tribe, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BOUSTANY):

H.R. 534. A bill to authorize a State or a portion of a State to conduct a demonstration project designed to test methods of program integration and coordination of services with the goals of moving individuals and families towards self-sufficiency, reducing welfare dependence, and increasing work and earnings; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Financial Services, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. VARGAS:

H.R. 535. A bill to award a Congressional gold medal, collectively, to the Filipino Veterans of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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. WOMACK:

H.R. 536. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to approve waivers under the Medicaid Program under title XIX of the Social Security Act that are related to State provider taxes that exempt certain retirement communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WOMACK (for himself, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. HILL, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. JOLLY, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BARR, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. OLSON, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. RIBBLE):

H.R. 537. A bill to require any communication using Federal funds to advertise or educate the public on certain provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Healthcare and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 to state that such communication was produced at taxpayer expense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 538. A bill to facilitate the development of energy on Indian lands by reducing Federal regulations that impede tribal development of Indian lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia:

H.J. Res. 26. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to limit the number of years Representatives and Senators may serve; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MEEHAN (for himself and Mr. ISRAEL):

H. Con. Res. 9. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. ROSKAM, and Mr. ISRAEL):

H. Res. 49. A resolution honoring the victims of the Holocaust, commending countries and organizations for marking the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, and expressing the commitment of the House of Representatives to strengthen the fight against anti-Semitism, bigotry, and intolerance; 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 Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. PASCRELL):

H. Res. 50. A resolution calling for the release of Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko, who was captured by Russian forces in Eastern Ukraine and has being held illegally in a Russian prison since July 2014; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California):

H. Res. 51. A resolution honoring the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Louis Zamperini and expressing condolences on his passing; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

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

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia:

H.R. 522.

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

Article One, section 8, clause 1:

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;

Article One, 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. MCGOVERN:

H.R. 523.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States of America.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 524.

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

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. MASSIE:

H.R. 525.

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

This act is justified by the Commerce Clause of the United States Constitution which, by granting Congress the power to regulate commerce among the several states, also allows Congress to prevent the federal government from interfering with Americans' ability to grow and process industrial hemp. This act is also justified by the Ninth Amendment and the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution, which recognize that rights and powers are retained and reserved by the people and to the States.

By Mr. FARENTHOLD:

H.R. 526.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation exercises legislative power granted to Congress by that clause ''to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian tribes;'' Article I, Section 8, clause 4 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation exercises legislative power granted to Congress by that clause ''to establish . . . uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;'' and Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation exercises legislative power granted to Congress by that clause ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. CHABOT:

H.R. 527.

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

Article I, Section 1, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the exercise of legislative powers generally granted to Congress by that section, including the exercise of those powers when delegated by Congress to the Executive; Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 to 17, and Section 9, Clauses 1 to 2, 4, and 7, of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the exercise of specific legislative powers granted to Congress by those sections, including the exercise of those powers when delegated by Congress to the Executive; Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation exercises legislative power granted to Congress by that clause ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States,

or in any Department or Officer thereof;'' Article III, Section 1, Clause 1, Sentence 1, Section 2, Clause 1, and Section 2, Clause 2, Sentence 2, of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation defines or affects judicial powers and cases that are subject to legislation by Congress; Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the exercise of power granted to Congress to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and, Amendment XVI to the United States Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the exercise of power granted to Congress to lay and collect income taxes, including determinations of the manner in which that power will be exercised.

By Mr. BENISHEK:

H.R. 528.

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

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2.

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

By Ms. JENKINS of Kansas:

H.R. 529.

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 Defense and general Welfare of the United States.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 530.

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

Article I, Section 9, Clause 7 of the Constitution of the United States: No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by law. and

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the Constitution of the United States: To Establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization;

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 531.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 and Article 1, Section 9, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 532.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power *** To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. MULLIN:

H.R. 533.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. REED:

H.R. 534.

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

Article 1, section 8, clause 1

By Mr. VARGAS:

H.R. 535.

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

1) Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution

By Mr. WOMACK:

H.R. 536.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18—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. WOMACK:

H.R. 537.

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

Article I, Section 8: The Congress shall have the 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 into the government of the United States, or in any department of officer thereof

Article I, Section 9: No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 538.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia:

H.J. Res. 26.

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

Article V whereby the U.S. Constitution may be altered.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 36: Mrs. LOVE.

H.R. 93: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania and Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 94: Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 109: Mr. WITTMAN and Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 114: Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 154: Mr. LYNCH and Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.

H.R. 158: Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 159: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. PITTENGER, Mrs. NOEM, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 160: Mr. ABRAHAM.

H.R. 173: Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. SANFORD, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Mr. NEWHOUSE.

H.R. 181: Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 184: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 188: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.

H.R. 228: Mr. REICHERT.

H.R. 232: Mr. CHABOT and Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 238: Ms. LEE and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 246: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. KILMER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mrs. COMSTOCK.

H.R. 247: Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 253: Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 254: Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 255: Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 256: Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 285: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. YOHO, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. BARLETTA, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri.

H.R. 287: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana and Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.

H.R. 295: Ms. JUDY CHU of California.

H.R. 310: Mr. TURNER, Mr. MICA, Mr. MESSER, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. RUSSELL, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.

H.R. 315: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.

H.R. 321: Mr. ROSS.

H.R. 350: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. BARLETTA, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. KILMER, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. YOHO, and Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 351: Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. KLINE, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. EMMER, Mr. PEARCE, and Mr. POE of Texas.

H.R. 353: Mr. JONES and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 357: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. KILMER, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. COMSTOCK, and Mr. Pittenger.

H.R. 364: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. ROKITA, and Mr. GIBBS.

H.R. 381: Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. NOLAN, and Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 402: Mr. ROSS and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.

H.R. 410: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 414: Mr. HURT of Virginia.

H.R. 418: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 427: Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. SANFORD, Mr. BOST, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, and Mr. ROSS.

H.R. 429: Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.

H.R. 430: Ms. FUDGE, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. HOYER, Mr. O'ROURKE, and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 448: Mr. WELCH, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. FARR, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 452: Mr. ZELDIN.

H.R. 460: Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. GIBSON, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. O'ROURKE, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. MESSER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KILMER, Mr. MCHENRY, and Mr. BARR.

H.R. 465: Mr. BUCK, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. BOST, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. RATCLIFFE, and Mr. BRIDENSTINE.

H.R. 468: Mr. KILMER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. MESSER, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, and Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 469: Mr. VARGAS, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. HAHN, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. POCAN, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HARTZLER, Ms. MOORE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HONDA, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JOYCE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BARLETTA, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. MENG, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ROKITA, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. PITTENGER, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, and Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 484: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. MESSER, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H.R. 514: Mr. ROYCE, Ms. MENG, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. HERRERA

BEUTLER, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 515: Mr. ROYCE, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. CRAMER, and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.

H.J. Res. 11: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H.J. Res. 13: Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia.

H.J. Res. 22: Mr. JONES.

H. Res. 11: Mr. YOHO, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. BABIN, and Mrs. ROBY.

H. Res. 28: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. HIGGINS.

H. Res. 36: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 161 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2015 No. 12

Senate

The Senate met at 4:30 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, thank You for Your unfailing love. Purify our hearts, making us fit vessels for Your use.

Lord, You know the many challenges that confront this legislative body, so guide our Senators with Your wisdom. Encourage them to live worthy of Your Name. Remind them that ultimately they will be judged by their productivity, for Your Word declares, ''By their fruits You will know them.'' Today let Your presence continue to be felt on Capitol Hill.

We pray in Your Holy 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). The majority leader is recognized.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

Mr. MCCONNELL. This weekend President Obama's Chief of Staff lamented that the Senate has taken several weeks to debate an infrastructure project, the Keystone jobs bill. I agree it is about time to bring the Keystone debate to a positive conclusion, and we will do that soon. We have had a lot of floor discussion. We have considered Democratic and Republican amendments. All in all, the last few weeks have been time well spent. The debate has been good for our country. But tonight is our chance to notch another win for the middle class by supporting cloture and then actually passing this bipartisan jobs bill.

We have heard rumors that some in the Democratic leadership are pressuring rank-and-file Democrats—even Democrats who cosponsored this bill—to block Keystone's jobs with a filibuster instead. This is really disappointing when you consider all that our friends on the other side have been saying about the filibuster for so many years.

What is most disappointing, though, is the apparent reasoning for the Keystone filibuster. The Democratic leadership is claiming that there haven't been enough opportunities to consider amendments. Yet nine current Senate Democrats voted for the Keystone project just a few weeks ago without having the opportunity to offer or debate even a single amendment. Nine current Senate Democrats just a couple of months ago voted for the Keystone project without having the opportunity to offer or debate even a single amendment.

This time around, the new Republican majority allowed more amendment rollcall votes on just this one bill—this one bill—than the previous leadership allowed on every single bill from last year combined. Altogether, there were more rollcall votes on this bill than we got on amendments on the Senate floor all of last year combined.

I would also note that a majority of amendments we have taken rollcall votes on were also offered by the minority, by the Democrats. We also offered our friends on the other side an opportunity to consider more amendments just a few days ago. They objected to it at the time. Even so, it is still my hope that we will be able to consider more amendments from both sides of the aisle. Instead of filibustering this bill or blocking their own amendments, which we experienced the other night, I am asking my Democratic friends to work with the bill manager, Senator MURKOWSKI—who has done a fantastic job on this bill—to get amendments lined up.

Let's keep up the positive momentum generated by a more open legislative process that actually clearly has benefited both parties. A Keystone filibuster cannot succeed without the support of Democrats who voted for a Keystone bill just a few weeks ago without any amendments—any amendments—and who are cosponsoring the jobs bill today. I truly hope these Democrats won't vote to block Keystone jobs now just because a different party controls the Senate. The American people voted decisively against this type of partisan gridlock back in November. They want us to work together to get things done. Why don't we just continue to do that?

The debate over this bipartisan bill has already had so many positive effects on the Senate as an institution. It has shown Senators the benefits of a more open process, it has given a real voice to the minority, and it represents a decisive change from the broken Senate of recent years.

Here is how the assistant Democratic leader put it just a few days ago:

We are in a healthy environment on the floor of the Senate where we are pursuing amendments and active debate.

It is ''great to see'' this happening, he said. I couldn't agree more. That is exactly the way we ought to operate.

I would urge the Senate not to fall into the old partisan habits. Let's keep working together. Let's cooperate to get this important infrastructure project over the finish line and onto the President's desk.

I am calling on all of my colleagues—especially the cosponsors of this bipartisan bill, especially those who have supported Keystone without any amendments in the past—to vote for jobs and progress tonight, not the kind

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

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of gridlock American voters rejected so emphatically.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The assistant Democratic leader is recognized.

KEYSTONE PIPELINE

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, in a short period of time, less than an hour, the Senate is going to vote on whether to end the debate on Senate bill 1.

Senate bill 1 is the Republican's No. 1 priority this year. They are new to the majority in the Senate, and they got to choose the first and most important bill to call, and they chose this bill, Senate bill 1.

This bill will override the President's authority when it comes to making a decision on building the Keystone Canadian pipeline—Canadian pipeline. You see, Keystone is a Canadian corporation, and the Republicans in the Senate decided the highest priority when it comes to America's economy is to help this Canadian corporation.

There will certainly be construction jobs involved in the construction of this pipeline, but there will only be 35 permanent jobs that come out of this. The No. 1 priority for the Senate Republican majority is 35 permanent jobs. Most McDonald's hamburger franchises have more than that number of jobs.

But, having said that, let's talk about where we are on the floor of the Senate at this moment. In their new role as majority party, the Republicans asked us to take up this legislation, and they said: We want to go to the point we have made over and over during the past several years—we should have an open amendment process.

I am here to tell you that we have cooperated. I was quoted—I am honored, flattered—by the majority leader on the floor as saying I think it is healthy. I have said that for a long time. What changed in the Senate is not just the new majority but the new minority. Our feeling on our side is we need to be constructive, offer amendments, offer different points of view, offer different approaches, debate them on the floor, accept the will of the Senate, and move forward on legislation. That is what we have tried do on this Keystone XL bill, and we have really offered amendments on the Democratic side that we think get to the heart of this debate.

My Republican friends and Senators like to characterize this as the Keystone jobs bill.

We started off by saying: Here is an idea. Let's say that the Canadian tar sands brought in through this pipeline and refined in the United States—the ultimate products, the oil products that come out of this refinery, are going to be there for Americans first, that Americans can use the gasoline and diesel fuel and jet fuel. In other words, it is going to stay in America.

The Republicans said no. We have to be prepared, after we go through all of this and build this Canadian pipeline, that ultimately none of the products will be used in the United States.

Then we said: OK, if we can't use the ultimate products coming out of this pipeline to help the American economy, then let's at least agree that we will build this Canadian pipeline in the United States with American-made steel. Let's put our steelworkers and foundries to work fabricating the steel to build the pipelines so we will create good-paying American jobs supplying the materials.

The Republicans voted no.

Then we said: Well, at the end of the day, these refineries, after they have processed Canadian tar sands, end up with a miserable byproduct called petcoke. It has some positive applications, but sadly, in many instances it is piled up stories high—even in the city of Chicago, within our city limits—and blows all over the neighborhood and into the lungs of children and elderly people. So let's at least have standards for the storage and handling of this byproduct that is going to come out of this Canadian pipeline.

The Republicans voted no.

Then we had a vote on whether we should be concerned with the environment. Using Canadian tar sands to make oil products puts more greenhouse gases in the air, more carbon dioxide, and should we be mindful of this.

If you read the votes that took place last week, it is unclear, uncertain as to where the Republicans stand on this issue. In fact, one Senator from North Dakota offered what I thought was a good amendment acknowledging this issue and then at the very end voted against his own amendment, which is rare in the Senate annals, but it shows you how conflicted many Republican Members were on the basic environmental issues.

Now let's get to the procedure and where we stand. Last Thursday night was troubling. After the constructive consideration of over a dozen different amendments on both sides of the aisle, the Republican majority leader said: Now bring out the next group of amendments. And we did. The Democrats cooperated. We produced six amendments we wanted up next, and the Republicans produced six amendments they wanted up next. An hour later, within an hour after producing the list, the Senate majority leader came to floor and said: That is it; we are not going to get this done as I wanted to get it done. We are going to start tabling the Democratic amendments, one after the other.

So the Members who offered the amendments, who had worked on the amendments stood at their desks as each amendment came up and said: I would like 60 seconds to just explain the amendment I wrote that we are about to vote on. Each and every time, the Republicans objected to 60 seconds of debate.

This is considered the world's greatest deliberative body. Yet the sponsors, the authors of the amendments were denied 60 seconds to even explain their amendments. It didn't leave a very good taste in the mouths of many Democrats—not even those who were supporting this Keystone Canadian Pipeline. Many of them think this is unfair.

If we are going to have a good-faith, bipartisan environment to consider amendments, let's go back and forth—Democrat, Republican—and let's consider the major issues before us. There are still major unresolved issues, health and safety issues, with pending amendments.

I approached the majority leader as he was leaving the floor and I said: Even if we do not invoke cloture this evening, let's work together on a bipartisan basis. Let's come up with these lists of amendments. Let's do this in a conscientious, good-faith effort to complete this bill.

I think we can achieve it. My hat is off to Senator LISA MURKOWSKI, Republican Senator, who has come to the floor, leading this effort on the floor with the debate, but I have a special place in my heart for the Democratic side, where two other Senators have been outstanding in bringing us to this point on the issue. Senator MARIA CANTWELL from Washington is leading our effort on the Democratic side in full partnership with Senator BARBARA BOXER of California, and many others.

As was suggested by a Senator last week, it is time for the boys to get off the stage and let the ladies come back in and consider these amendments and bring us to the right conclusion of thoughtful debate, important issues considered, and a vote in the U.S. Senate on this legislation.

REMEMBERING ERNIE BANKS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, last week America lost a hero and Chicago lost one of its greatest. Cubs Hall of Famer Ernie Banks passed away Friday night.

He was known as Mr. Cub. His love for the game of baseball was matched only by his passion for the city of Chicago.

He was a Hall of Famer in every sense of the word. He won the hearts of not just Cubs fans but baseball fans across the Nation with his power hitting and Golden Glove performances, and he endeared himself to everyone he ever met with his humble approach to the game of baseball and the game of life.

Before Hall of Famer Ernie Banks became Mr. Cub, he was 17 years old playing in a sandlot in Dallas, TX. That is where Cool Papa Bell, one of the legendary leaders in the Negro League, discovered this young man and signed him to play for the Kansas City Monarchs for $7 a game.

While playing for the Monarchs, Ernie Banks was managed by another legend, Buck O'Neil.

Playing for the Negro League legend had a profound impact on young Ernie Banks. Buck had so much love for everybody that Ernie decided to model his life after him. It was with the Monarchs that Ernie learned to play with boundless energy and enthusiasm. He learned to express his joy for the game and took to heart the message Buck O'Neil, the manager, would often shout at him: ''You gotta love this game to play it!'' Ernie Banks loved it, and it showed.

Years later, O'Neil reunited with Ernie Banks when O'Neil agreed to manage the Cubs in 1962. Incidentally, he was the first African-American manager in Major League Baseball.

As one of the first African-American baseball players in the Major Leagues, Ernie Banks helped break down the color barriers. The Hall of Fame slugger and two-time MVP made his Major League debut at Wrigley Field in 1953, and he became the first African American to suit up for the Chicago Cubs.

He was only 180 pounds. He was not the most intimidating batter at the plate, but he had powerful wrists that generated tremendous bat speed. He whipped the bat through the ball, hitting 512 home runs in his career, with 2,583 hits, 1,636 RBIs, and having a career batting average of .274.

From 1955 to 1960, he was the most prolific home run hitter in the game, hitting more home runs than either Hank Aaron, Willie Mays, or Mickey Mantle during those years.

In 1958 and 1959, he was named the most valuable player in the National League. He was the first ever to win the award in consecutive years.

He was also the first player to have his jersey number retired by the Cubs, and on game days his number 14 flies proudly over the left field foul pole at the friendly confines of Wrigley Field.

Not surprisingly, Ernie Banks was inducted into Cooperstown the first year he was eligible. But it wasn't the numbers on the back of the baseball card that made Mr. Cub a beloved member of Chicago and the community. It was his passion for the game and the appreciation he showed to everyone he encountered.

Over the last several days, I have heard from baseball fans sharing their stories of meeting Mr. Cub. Nearly all were humbled by the opportunity to meet their hero, but even more impressed to find that Ernie was just as appreciative of his fans as they were of him.

It is an understatement to say that the Chicago Cubs had some tough seasons during Ernie's 19-year career. The Cubs had not won a World Series since 1908 or a National League title since 1945. But every day, win or lose, Ernie would lace up his cleats, step on the field, and smile for the whole world to see. You could not help but love watching him play.

And for Ernie Banks, the eternal optimist, he always believed this was going to be the year for the Cubs. Every spring he predicted, without fail, the Cubs were going to win the pennant.

Well, Ernie never got to play in the post season. But his love of the game never wavered despite this. He became famous for his contagiously positive attitude. He often remarked: ''It's a great day for baseball. Let's play two.'' That was the charm of Mr. Cub.

An 11-time All-Star, first-ballot Hall of Famer, selected to baseball's All-Century team in 1999, it was never about accolades or money for Ernie. He played for the pure joy of the game.

After hitting his 500th home run, becoming only the 9th player to achieve that feat, he summed up his feelings by saying: ''The riches of the game are in the thrills, not the money.'' That is an inspiring message.

In 2013, I contacted some friends in the White House and asked President Obama to consider a Medal of Freedom for Ernie Banks. I felt that his impressive career with the Cubs and his courage in breaking down the color barrier in baseball were reason enough. But more than these amazing achievements, Ernie's spirit set him apart.

It was a special moment to be there at the White House when Ernie Banks received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I was honored to see it and experience it.

After being awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, we held a reception for him in my office up here. I don't know if there have ever been so many humbled politicians coming by my office looking for an autograph. He happened to sign this photo for me that day that I have in the Chamber. I remember JOHNNY ISAKSON from Georgia—a faithful Atlanta Braves fan—made a point of being there to meet Ernie Banks. And I remember HARRY REID, when he met Ernie Banks, said: ''I used to play a little baseball.'' Ernie Banks said to him: ''Well, Senator REID, what position did you play?'' He said: ''I was a catcher.'' Ernie Banks said: ''If you were truly a catcher, get down in that catcher's position.'' Somehow or another, HARRY REID got down in that catcher's position right in my office to prove it to Ernie Banks.

Ernie could not have been more gracious with his time, signing autographs for everybody who showed up. He made time for everybody.

The North Side of Chicago and Wrigley Field will not be the same without Ernie. ''Let's play two'' will echo off the bricks and ivy for generations to come. His positive, hopeful, Cub view of life filled every room and every baseball diamond he ever touched.

And now it would seem they need to find a new roster spot on the Field of Dreams—and everyone better be ready for daytime double-headers too.

Ernie Banks, your spirit, passion, and sunny outlook on life will be missed.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1, which the clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1) to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

Pending:

Murkowski amendment No. 2, in the nature of a substitute.

Vitter/Cassidy modified amendment No. 80 (to amendment No. 2), to provide for the distribution of revenues from certain areas of the Outer Continental Shelf.

Murkowski (for Sullivan) amendment No. 67 (to amendment No. 2), to restrict the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency to arm agency personnel.

Cardin amendment No. 75 (to amendment No. 2), to provide communities that rely on drinking water from a source that may be affected by a tar sands spill from the Keystone XL pipeline an analysis of the potential risks to public health and the environment from a leak or rupture of the pipeline.

Murkowski amendment No. 98 (to amendment No. 2), to express the sense of Congress relating to adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities.

Flake amendment No. 103 (to amendment No. 2), to require the evaluation and consolidation of duplicative green building programs.

Cruz amendment No. 15 (to amendment No. 2), to promote economic growth and job creation by increasing exports.

Moran/Cruz amendment No. 73 (to amendment No. 2), to delist the lesser prairie-chicken as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Daines amendment No. 132 (to amendment No. 2), to express the sense of Congress regarding the designation of National Monuments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. COATS. Madam President, I came to the floor to speak about a measure that is supported by Members of both sides. I was listening to the remarks by the minority whip on who commemorated the life of Ernie Banks.

REMEMBERING ERNIE BANKS

I began school in Chicago in the early 1960s, when Ernie Banks was playing, and it is to be noted for the record that my grade point average would have been higher had I not spent so many afternoons at Wrigley Field watching the Cubs play. During that time all the games were played during the day, and

as such I missed a few classes to watch our beloved Cubs.

But our beloved player—perhaps the most beloved player in baseball history—Ernie Banks was a true delight.

I wish I had time to speak more on that particular issue, but what I would like to direct my attention to is a bipartisan-supported measure, S. 1. The American people, in November, said: Get back to Washington. Work together, and get things done. And one of which was the Keystone Pipeline. It has bipartisan support. In fact, on the motion to proceed to this measure, 10 Democrats joined Republicans in this effort. And that is what we are debating here.

MEDICAL DEVICE ACCESS AND INNOVATION PROTECTION ACT

But I am here to talk about a second bill that certainly deserves to be in the top five of pieces of legislation that have bipartisan support and will hopefully result in passage and then sent to the President. And, hopefully, with a number of Democrats joining Republicans in these efforts, the President will take a second look at his veto threats on measures that have bipartisan support.

It was Winston Churchill who said that a nation trying to tax itself into prosperity ''is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle.''

Unfortunately, one of Indiana's most vibrant, growing industries is stuck in the bottom of the bucket because of a small provision tucked away in the 2,000-page ObamaCare law, which imposes on them an excise tax, a 2.3-percent excise tax on every sale they make of medical devices, hindering innovation and job creation.

Medical device manufacturers in my State directly employ over 20,000 Hoosiers and indirectly support thousands of additional jobs. These are jobs that pay well above the average—56 percent higher wages than the average wage rate in Indiana. So these are top-quality jobs, providing significant employment for a significant number of Hoosiers.

We have more than 300 FDA-registered medical device manufacturers in our State, and this is true of many other States. This industry is boosting our State's economy, our Nation's economy, and producing technologies that are changing and saving lives.

Products ranging from wheelchair van lifts to artificial knees, hips, and shoulders, to catheters used in heart procedures, have improved or saved the lives of many Hoosiers and countless others not only in my State, not only in America, but across the globe.

Since the implementation of this excise tax—passed in the ObamaCare Act in 2010, imposed in 2013—this destructive tax has caused companies to freeze hiring, lay off workers, and shelve plans to expand and build new facilities.

A survey by the Advanced Medical Technology Association found that the device tax forced manufacturers to let go of or avoid hiring 33,000 workers in 2013.

Look, I thought we were trying to get people back to work. I thought we were working to pass bipartisan legislation that would benefit this country and benefit those who are seeking employment.

Cook Medical of Bloomington was forced to table plans for a major expansion because of the device tax.

In 2013 testimony before the Senate Budget Committee, Cook Medical chairman Steve Ferguson stated:

> Cook has made the difficult decision that without repeal [of the medical device tax], we will move important new product lines outside of the U.S. Our previous plans to open up five new manufacturing facilities in American towns are now on hold as we use capital intended for these projects to pay the device tax.

The negative impact of this tax is not only felt by large employers such as Cook Medical, it also hurts gross sales of companies that are not making a profit but are developing innovative new ways to find benefits for the health and safety, and even the life, in many cases, of those who need these medical devices.

As a result, these companies are not profitable because they are having to pay the tax. They are struggling to launch new innovations to save and improve lives. For instance, a small Warsaw, Indiana-based manufacturer, which develops and sells orthopedic implants for children, had to shelve two important projects simply because it had to use its resources to pay the medical device tax.

After the tax was implemented, an employee of that company shared his story with me. Because of this tax, he said, the manufacturer is now largely inhibited from working on important new products, such as a device that reduces a wheelchair-bound child's discomfort.

How ironic that ObamaCare, which the President said would increase the health benefits for Americans in coverage, is actually a barrier to improving lives and health outcomes.

Last week, I joined nine of my Senate colleagues, including five Democrats, to introduce the Medical Device Access and Innovation Protection Act. Our legislation would eliminate this tax and has strong bipartisan support.

During the last session of Congress, 79 Senators voted to pass a bipartisan amendment to the fiscal year 2014 Senate budget resolution that called for the repeal of this device tax—79 Members, 34 Democrats and 45 Republicans. It does not get much more bipartisan than that.

So we are hoping that while this may not be labeled S. 2, it certainly stands in the top three or four issues that have strong support and will respond to the call of the American people in November to get back to Washington, get together, work on things with bipartisan support that are going to improve our economy and get people back to work, and get it up to the President.

I hope my colleagues will see that this egregious, harmful tax, tucked-away in the Affordable Care Act, will force us to move forward, repeal it, and result in the kind of improvements the American people are asking us to address. It is long past time for Washington to stop punishing medical device innovators in Indiana and across the country. I am urging my colleagues to support this bill.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, we are trying to figure out how to do a fair division of the time that remains. I ask unanimous consent that Senators STABENOW and PETERS have 5 minutes between them to discuss an amendment they have been working on, followed by Senator CARDIN, who would have 3 minutes to explain his, followed by myself having 2½ minutes to discuss my amendment, then Senator HEITKAMP would have 5 minutes after that, and then the remaining time for Senator SESSIONS. Because that would be equal. That would add to our having as much time as Senators SESSIONS or MURKOWSKI, whoever at that point wants to speak.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I am seeking clarification. Is the Senator from California asking that these respective Members have an opportunity to speak to amendments or to get their amendments pending?

Mrs. BOXER. Well, some will ask for amendments to be pending. I know I will. Some will not ask that; they just want to be heard. But there is 30 minutes left in the debate. Your side just finished. Obviously, if we do not want to be fair, somebody could grab the time on our side now and talk for 30 minutes. We do not think that is right. We are trying to divide it up between our side and your side. So I have divided about 15 minutes on our side and given 15 minutes to Senator SESSIONS, who wanted to be heard on the matter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, again, I am seeking clarification here, because up until this point in time, what we have done, in order to get amendments pending, is the ranking member and I have kind of worked back and forth in terms of what it was that would come up as far as pending.

As far as Members just seeking to speak to amendments, I certainly do not have a problem with what the Senator from California has proposed. I am trying to get some other understanding. I was also—my understanding is that I had the time beginning at 5:15 p.m. reserved. I think there is a little bit of confusion here.

Mrs. BOXER. Reclaiming my time, we have already wasted 4 minutes of the 15. The Senator can object if she does not want to allow us to have an amendment pending, but I am going to start off here. Is the Senator still objecting? Instead of Senator SESSIONS, I will give—now it is about 12 minutes to you at the end. Is that all right with the Senator?

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, again, I am trying to understand. If Members just want to speak to their amendments, there is not a problem with what the Senator has suggested. It is just the question of whether we are getting amendments pending, because we have been going back and forth, side to side, up to this point in time.

I will be happy to put the microphone down and let the Senator from California speak to her amendment while Senator CANTWELL and I talk about how we get more amendments pending. That way she can get talking.

Mrs. BOXER. Well, if I might say this: Every Senator has a right to ask unanimous consent on anything. If the Senator does not like it, she can say, ''I object.'' I do intend to—I cannot speak for anybody else. I want to make my amendment pending because it is germane. I want to make sure it is heard. It is about public health. So if my friend does not want to agree to this unanimous consent, then I think what we will do is I will hold the floor and I will yield to colleagues for questions and they can make their points.

I do not understand my friend's objection to the way we have it laid out.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Ms. MURKOWSKI. There continues to be objection. I would like to meet with the ranking member to continue a process of back-and-forth to make amendments pending. I have no objection to the Senator from California speaking to her amendment at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mrs. BOXER. Well, I am going to take the time now—the entire time—and yield to colleagues for them to ask me questions. So I will speak for 2 minutes or less and then I am going to ask unanimous consent on my amendment.

We want to have a study of the significant human health impacts of the Keystone Canadian XL tar sands pipeline. I do not believe they were adequately addressed in the supplemental environmental impact report or completely analyzed.

I held a press conference with doctors from Canada who spoke about the adverse impact on the health of people living near the pipeline. We have had spills along the pipeline in Michigan, in Arkansas. Those spills are not adequately cleaned up as we speak.

As Senator CANTWELL informed me, there have been an additional two spills since the new Congress came into session. From extraction to transportation to refining to waste storage, misery follows the tar sands. We know there are dangerous air pollutants and carcinogens that have been documented from tar sands refining—all of this to help a Canadian private company make a whole bunch of money, and we cannot even keep the oil in this country.

Are you kidding me? Thirty-five permanent jobs. The least we can do is have an in-depth health impact study before we approve this pipeline.

I am very sad to say—you know, we still have this kind of gag-athon going on from the other side. They would not even let people speak for 1 minute on their amendment. That is why I am grabbing the floor here. I could not even get agreement to divide up the time, so I am taking the time.

I will be happy to yield to my friend from Michigan, through the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Thank you very much to my friend and colleague and leader from California.

I first want to say thank you to Senators MURKOWSKI and CANTWELL who have worked so hard with Senator BOXER moving forward a process that, until Thursday night, was working very well going back and forth.

Before we authorize the building of a new oil pipeline in America, it is important for us to consider the safety of pipelines we already have.

In 2010, a pipeline that runs from Canada through Michigan spilled nearly a million gallons of tar sands oil into the Kalamazoo River, causing the largest inland oil spill in U.S. history.

That cleanup cost $1.2 billion.

Nine days ago, another pipeline broke in Montana, and for the second time in 4 years, tens of thousands of gallons of oil emptied into the Yellowstone River, making that water unsafe to drink.

Right now in Michigan, we have a 61-year-old pipeline which runs along environmentally sensitive areas and goes beneath the Straits of Mackinac and our magnificent Great Lakes.

That pipeline carries 1.2 million gallons of tar sands oil per day and has undergone only a few upgrades since it was first installed in 1953. A spill would be devastating, not only to the region but to all Americans—because the Great Lakes are a vital source of our Nation's fresh water supply.

Yet none of the companies transporting heavy tar sands crude are required to pay into the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, which would ensure that taxpayers are not footing the bill.

When we offered an amendment to fix that, the Republicans said no.

America's economy is only as strong as our natural resources, and those resources are threatened every time a pipeline breaks.

Making matters worse, Republicans said no to amendments that would keep the oil in America, guarantee the pipeline be built with American steel and use American workers.

So Americans take all of the risks with very few, if any, rewards.

Because Republicans refuse to make this Canadian oil company pay into the oil spill fund, American taxpayers may have to bailout the company if the pipeline breaks.

So, before our Colleagues vote on behalf of the oil companies to approve the construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline, it is critical that we pass the amendment that my friend and partner from Michigan and I have introduced.

This amendment ensures that we address the safety of the pipelines that we have now—before beginning construction on Keystone. And it would ensure that the heightened safety standards being applied to Keystone exist in pipelines around the Great Lakes.

The Republican majority has promised an open amendment process, so I certainly hope that when my colleague from Michigan offers this amendment in a few moments, the Republican majority will allow a vote on this critical pipeline safety amendment—even though Big Oil may not like it.

Again, the American people are taking all of the risks when the oil will not even stay in America. The least Congress can do is guarantee the pipelines are safe.

I would ask my friends to join with Senator PETERS and me in saying that before we authorize the building of a new oil pipeline in America that we have to consider and strengthen the safety of pipelines, the pipelines we already have. In 2010, a pipeline that runs from Canada through Michigan spilled nearly 1 million gallons of tar sands oil into the Kalamazoo River—this has been talked about before—causing the largest inland oilspill in U.S. history.

So we need to vote on Senator PETERS' and my amendment. The cleanup itself cost $1.2 billion. Nine days ago, another pipeline broke in Montana. For the second time in 4 years, tens of thousands of gallons of oil emptied into the Yellowstone River, making that water unsafe to drink. So would my friend from California agree with me and share concerns that under the Straits of Mackinac—and our gorgeous, beautiful Great Lakes—we have a 61-year old pipeline that runs through environmentally sensitive areas, goes right under the water, and has only been upgraded a couple of times since 1953?

Before we pass this Keystone Pipeline bill, we should make sure our Great Lakes have the pipeline safety we need, as well as all of our pipelines across the country.

Would my colleague agree with that?

Mrs. BOXER. I could not agree more with my friend. Her question is pertinent and to the point of this debate. We are giving permission to a Canadian company to come through and use America as a passthrough. They are going to leave behind petcoke, leave behind spills—they have already done it before with the tar sands pipeline. This is the hardest oil to clean up.

I absolutely know that my friend Senator PETERS has a question as well.

Without losing my right to the floor, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment so that I may call up my amendment. I will wait for the objection to be heard. I am not going to plow through this.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mrs. BOXER. That was my amendment No. 128. I am very disappointed, because what the Senator is talking about, making sure the pipelines are safe, and what I am talking about, a health study, are quite related.

I know my friend from Michigan wanted me to yield for a question. I am happy to do so.

Mr. PETERS. I appreciate the Senator from California yielding for a question, as I am listening to this debate and hearing from my colleague, the Senator from Michigan, as to the importance of pipeline safety, as we are now debating a very comprehensive bill to give approval for one specific pipeline in this country, which I think is very much an unprecedented type of vote in the Senate.

My question is: Why do we not have an opportunity, or would the Senator not agree that we should have an opportunity, to offer amendments? I know I am new to the Senate, but I was informed this would be an open amendment process. My idea of an open amendment process means you can actually offer amendments. It means you can also actually debate amendments. That is an open process, particularly something as important as protecting our Great Lakes, this incredible, immense body of freshwater, one of the largest bodies of freshwater in the world. We have a pipeline that goes through there, above the lakebed, that could potentially be catastrophic if there is a break.

As Senator STABENOW mentioned, in Michigan we have already had the most expensive pipeline break in history—4 years of cleanup of Canadian tar sands oil, oil that sinks to the bottom of the river. It is more expensive to clean up—over $1.2 billion in cleanup. So you can imagine if we had a pipeline break in the middle of the Great Lakes. It would be catastrophic to this country, it would be catastrophic to the State of Michigan, but really catastrophic to the entire world. It is a risk we cannot take.

That is why we have authored a commonsense amendment that says we should ensure that there is adequate inspection, that PHMSA has the resources they need in order to inspect this, and if there are special requirements to protect the Great Lakes, as there were special requirements for Keystone, it should also be available to other pipelines, particularly in sensitive areas such as the Great Lakes.

That is why, in the spirit of an open amendment process, in the spirit of this great deliberative body, where people are allowed to debate the big issues affecting our world, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment so that I may call up my amendment No. 70.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mrs. BOXER. If I could answer the question posed to me by my friend—he asked do I think there ought to be an open amendment process. Not only do I think there should be, we were promised an open amendment process. What occurred here at midnight on Thursday night, before the Senate left—some of our colleagues who are running for President went out to my beautiful State to make their case, as they have every right to do. But instead of staying on Friday, we adjourned on Thursday night. It was anything but an open amendment process.

I see the Senator from Massachusetts on the floor. He had a critically important amendment. He asked for 60 seconds to explain his amendment. I have been here over 20 years. I have never seen a situation, ever, where five Members in a row, five great Senators representing their great States, were told: Sit down; we are gagging you. That is what happened. This is wrong. So we are going to be asked to proceed today and shut down the amendment process even further. I do not know how the Senate is going to vote. However the Senate votes, it votes. But the bottom line is, this has been anything but an open amendment process. My friend is absolutely right.

I know the Senator from Maryland wanted to ask me a question.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, could I ask my colleague from California to yield for a question?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. The question I am going to ask Senator BOXER to respond to is: What are the consequences if we invoke cloture about 15 minutes from now when that comes up for a vote on the floor?

There were many of my colleagues who had amendments they wanted to offer. They filed those amendments.

Unless those amendments become pending, it is my understanding that—and unless those amendments meet the very narrow germaneness rule—they may be relevant to debate—but the germaneness rules are pretty tough so that unless we defeat cloture, we may not have an open amendment process.

I know the majority leader talked about an open amendment process, but many of my colleagues—including this Member, who has additional amendments I would like to have considered—will not be able to get those amendments considered, if I understand it, Senator BOXER, unless the cloture motion is defeated.

Let me talk for one moment about amendment 75, which I filed and is pending, and I think is critically important.

What that amendment would do is allow our Governors and our county officials to be able to get information about the risk to their drinking water as a result of the potential spills on the aquifers. This is not a hypothetical question because the Ogallala Aquifer, which is the country's largest underground freshwater resource, is crossed by the proposed line of the Keystone. Therefore, it is of major concern to the Governors and local officials what a potential spill could have with regard to their drinking water supplies, to their communities. At some of places the aquifer is within 5 feet of the surface. So a spill could have a dramatic impact on the supply of safe drinking water.

As has already been pointed out by my colleagues in Michigan, in July 2010 there was a pipeline rupture near Marshall, MI, that released 843,000 gallons of tar sands oil. It had a horrific impact on the environment, and it is still difficult to see the end in sight because of the cleanup difficulties in this thick, tar sands oil.

On March 29, 2013, there was a pipeline rupture in Mayflower, AR, that caused an incredible challenge to the cleanup.

So my amendment is pretty simple. My amendment would allow that information to be made available to our Governors and our local officials so that they could then notify the President that they have a concern on the route and allow that to be considered before the pipeline is constructed, giving our local governments the opportunity to be heard—to have the information and then be heard on this very important issue.

My question to the Senator from California, Mrs. BOXER, is: If we are going to have an open amendment process, how can that be if the cloture motion that was filed by the majority leader were to become approved? Wouldn't that deny us that full, open amendment process that we had heard was going to be used in this Congress?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank my friend for the question.

Again, we were promised an open amendment process.

I wish to make a point to my friend who has worked so hard on the Environment and Public Works Committee. I am so appreciative of his work. Do you know, if an amendment like yours does not pass, what it means is that American companies will be treated in a much harsher fashion than a Canadian foreign oil company—in other words, because the other side is just saying: No more facts, no more information, no more environmental impact statement—even though we know there are health impacts due to the tar sands.

The Senator has pointed out the possibility of having a bad impact on drinking water. We have seen what has happened in West Virginia when we don't worry about that.

So my friend is absolutely right, and I am honored that he asked me to comment on this particular amendment. And I hope that he will ask—I know you are pending. I hope that you are going to get a vote on this amendment one way or another.

I know some other colleagues may want to ask a question.

Ms. HEITKAMP. Would the Senator from California yield for a question?

Mrs. BOXER. I am pleased to yield to the Senator.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Ms. HEITKAMP. I thank the Senator.

From the start, let me say that Senator BOXER and I are not on the same side on the principal bill. I have long been one of the staunchest supporters of the Keystone XL Pipeline bill.

A lot of what we have heard today is about the consequences of aging infrastructure. So the question I have for Senator BOXER is: Would it not make sense, as we are talking about this Keystone XL Pipeline bill, that we find common ground that we all should agree that we need the resources to have the regulatory authority and the regulatory personnel to go out and make sure that aging infrastructure—the infrastructure underneath the Great Lakes and what happened now in the Yellowstone River—that we have a robust and very complete PHMSA organization that has the personnel to go out and follow the pipeline, test the pipeline, and review the results? But even as important to me is PHMSA's role in making sure that our transportation of oil on the railroad is actually adequate, that we have adequate regulation.

So one of my amendments—not pending but filed—is, in fact, an amendment that would address directly what I would hope would be common ground for everyone in the Senate, which is making sure we are, in fact, regulating interstate pipelines.

I also wish to talk about how we have an ''all of the above'' policy that everybody talks about where we somehow don't seem to get to that point.

One of the amendments I have at the desk, which I would dearly love to call up and make sure that it gets a vote, is an amendment that would provide a long-term—just 5 years—glide path for wind energy.

I think we have seen, as we have included this in the tax extenders, this stop-and-go policy that has, in fact, not only put the companies' lives on hold but also their employees' lives.

I am hopeful. We don't know how the vote is going to turn out. No one knows until the vote is done, but I am hopeful that we will be able to come back and introduce so many of these amendments that my colleagues have advanced—some of which I agree with and some of which I don't.

But that is the nature of the Senate—that we actually have a vote, because I think, as a believer, I have good ideas but my ideas should have a debate in the Senate.

But wouldn't the Senator agree that one common area that we all share is making sure that we have a robust regulatory environment to protect our waterways, to protect our farmers' soil from any leaks, and to make sure that any leaks, to the extent they are preventable, are prevented.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. I say to my colleague from North Dakota, of course, I agree with her. We don't agree on the tar sands pipeline, but we do look for common ground, and she has found it. The importance of inspecting the infrastructure can't be overstated.

I say to my friend, before she leaves the floor, this is a picture of a recent spill. Actually, it was 2013. It still has not been cleaned up in Arkansas because the pipeline burst—200,000 gallons of tar sands burst from the pipeline, and it spilled all over the streets of a subdivision. Residents were exposed to high levels of benzene, a known carcinogen, and hydrogen sulfite. They suffered from dizziness, nausea, and headaches—all classic symptoms of exposure to the chemicals found in tar sands.

Rainfall causes oil to float to the top of the soil and off gas. What is happening here is it still has not been cleaned up.

My friend has an amendment that would say: Let's inspect the infrastructure to make sure things such as this do not happen. Of course, I support it. I hope she will vote her conscience and hopefully vote to keep this amendment process open.

I know my friend from Massachusetts has a question, and I yield to him if he does.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. I thank the Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. The Senator has to ask if I would yield for a question.

Mr. MARKEY. I thank the Senator. I thank the Senator for taking the time to have this very important discussion in the Senate this afternoon.

This past Thursday night the majority leader decided they would not allow for a debate on an amendment I was propounding that would have imposed a tax on the Canadian oil as it is being transported through this proposed pipeline. In the eventuality of an oilspill, the Canadians would have to have contributed to.

The majority did not make it possible for me to speak for even 1 minute on ensuring that the Canadians had to pay the tax in the event there was an oilspill with their oil in the United States of America, while Americans would have to do so.

This is the question I am going to propound to the Senator from California. Right now we know that there is increasing carbon pollution in the atmosphere, which stacks the decks, increasing the chances that our country, our planet would draw an extreme weather joker that would have catastrophic consequences for our country or for any other place in the world. We know that while no one storm can be attributed to climate change, scientists agree there is an increase in the intensity and the frequency of extreme weather events. In fact, in the 2013 consensus report bulletin of the American Meteorological Society said: ''The number of severe regional snowstorms that occurred since 1960 was more than twice the number that occurred during the preceding 60 years'' in the United States of America. So my question to the Senator from California is: Shouldn't we be debating this issue of increased frequency of snowstorms, of rain storms, of droughts, of extreme weather conditions? And isn't this something that Members should be allowed 1 minute, at least, to address, if not a full debate of these issues that have been triggered by the Republicans deciding they wanted to bring this bill onto the floor as their No. 1 priority for the year 2015? Is that not the subject we should be discussing and should it not be an open debate?

That is the question I propound to the Senator from California.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. I would say in response to my friend's question, I was so shocked when the Senator asked for 1 minute to explain his amendment and we heard multiple Republicans saying: No, no, a thousand times no.

As Senator DURBIN said, this is supposed to be the greatest deliberative body in the world. I grew up thinking that was true. I never saw this before where colleague after colleague after colleague after colleague was essentially shouted down. I haven't seen it here.

It has reached a new low with a Republican majority since. They absolutely won a huge election victory. There is no question about it. There was the promise that it would be an open process, and then we can't even have colleagues talk for 1 minute.

I know the Senator from New Jersey has a question as well. I yield to the Senator from New Jersey, because time is running out at 5:30.

Mr. BOOKER. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mrs. BOXER. Yes, I will.

Mr. BOOKER. I am grateful that Senator BOXER will yield for a question.

This is a question I have of Senator BOXER, and I wish to get her feedback because of her years of experience, her wisdom, and her depth of understanding on this issue. I think there needs to be an amendment for critical protection.

The need for regulation requires agencies to supplement already issued environmental impact statements when significant new circumstances come about. When there is information about these new challenges to the environmental impact of a project, something really has to happen.

So this pending bill deems that the final environmental impact statement issued last January would fully satisfy the NEPA, that this would remove the obligation of permitting agencies to supplement that EIS if any new circumstance or information is discovered.

The amendment would change that and would preserve the obligation of agencies to supplement—if we had such an amendment, it could really protect that.

I was told by a lot of people that NEPA is sort of referred to as the environmental modern day Magna Carta. In other words, it is such a critical set of protections. If we have a circumstance in which there is a significant change in the pipeline—say they just decide to change the direction or move it a little bit and it goes through an entirely new area—not to be able to take into consideration new information, new circumstances where an environmental impact statement abated, seems to be wrong. It actually seems to be giving this company, this foreign company, more information, more opportunity than our current American companies.

I would love for the Senator to comment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Senator BOOKER should be proud of this contribution to this debate and what he is doing in the environment committee.

Let me say quickly—because I know we are running out of time—here is the deal. You raised the golden standard—NEPA, the National Environmental Policy Act. The underlying bill says everything is satisfied. All you want to make sure of in your amendment is that if there is new information which shows this could harm the public—maybe cause more cancer, cause more asthma, and cause other problems—that we need a supplemental EIS, that we need a supplemental study before we approve this pipeline. Right now, they are not letting you offer that amendment.

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, today we are voting to end debate on the Keystone Pipeline bill.

I want to be clear right from the start. I do not support this bill. I will vote against cloture and against final passage of the Keystone Pipeline bill. And I am disappointed about the way it is being jammed through to a vote.

I supported the motion to proceed to this bill for one reason and only one reason—because we were assured there would be an open amendment process.

We started that process last week. We have worked back and forth between Republican and Democratic amendments. Many of those amendments are important. And I believe we should continue until every Senator who wants to amend this bill has had a chance to make his or her case.

I have an amendment for a renewable electricity standard which would create hundreds of thousands of 21st-century American jobs in my State and across the country. We owe it to all Americans to consider this and other amendments that would improve the bill.

The bill as it stands is not acceptable on many levels.

First, I am concerned that the new leadership chose to begin with a bill mandating a single pipeline for a foreign private company. This is a questionable use of the Senate's time and an unprecedented piece of legislation. Congress has never gotten involved in mandating a pipeline of this nature. But that is where we are. Now we are voting to cut off debate. The majority leader moved last week—late in the night—to set aside the Democratic amendments and bring an end to debate.

So we have a bill with a questionable beginning and a regrettable ending. The result is a missed opportunity to seriously address the energy needs of our country.

I said at the beginning of this debate that we are faced with a choice, a profound choice. We can deny that our climate is warming. We can fall behind our economic competitors. We can ignore the danger to our planet and to our security. That is one choice. Or we can move forward with a clean energy economy, with an energy policy that makes sense, that creates jobs, that protects the environment, and that will keep our Nation strong.

We had a good debate on climate change during this bill about whether or not humans significantly contribute to it. Many Senators made it clear where they stand. Many agree that yes humans are significantly contributing to climate change.

But while that is good for the record, it doesn't do much for the reality, because we have fallen short of taking any real action to address this great challenge. In fact, we are now compounding the problem by trying to pass this bill.

The bill lacks a comprehensive energy policy; it lacks even trying to set one. This is not a ''do it all'' energy bill. This isn't even a ''drill, baby, drill'' bill. This is a ''drill, Canada'' bill.

I believe we should continue working on the bill to address serious climate solutions, like a renewable electricity standard. The Keystone Pipeline is an investment in doing things the old way—importing foreign oil. Instead of doubling down on foreign oil, we should be talking about how we can move America forward by investing in the homegrown energy of the future.

A national renewable electricity standard would combat global warming, while creating hundreds of thousands of jobs across the country. It will help maximize our energy potential, while strengthening our economy and our energy security.

Let's vote on that, and let's move forward to meet the real energy needs of American families.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired.

Mrs. BOXER. My time has expired. I thank the Chair very much for his patience.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls related to the cloture motions on Senate amendment No. 2 and S. 1 be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the Murkowski amendment No. 2: the Keystone XL pipeline approval act.

Mitch McConnell, Lisa Murkowski, Richard Burr, Jerry Moran, John Thune, Marco Rubio, Johnny Isakson, Kelly Ayotte, Ben Sasse, Deb Fischer, John Boozman, David Vitter, Tim Scott, Roger F. Wicker, Richard C. Shelby, Michael B. Enzi, Roy Blunt.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the Murkowski amendment No. 2: the Keystone XL pipeline approval act, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 29 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Alexander	Crapo	Inhofe
Ayotte	Cruz	Isakson
Barrasso	Daines	Johnson
Bennet	Donnelly	Lankford
Blunt	Enzi	Lee
Boozman	Ernst	Manchin
Burr	Fischer	Murkowski
Capito	Flake	Paul
Cassidy	Gardner	Perdue
Coats	Graham	Portman
Cochran	Grassley	Risch
Collins	Hatch	Roberts
Corker	Heitkamp	Rounds
Cornyn	Heller	Sasse
Cotton	Hoeven	Scott

Sessions	Thune	Vitter
Shelby	Tillis	Wicker
Sullivan	Toomey	

NAYS—39

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Nelson
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Peters
Booker	Hirono	Reed
Boxer	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Markey	Stabenow
Casey	McConnell	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Udall
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Franken	Murray	Wyden

NOT VOTING—8

Kirk	Mikulski	Rubio
McCain	Moran	Warner
McCaskill	Reid	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays 39. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The majority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I enter a motion to reconsider the cloture vote on the Murkowski substitute amendment No. 2.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is entered.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on S. 1, a bill to approve the Keystone XL pipeline.

Mitch McConnell, Lisa Murkowski, Richard Burr, Jerry Moran, John Thune, Marco Rubio, Johnny Isakson, Kelly Ayotte, Ben Sasse, Deb Fischer, John Boozman, David Vitter, Tim Scott, Roger Wicker, Richard Shelby, Michael Enzi, Roy Blunt.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on S. 1, a bill to approve the Keystone XL pipeline, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 30 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Alexander	Donnelly	Murkowski
Ayotte	Enzi	Paul
Barrasso	Ernst	Perdue
Bennet	Fischer	Portman
Blunt	Flake	Risch
Boozman	Gardner	Roberts
Burr	Graham	Rounds
Capito	Grassley	Sasse
Cassidy	Hatch	Scott
Coats	Heitkamp	Sessions
Cochran	Heller	Shelby
Collins	Hoeven	Sullivan
Corker	Inhofe	Thune
Cornyn	Isakson	Tillis
Cotton	Johnson	Toomey
Crapo	Lankford	Vitter
Cruz	Lee	Wicker
Daines	Manchin	

NAYS—39

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Nelson
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Peters
Booker	Hirono	Reed
Boxer	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Markey	Stabenow
Casey	McConnell	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Udall
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Franken	Murray	Wyden

NOT VOTING—8

Kirk	Mikulski	Rubio
McCain	Moran	Warner
McCaskill	Reid	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays are 39. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The majority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I enter a motion to reconsider the cloture vote on S. 1, the Keystone XL Pipeline bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is entered.

The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, we are here this evening, after the conclusion of two cloture votes where we have failed to get the sufficient 60 votes that are required to cut off debate and move forward on this bill.

As the floor manager, I will be working with my counterpart on the energy committee, Senator CANTWELL, to define a list of amendments and define the universe we are talking about. Perhaps we can work toward an agreement that will allow for additional amendments to be processed and ultimately allow us to get to passage of the Keystone XL Pipeline.

This measure, S. 1, is a bipartisan measure that will work to create jobs for this country and will not only help with our relationship with our friends and allies to the north but is also widely supported by the American public. I am hopeful that what we will be able to do tonight—by working with colleagues—is to again define how we will get to the final resolution of this very important bill.

Last week we saw this measure include several important energy efficiency bills—including the adoption of the measure of the Senator from Ohio—particularly the one provision that relates to water heaters, which is very time sensitive. We were also able to add two sense-of-the Senate provisions to S. 1. One provision relates to the oil spill liability trust fund and the other provision is related to the issue of climate change.

Here we are, more than 2 weeks into debate on the Keystone XL Pipeline, and we voted on a total of 24 amendments to the bill. We voted on more amendments last week than we did in all of 2014. In fact, Thursday was a long day for all of us. We moved out 15 amendments, and that was as many as we had voted on in all of 2014. In 2014, this Senate voted on 15 amendments. This past Thursday, we voted on 15 amendments in one day on this Keystone bill. We are now up to 24 amendments, and we have made some progress.

I am very aware that not everyone is fully happy with where we are right now. We hit our first bump in the road—back to regular order—but that is the way we have to roll with some things every now and again. I hope we are at the point where we will be able to get back on track, a track that will allow for again closure of this very important measure.

I wish to remind Senators that we are in this place where we had to vote on cloture because we got to a point last week where a unanimous consent request to vote on the then-pending 12 amendments was blocked. I will also remind colleagues that invoking cloture on a bill does not end all debate. We still have up to 30 hours of additional debate time left, and during that time amendments that are germane to the underlying bill can still be called up, considered, and voted on. We have quite a few of those left.

In fact, at last count the amendments that have been filed to date—there are 143 amendments that I have on my tally today that have been filed. I don't know if that is a current, up-to-the-minute accounting. We asked Members to have their amendments in by 3 this afternoon and second-degrees filed by 5 p.m. My point to colleagues is that there is still much to be done with this bill if your interest is voting on amendments.

I wish to repeat something that the majority leader commented on when we came into session just a little bit ago. We were on this bill just 2 months ago, and at that time there was a grand total of zero amendments that we voted on—zero. So now, as I mentioned, we have at least three that have been incorporated into the bill already—two sense of the Senate, one on climate, one on the oil spill liability trust fund, and one on energy efficiency. Again, there are some 140 to 150 amendments that have been filed.

I am glad we have this process going on. I am glad to see these amendments. For those who suggest that somehow or other the majority is closing down the opportunity for debate or to offer amendments, all we need to do is look where we were 2 months ago. Two

months ago this bill had zero amendments. Fast forward to today, and we have had votes on 24 amendments to this bill. We have adopted at least 3 of those amendments, and again there are some 140-odd amendments that are out there.

I want us to get through this measure, and I wish to do so in a way that is respectful to the process, respectful to Members, and that dignifies this institution. We have a lot out there, and I recognize that.

I have had Members from both sides of the aisle ask me: How do I get my amendment pending? How do I get it to the point so it can considered? We will be working on that issue tonight and into the morning.

I thank my colleague from Washington because I do think we have truly been trying to work in good faith.

My colleague from North Dakota has a few words on the process, and then I would like to reclaim my time for just a few more moments, if I may.

With that, I turn the floor over to the Senator from North Dakota.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I thank the bill manager on our side of the aisle, the good Senator from Alaska, as well as the bill manager on the Democratic side, the Senator from the State of Washington, for working together and trying to get a list of all of the amendments and do everything possible to get them scheduled for a vote.

I ask that Members on both sides of the aisle work with the bill managers to try and get a list of amendments so they can be scheduled for a vote. As the Senator from Alaska said, we have already had at least 19 amendments. We know there are more amendments that Senators would like to have a vote on, and we appreciate and understand that. There has been a real effort to try to get those votes scheduled.

Again, I thank the bill managers for their hard work and ask that Members on both sides of the aisle work with the bill managers to try and get those amendments identified where they need to have a vote and get them scheduled so we can get to the votes in a timely manner so Members can have as much information as possible ahead of time in order to consider their respective issues and have a vote.

We have to remember that in trying to go back to an open amendment process and regular order, there is some work on figuring out how to get that going and to do so in a bipartisan way, and of course we are working through it on this legislation.

A final point: At the end of the day, we will be discussing more about this legislation, but it comes down to how the individual Members of this body feel about this underlying legislation. It is about energy, jobs, economic growth, and national security at a time when energy security for our country is so very important. Again, this goes to the underlying merits.

Let's see if we can't get these amendments scheduled and vote on them and move this along as well as we can this week and get that done. It is not only important for this legislation, but we want to have that same kind of open process with other legislation as well. It is about getting the work done for the American people.

With that, I yield back to the Senator from Alaska.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I thank the Senator from North Dakota for his leadership on this issue. He has been persistent, diligent, and very articulate as we have moved through the process, and I appreciate that a great deal.

I thought I was going to be spending the vast majority of my time this week going through each of these many amendments that Members have presented. As I mentioned, we have 140-plus amendments. But my attention on Keystone and the issues in front of us was dramatically pulled away because of an announcement by the administration which I learned of late on Friday evening, and which was the first announcement today.

The fact is I am not in a very good mood right now. I am not in a very good mood, and I think it is probably true to say that most Alaskans are not in a very good mood, because folks back home woke up Sunday morning to the news that this President effectively declared war on our economic future in the State of Alaska.

I know those are pretty hard words. It has been suggested by some in the administration that perhaps I am overreacting. Let me tell my colleagues, when our economic opportunities as a State, which lie in our natural resources, are denied us as a State and the promises that were made when we entered the Union—the compact we made—we are now not able to see those promises, then there is nothing else. There is no other way to describe it than that it is a war on our economic future.

We have winter going on in Alaska right now. In my hometown where I went to high school, I think it was about 30 below this weekend. Up on the North Slope, temperatures are about 60 degrees below zero. It is pretty cold.

The President, in his video where he made his announcement that he is moving to put the Arctic Coastal Plain in de facto wilderness, described the area in the North Slope as fragile, that the wildlife is fragile. I will tell my colleagues, the area in the coastal plain, the area in ANWR is an amazing place. It is a special place, as are so many places in Alaska. It is an amazing place. I am blessed to call it home. But the President decided on Sunday that this was the perfect day to announce his unilateral decision to manage the Arctic Coastal Plain as de facto wilderness.

Now the coastal plain—and I don't have my maps, but we are going to be seeing a lot of maps of Alaska and ANWR coming up here. The coastal plain is the area on the very northern part of the State, and it is part of the nonwilderness portion of ANWR. People need to understand that ANWR is a huge area. It is 19.7 million acres. It is an area the size of the State of South Carolina. There are portions of ANWR that have been designated as wilderness and they were designated as wilderness back in 1980, along with other areas in the State of Alaska that were designated as wilderness. In fact, so much wilderness—close to 60 million acres of wilderness designated in 1980—so much so that there is actually a provision in the law, in ANILCA, that says, that is enough. Alaska has given enough, in the sense that more than half of the wilderness area in the United States of America is in Alaska. That is, Alaska has more than half of all of the other wilderness in all of the remaining 49 states. Alaska has more than half. So the sense was there will be no more wilderness declarations in Alaska. Yet, the President announces Sunday that, in addition to the coastal plain, effectively all of the balance of ANWR will be managed as wilderness.

So what does this mean to a State such as Alaska? Again, history is going to be important in this discussion going forward because the area in the coastal plain—the 1002 area—and it is designated as such because of a section in the law—the coastal plain was specifically set aside in 1980 for further study of its oil and gas potential. So a decision was made back in 1980 where we had more than 100 million acres in Alaska that were turned into Federal law, but it was recognized that this area—that 1.57 million acres—was unique because of its resource potential. It was identified in law as such. And it said, We are going to reserve this. We are going to study it for its oil and gas potential.

Then, in the 1980s, the Reagan administration did just that. They studied the coastal plain and they recommended that it be open to responsible energy development. Ever since then we have been seeking permission to open up just 2,000 acres on the coastal plain for that very purpose—for oil and gas exploration.

We are not talking about opening up the full coastal plain. We are not talking about touching any of the area that was designated as wilderness in 1980. We are talking about a development that would have an impact on an estimated surface area of 2,000 acres in a 1.57-million acre area that has been set aside specifically for this.

So when we think about what that means, we learn that 2,000 acres is .1 percent of the entire 1002 area. It is .01 percent of ANWR. When we put it into context, 99.9 percent of ANWR would remain untouched if all we were seeking to do was to access the 2,000 acres.

We also know that if we were able to access this small area within the coastal plain that we can gain access to an

estimated 10.3 billion barrels of oil. If we produce oil at that rate of 1 million barrels a day, it will last almost 30 years.

Right now we have an oil pipeline in Alaska, the Trans-Alaska oil pipeline, which bisects the State 800 miles from the North Slope down to Valdez, and it has been doing a fine job of providing resource to the country in an environmentally sound and safe manner. It is an engineering miracle. It is fabulous. What it lacks right now is more oil in the pipe. We are less than half full. So the State of Alaska is being aggressive in looking for how we might not only fill up the pipe to help Alaska and to help the country and to bring about jobs and bring about revenues, but how we can do so in a responsible manner.

We think we have some pretty high standards in Alaska, and we need to. This is extreme environment. It is tough working there right now, let me tell my colleagues. They don't shut down because it is cold. In fact, this is the only time of the year they can explore out there, because the environmental safeguards are such that we can't take exploration rigs out on the tundra in the summer where it might leave a mark. No. We wait until it is the coldest, the darkest, and the ground is frozen as far as it possibly can. So this is the time of year that we are hoping to be able to do more.

But what this President is doing is not only saying no to that 2,000 acres we are seeking to access that will be bringing us a million barrels a day, potentially, for 30 years and allowing for jobs and a resource—no to that 2,000 acres—he would say no forever. He would not only say no to oil and gas development, but no to anything else. No road, no airstrip, no nothing.

The President is saying the Congress has to make this decision, and in fairness, that is true. It is only the Congress that can make that decision to convert the coastal plain to permanent wilderness. But the reality is he has made this decision, and he has made it without us. What happens under this comprehensive conservation plan—this CCP—this area is now immediately treated as wilderness, with or without our approval. So that designation may not be there, but how is it being treated? It is being treated as wilderness.

I would assert this is in clear violation of the ''no more wilderness'' clause—the ''no more'' clause in ANILCA. It is so frustrating. It is so infuriating to think that we acknowledged that some 30 years ago, when ANILCA was passed, and that recognition—when so much of the State of Alaska was put off limits to any form of development, to place it in wilderness status and to have the Federal Government agree that we had done our part, that we had contributed enough of our lands.

The Presiding Officer is from a State that has wide open spaces. What do we do as a State if we have so much of our State—66 percent of the State of Alaska that is federally held? And we all know there are different aspects to Federal public lands. BLM lands mean something, Park Service means something, refuge status means something, and wilderness status means something else altogether. So when we acknowledged and the Federal Government acknowledged no more in Alaska, we thought that would be respected. We thought that might be respected. But, apparently, this President is going to choose to ignore it.

My colleagues can tell this is an argument and a debate I feel very strongly about, and I feel very strongly about it because I have been living with it my entire adult life. For as long as I can remember, we have been talking about how might it be possible to look into these extraordinary reserves and resources that we know are in the 1002 area. There have been highs and there have been lows. Back in 1995, when it was my father and Ted Stevens who were working this issue, they were able to successfully get it through the Congress only to have it vetoed by President Clinton. And then 10 years later, it was Senator Stevens and myself who were able to get it so close; we were one vote shy in the Senate. The House has passed ANWR, I believe Congressman YOUNG told me today, on 12 separate occasions. Now we are back yet another 10 years later. So maybe this is an issue that keeps coming back every 10 years.

This wasn't the worst part of the news I was dealing with this weekend. At the same time I was given a heads-up that the administration was going to be releasing this CCP—this comprehensive conservation plan that will treat ANWR as wilderness—I was told that we are going to see the announcement of the administration's 5-year lease/sale plan. That is substantial for us. As folks know, we have been trying to advance the leases that have been sold in the Beaufort and in the Chukchi for some period of time, and it has been a tortured process, as many people know. But what we are told is that with the lease/sale that will be announced, portions of the Beaufort Sea and the Chukchi Sea will be indefinitely withdrawn from the next 5-year plan for the Outer Continental Shelf which, again, is due to be released.

I think it is important to know we have had deferrals off of our coasts in the Beaufort and the Chukchi, but these are no longer going to be deferrals. They are going to be withdrawals, which means that not only will they not be included in this lease sale from 2017 to 2022, but they will stay in place until such time—it is an indefinite withdrawal—as the next President, whoever he or she may be, should decide to change it. It is different than a withdrawal.

What it then says to us is, okay, no, we are going to lock up ANWR permanently so that the resources that may be available to you—as much as a million barrels a day coming down through your pipeline to supply this country—no, put that off limits, and, oh, the offshore you want to try to advance, we are going to make it a little more difficult because we are going to take these areas and we are not going to include them in this 5-year lease sale. In fact, we are going to indefinitely withdraw them.

This could have significant impact on our ability to access the estimated 23 billion barrels of oil of Alaska's North Slope. Again, when we are talking about how we are going to fill up that pipeline, we have been working toward those opportunities offshore. But there is a third gut punch to Alaska that is coming—a third.

Remember, all these were supposed to be unveiled this week. What a week.

First, close off ANWR permanently.

Second, make the offshore that much more difficult.

And third is in the area where all those who said no to wilderness, go over to the National Petroleum Reserve, that is where you should be accessing this oil. Well, okay, that is where folks are going. ConocoPhillips is trying to access some leases in the National Petroleum Reserve. These are leases that were awarded in 1998, so more than a few years to be working through all of the issues here.

What we learned was that the terms and conditions of the mitigation that are going to be required by the Department of the Interior to allow Conoco to proceed with the alternative that would allow for a short road to access the pad, those mitigation costs and other requirements are going to be so much that the project will no longer be economic.

Think about it. Years in the process and the permitting and the cost that goes into it, years to get there.

I don't think most people know—do you realize how much oil is produced on Federal lands in Alaska? It is a real easy answer because it is a big fat zero. There is none. There is no oil that is produced on Federal lands. We have been trying to make it happen.

We have been going to the National Petroleum Reserve because we have been put off limits with ANWR. It hasn't been made permanent wilderness. We haven't been able to access it because that too takes permission from Congress. So the whole area where our State has these resources—these reserves, ANWR to the east, Beaufort, Chukchi offshore, National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska—what this administration is doing is saying this ''all of the above'' strategy for an energy plan for America, we are starting to think in Alaska that means everybody but Alaska.

I just can't articulate the anger, the frustration. As I tried to convey my thoughts to the Secretary, I said, I am just not sure if this administration doesn't care about Alaska and its people at all or whether you even think of us. But I have come to the conclusion that they still view us as a territory, a

place where you could come in and do what you will because you are a territory. Well, we are not a territory. We are 1 of the 50 States. We are one of those stars on that flag. Last time I checked, we had just as many rights as any other star on that flag.

What is coming at my State and the arrogance with which this administration is treating us is unacceptable, and it will not stand. Everybody wants to know, what are you going to do about it? What are you going to do about it? I am going to make sure that people understand who we are, that people understand that there are human beings who live in the 1002 area. You are going to take an area and declare it wilderness. People live there. Children go to school there. Yes, we actually have a polar bear watch to make sure the kids don't leave their homes early in the morning to go to school when it is still dark, and there might be a polar bear out there.

Things are different in Alaska, but we still live there. We still want a quality of life for the people that is not unlike what we would have here. We don't want to have communities where we still have no sanitation facilities, where people are hauling their human waste in a bucket in the corner of the house and dumping it in a lagoon. We don't want to be in that situation. But you know what, it seems as though we have to get permission to do anything, and that permission is routinely denied. Or if it is denied, they delay it indefinitely so that it adds to your cost.

We pay more for our energy. We pay more to keep warm in the State of Alaska than you do anywhere else. You might say, of course, it is colder up there. You know, back here it is going to be cold in New York. There is nobody in New York who is paying $10 a gallon for fuel like the people in Kobuk are paying. There is nobody in Massachusetts who is going to get hit by this storm and it is going to be cold and is paying $7.50 for fuel like the people in Fort Yukon are paying.

We live there because we want to live in Alaska. It is an amazing place. We make a lot of sacrifices. But one of the sacrifices that we won't make, one of the things we will not give up, is to be treated like some second-class citizens, to be treated like a territory that has no rights. So when we are full participants and we say there are special places in Alaska that should be wilderness—and we signed off on that in 1980—then negotiate with us. Talk to us about what happens next.

But I made the statement—again, it is harsh words, but I have suggested that this administration is one that is willing to negotiate with Iran, but they are not willing to negotiate with Alaskans. Those days are over. Those days are over.

We have some issues to deal with in front of us right now as we move through the legislation in front of us. We have been focused on energy for a good couple of weeks-plus now. I am glad of that. I am glad we are going to be able to work through a process where we can move through some of these amendments. But know that the words I have spoken tonight on the floor are words that come from my heart as an Alaskan.

This is not about politics. This is not about me being able to wield some muscle because I have the gavel in the interior appropriations committee. This is about Alaska as a State and our rights as a State. This is about a compact that was made with the State of Alaska, about how we would be able to use and access our lands, how we would be able to care for the people who call Alaska home. This is pure passion that drives my comments, and my comments will be echoed not only by the full Alaska delegation, as small as we are, but by our Governor, by our legislature, by our elected officials, by people who live all around the State, including the people who live in the coastal plain in ANWR.

This is serious, and Alaskans are going to take this very seriously. You will be hearing a lot more from us.

With that, I thank my colleagues for the indulgence of time.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. May I first inquire of the distinguished bill manager whether I may take a moment to seek to call up an amendment or whether they have present business they need to attend to on the floor?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. I was going to give some comments in addition to my colleague from Alaska about the process and where we are and respond to some of the comments she has made. If the Senator from Rhode Island could wait a few minutes, is that possible?

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Happily.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Point of inquiry: Do I understand that the Senator from Rhode Island wishes to make his amendment pending or just speak to the amendment?

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I simply wish to make my amendment pending, and at a convenient time I would like to do that. There was a bit of an aura of good feeling on the floor when the distinguished chairman of the energy committee and distinguished Senator from North Dakota were discussing an orderly approach for getting the amendments pending. Since then, we have heard a good deal about frustration and anger and a bad mood, so I am not sure—maybe a little time to revert to that previous aura might not be in order, but I am only seeking to get my amendment pending.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I do know the Senator from Washington and I were hoping to get a plan and a proposal for colleagues so that they would better understand how we might proceed tomorrow. And because we haven't had that opportunity to do that as of yet, I would like the chance to consult with Senator CANTWELL here. My concern is that if we start getting all these amendments pending right now before we reach some kind of a path forward, it could get complicated.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Rather than face an objection to my unanimous consent request, I will defer it until the chairman and her ranking member have a chance to go through that process, and I will come back at an appropriate time.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. I thank the Senator from Rhode Island. We are here tonight because we haven't ended debate on the Keystone Pipeline bill. We haven't ended debate because our colleagues voted to not end debate on this important measure, and I think for good reason.

Our colleagues from both sides of the aisle got to offer amendments last week, to discuss them, and have a chance to vote on them. I would say this is a very different process from what happened in December, where basically an up-or-down vote was going to be given on a process.

So I am glad my colleagues—like from Michigan where they had a major tar sands spill in their State—who want to offer amendments on pipeline safety can do so. I want my colleagues to be able to offer amendments as it relates to security and safety, particularly when it relates to safe drinking water and the issues of the pipeline.

Since this bill has been introduced, two major pipeline spills have been discovered. So just within the time we have been on this bill, 3 million gallons of brine spilled from a pipeline in North Dakota. That was discovered on January 6, the same day we started with this bill being introduced.

On Friday North Dakota officials discovered that the contamination from the spill reached the Missouri River. So on January 17, 30,000 gallons of oil were spilled into the Yellowstone River, a different incident, from a pipeline that broke in Eastern Montana. It temporarily shut down drinking water services for 6,000 people in Glendive, MT. So you bet these issues are important to me, and they are important to my colleagues. I hope we do not have to rush through the process of having a vote on these amendments. I think all of my colleagues see the Thursday night event, where the discussion was, let's get four or five amendments or six pending amendments and then coming back 1 hour later to table them is not the kind of legislative process we are used to here.

I hope in the next couple of days my colleague and I can work on these in a much more productive fashion, with the list of amendments that Members want to offer and a timely way to debate them. Hopefully my colleague from Alaska and I could actually work

with our colleagues, and either get some of them accepted or work for a vote schedule that would actually allow us to have the vote and have the debate as opposed to tabling.

This Senator is not arguing that any side does not have a right to table an amendment. I am simply saying: I think colleagues want to know what the process is going to be and whether they can discuss this.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a story that is about one of those pipeline spills. It is about the Federal Government issuing warnings to the pipeline company in November about the concerns regarding those spills.

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

[From EnergyWire, Jan. 23, 2015]

FEDS ISSUED WARNING TO PIPELINE COMPANY IN NOVEMBER

(By Mike Soraghan)

Federal officials issued a warning late last year to the owner of the Montana pipeline that contaminated a city's drinking water for keeping poor records about the condition of the system.

And the owners of the Poplar pipeline have had at least seven pipeline spills since early 2008, records show, along with other spills at production facilities.

Bridger Pipeline LLC officials say the warning letter from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is unrelated to the leak of 50,000 gallons of oil into the Yellowstone River.

''I don't believe there is a link between that letter and what we're dealing with,'' said Bridger spokesman Bill Salvin. ''That seems to be a difficult connection to make.''

A thick layer of ice on the river is hampering cleanup efforts centered on Glendive, Mont., where the water treatment plant was shut down after cancer-causing benzene was detected in supplies.

Crews have recovered about 10,000 gallons of oil from the rupture directly beneath the river, about 50 feet from the south shore.

The spill's cause remains unclear, but oil sheens have been reported as far away as Williston, N.D.

The warning letter last year resulted from a 2012 inspection by federal officials. Chris Hoidal, director of PHMSA's Western Region, wrote that the company had conducted 24 inspection digs for external anomalies, but then employees failed to note the condition of the pipeline as required.

Salvin said that ''steps have been taken'' to address the concerns laid out in the letter.

''We take all requirements very seriously,'' he said.

Federal officials have undertaken another inspection in connection with the recordkeeping, in addition to the spill investigation.

The warning came about six years after a spill that led to a more serious enforcement action by PHMSA. The agency said that the company failed to accurately update its reports on a May 2008 spill from the pipeline.

In the same enforcement action, PHMSA charged that Bridger failed to perform a pressure test on tubing installed at a pipeline station in 2007 and 2008.

The agency also alleged that the company was too slow to review its emergency operations manuals and failed to keep up on inspections. The company paid a $45,000 fine.

This image was taken from a drone surveying the ice slotting oil containment trench carved in the ice of the Yellowstone River near Crane, Mont. Photo courtesy of Unified Spill Command.

The company also paid a $100,000 fine in an enforcement action brought in 2005 regarding the qualifications of its personnel.

PHMSA inspections also led to two other enforcement actions in September 2005 and February 2007 that did not lead to fines.

Montana records show that Bridger Pipeline had two spills in 2009, another in 2010 and a fourth in 2012. The total released in the four spills was about 3,300 gallons of crude oil.

In August, a gasket failure caused a Bridger pipeline to spill about 4,000 gallons of crude in Mountrail County, N.D.

In addition, another company's 6-inch fuel line was broken during excavation of a new pipeline by Bridger on Sept. 1, 2014, in McKenzie County, N.D. Dry natural gas was released to the atmosphere, but inspectors noted that it could have led to an explosion.

Bridger is part of Casper, Wyo.-based True Oil LLC. In May 2014, True's Belle Fourche pipeline ruptured, spilling 25,000 gallons of crude oil into an ephemeral drainage near Casper, according to federal records. The oil traveled about 3 miles in the drainage.

True Oil's production operations have had at least 16 spills since early 2009 in Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and North Dakota, according to state records. The largest was a spill of more than 30,000 gallons of oil and wastewater in 2011 in Campbell County, Wyo.

Ms. CANTWELL. To me this is an issue where we have had some debate about the pipeline and the oilspill liability trust fund. I would hope we would come back to that issue because these issues about spills and safety and security should be part of the debate. But I go back to the larger issue which is I hope we turn down this legislation overall.

To me all of the issues we are talking about, whether it is about safe drinking water, whether it is about oilspills and the requirements on these companies or if it is about whether TransCanada can take U.S. property under eminent domain or whether it is about the route itself, all of these questions in my mind are premature for us, the Congress, to decide.

Over 60 percent of the American people say they want this pipeline decided in a normal process. They want the State Department, in this instance because it crosses a border, to be the entity that determines national interest. So I do not want to predetermine that when there are so many important issues to be negotiated. The very company that wanted to negotiate with the State Department on this pipeline was negotiating some of the original routing. Yet at the very time the State Department was telling them the original routing would not work, they were here trying to persuade Members to vote for the authority to override the President and to give that routing, which we now know was flawed.

I do not want to be premature about this. I do not want to be premature about cutting off debate. I want to get to these amendments before us and get the bill done with the input of my colleagues, given that the debate was brought up to the floor.

If you ask me what I want to debate, I would be debating some other legislation because I do not think this bill is going to be signed by the President of the United States.

I would be debating energy tax policy on clean energy items. I would be debating other things that I think would be impacting more our energy strategy for the future, our economy, and job creation. I think there are a lot of those out there. I hope my colleague from Alaska and I, once this debate is over with, will be able to sit down and talk about these issues, in a bipartisan fashion, and work with the committee.

In 2007, we passed the Energy Independence and Security Act out of the energy committee on a bipartisan basis. It was landmark legislation that unleashed a lot of investment. It unleashed investment in making sure we had higher fuel efficiency cars in our country, which was good for the consumer because they got a car that got more mileage. It made investments in things such as the smart grid and other energy infrastructure.

I hope that is what we will get back to, because when I look at what is happening—I know my colleague from Alaska just talked about some of these issues as it related to Alaska. I know she means what she says when she says she is speaking from the heart and working hard for Alaskans. I visited Alaska with her and my colleague, then-Senator-from-Alaska Mark Begich. I visited many parts of Alaska.

I understand. Alaskans want to have an economic opportunity. They want their energy to be cheaper. I would say I am empathetic to the issue because we have five refineries in the State of Washington. We are the fifth largest refining State in the Nation. A lot of our oil comes from Alaska. So I can tell you that people in the Northwest are furious that even though we have those refineries—so a lot of refining capacity and the oil comes from Alaska—we still have some of the highest gas prices in the Nation. Many times we have asked for various investigations about why we have the highest gas prices in the Nation and why this issue continues to plague us.

I know my colleague, when she speaks about the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge or ideas about more drilling, that it is about getting more oil supply. But more oil supply from Alaska has not helped Washington consumers have cheaper gasoline prices.

So I want to continue to diversify our economy off of fossil fuels and onto other things. I hope we will get a chance to work on an energy bill that does that. If I could just address for a couple of minutes the issue of the President's decision to move forward on a plan that would help preserve the Arctic wildlife refuge as wilderness. My colleague from Alaska mentioned this issue is something that has been going on for some time. She is right.

The predecessors that she and I—the former chair of the energy committee, Scoop Jackson, and the former late Senator Ted Stevens—everybody has

been a part of this. I actually was here at a pretty dramatic floor debate on this issue in 2005, in which some people wanted to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for drilling, even to the degree that they put that as a rider on the Defense bill. We were able to stop that. I think that was the will of Congress, that they did not want to see drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

But we have had this discussion since 1960, when Dwight Eisenhower set aside originally 9 million acres, and in 1980, thanks to the work of Scoop Jackson, Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, which expanded the refuge to 19 million acres.

I have visited the refuge. I do believe it is a critical habitat for wildlife and the Gwich'in people who called this the sacred place where life begins. It is truly special. I do think we have had many discussions about this. This action probably will not be the last of them, but I do applaud the President for taking the Arctic refuge, which is habitat for 45 different species of land animals, 36 different species of fish, 180 species of birds—and has the greatest variety of plant and animal life of any park or refuge in the polar Arctic. I do believe it is an ecosystem and an ecosystem that is unlike anything else we have in the United States.

So I am proud the President has taken what has been a refuge that was lacking a plan and has now put a wilderness plan in place or the elements of what it will take to preserve those various species and animals and that very special place.

I know my colleague feels very strongly about the President's announcement. I think a refuge plan that is based on science and public comment—we have had a plan, but this is the first plan to say we are going to protect this area. It recommends 12 million acres of refuge, including the coastal plain as wilderness. It is one of the most pristine and unique public places.

I am confident America can meet our energy needs without opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. I am convinced we can come up with an energy strategy that is much more compelling for the future of the United States, one in which we can lead and one in which we can help other countries, whether it is what the President did with China in getting an agreement or working with India or all the things we are doing to try to be a leader in what is energy efficiency and ways to impact the marketplace so consumers can look for cleaner, more efficient uses of fuel.

So this is going to be a continuing debate in this Congress between a 19th century view of energy policy and a 21st century view of energy policy. I would ask my colleagues to think about these countries the President has just recently visited. He went to China. No one thinks China's air standard is what we should have in the United States. India has had its own challenges. They have hundreds of millions of people who are without electricity needs.

So the question is whether these sources of energy are going to be that solution, whether a dirty source of fossil fuel is going to be the solution or whether we can work together on cleaner energy solutions. I think we can do that.

In fact, I am excited the United States can be a leader in these technologies, which will result in more job growth, just as those previous energy bills did when we worked together for higher fuel efficiency standards, for more energy efficiency, to come up with more sources of diversified fuel. I am very confident we are going to, in the next few years, usher in a new era of aviation.

We have already proven we can fly airplanes with a 50–50 drop in jet fuel. We now have to prove we can manufacture those large sources and get planes flying on that. What a great accomplishment that will be in reducing carbon emissions and giving the flying public and those airlines something that is much more affordable than what we have been dealing with for the last 10 or 15 years.

I look forward to my colleague and I working tomorrow—some tonight and a little bit starting early tomorrow—on how we move forward with this legislation. I know my colleague and I see a path forward. Similar to any two people who are trying to manage a bill on the floor, we also know we have all of our colleagues to work with because nothing in the Senate operates unless it operates through our process and working collaboratively or, I should say, it can work, it is just going to take a very long time.

So we pledge to work in the next few days to try to get an amendment process that will not be prematurely cut off after 1 hour of a pending bill but will come to terms, and hopefully our colleagues will work with us to limit the number of those amendments and we can move forward to legislation that we think will help our economy grow.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I know our colleague from Delaware is wishing to speak. If I may just proceed to do the closeout and he would be able to speak after that.

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

CENTRAL ILLINOIS XPRESS BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the remarkable strength and spirit of the Central Illinois Xpress basketball team and its coach Tariq Toran.

As the only team of girls in an all-boys fifth grade basketball league in Springfield, IL, the Central Illinois Xpress has defied the odds and emerged as a powerhouse in the Illinois AAU boys' league. With an impressive record of 8 wins and 2 losses in the first half of the season, Coach Toran and the Central Illinois Xpress girls have made a name for themselves not just back at home, but across the Nation.

Strong, confident, and determined, the team comprised of nine girls ages 10 and 11 years old do not shy away from hard work and tough competition on the basketball court. With a series of two-on-one drills coupled with push-ups and sprints, these girls know how to practice hard and play hard. The Xpress girls use their summers to compete in a higher division comprised of older girls, which helps prepare them to play against tough teams during the season.

This tireless preparation and fearless attitude brought Coach Toran to sign the girls up for the all-boys' league this year. So far, the team's success has been undeniable. With their dribble drives, crisp passes, and methodical game play, the Central Illinois Xpress players have racked up more than enough wins to show the boys, and the community, that they are a force to be reckoned with this season.

These girls know what it means to push themselves for excellence, to fight for something against the odds, and to prove themselves to those, including some of the boys they are playing, who don't expect a girls team to be strong and play smart, aggressive ball.

It is my pleasure to wish these fifth-grade girls in Springfield the best of luck in the second half of this season.

RECOGNIZING THE VERMONT STATE POLICE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, during the closing days of the 112th Congress, and for the duration of the 113th Congress, I had the privilege of serving the Senate as the President pro tempore. It of course was a great honor, and a humbling one, to serve the Senate and to represent Vermont in this position. With this designation, because of the matter of presidential succession procedures, I was assigned a security detail. I have spoken before about the outstanding work of the U.S. Capitol Police, and about how much Marcelle and I appreciate the sacrifices they made in the course of their service.

Today I want to thank the Vermont State Police for their outstanding service and steadfast support during my time as President pro tempore. With their extensive and comprehensive knowledge of Vermont's unique landscape and communities, the Vermont State Police coordinated with the U.S. Capitol Police and provided essential guidance, information and support. I

thank them for their professionalism and dedication.

I would like to thank in particular Lieutenant Garry Scott who commands the Traffic Safety Unit of the Vermont State Police Department; Corporal Owen Ballinger, who was an integral part of the everyday operations; Sergeant Teresa Randall; Sergeant Mark Perkins; Sergeant Trevor Carbo; Trooper Jerry Partin; and Trooper Dustin Robinson. These law enforcement officers were able to blend the requirement of a full security detail in unobtrusive ways that enabled us to go about our daily lives and to perform our responsibilities. These dedicated and courteous officers went above and beyond the call of duty, and for that Marcelle and I are infinitely grateful.

I also thank Colonel Thomas L'Esperance and Lieutenant Colonel Matt Birmingham for their constant support.

SELECTION OF HAROLD ''HAL'' COLSTON AS THE 2014 BURLINGTON FREE PRESS VERMONTER OF THE YEAR

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is a delight to call the Senate's attention to an outstanding Vermonter who was recently recognized for his work to help Vermonters who have struggled with social and economic injustice.

Since 1997, the Burlington Free Press has invited readers to nominate a Vermont resident to be recognized as Vermonter of the Year. Those nominated are among the best doers and visionaries the Green Mountain State has to offer, and each nominee has made a difference in his or her community. Previous winners have included philanthropists, college presidents, a former Governor and a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. On the eve of the New Year, the Burlington Free Press named Hal Colston the 2014 Vermonter of the Year.

Hal is a resident of Winooski and certainly deserves this honor. Since relocating to Vermont 25 years ago, Hal's dedication to social, economic, and racial justice has served his community well. He has maintained a steadfast voice for those unable to be heard on their own.

Hal is well known for his entrepreneurial spirit, and he has successfully created and led numerous nonprofit initiatives. In announcing Hal's selection, the Free Press aptly calls him a ''serial do-gooder.'' He received national recognition after founding Good News Garage, which enables individuals and families to move away from poverty by providing reliable transportation. Similarly, he recognized that those in poverty are often without the support networks necessary to move beyond such vulnerable circumstances. As a result, he established NeighborKeepers, an organization that focuses on building supportive community networks that direct families toward the resources they need to succeed. Today he leads the Partnership for Change, a diverse group of community stakeholders seeking to remodel the Burlington and Winooski School Districts by establishing a student-centered learning system.

As communities work to overcome the challenges of poverty and individuals pursue more prosperous lives for themselves and their families, it is the passionate dedication to serve by leaders such as Hal Colston that makes the greatest difference.

In recognition of Hal Colston's service, I ask unanimous consent that Aki Soga's article from the December 31, 2014, edition of the Burlington Free Press be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Burlington Free Press, Dec. 31, 2014]

VERMONTER OF THE YEAR: HAL COLSTON

You might call Hal Colston a serial do-gooder.

The Winooski resident has laid down a track record of work to improve the lives of people in the community during his 25-year tenure in Vermont.

Colston is best known as the founder of Good News Garage, the nonprofit that fixes donated vehicles for low-income people.

He also is known for launching NeighborKeepers, an initiative to help families in need build relationships with those who can provide the support they need.

He was instrumental in forcing Vermont to confront the issue of racial profiling by the police.

Colston says he sees every day as an opportunity to make a difference.

''We get them one at a time with no guarantee for tomorrow,'' he said. ''May all of us spend our days wisely to improve the common good.''

Colston's understated demeanor often belies his passion. He works to give voice to those who are unable to be heard on their own. He has shown the courage to tackle difficult issues.

Colston's quiet devotion to bringing the people together and looking out for those who find themselves in unfortunate circumstances especially stand out in a year that saw the streets of this country fill with protest—both peaceful and violent—against injustice.

For his years of service to the community in the name of social and economic justice, the Burlington Free Press editorial board names Hal Colston 2014 Vermonter of the Year.

In nominating Colston for Vermonter of the Year, Laban Hill of Winooski writes, ''Hal has spent his life devoted to our community and making a difference in both small and large ways.''

Colston's work with Good News Garage has earned him national recognition, including an appearance on the Oprah show. The idea is simple. For many, one of the bigger barriers to economic independence is the lack of reliable transportation. Good News Garage tackles that problem in the most direct way possible by awarding reliable cars to those in need.

Colston founded the organization in 1996 after meeting a Lutheran minister he had heard in Philadelphia shortly before moving to Vermont. That chance encounter led to developing an idea and seed funding from what he calls a pan-Lutheran organization. He launched the nonprofit under the wing of the Lutheran Social Services New England.

Nearly two decades later, Good News Garage has awarded more than 4,000 vehicles.

SECOND CAREER

His career in community service also includes a stint as associate director of Community Action in Burlington, now Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, as executive director of the Vermont Commission on National and Community Service and as diversity coordinator for the social services nonprofit HowardCenter.

Colston also spoke out clearly and firmly when African-Americans in the community charged that local police were using racial profiling in stops.

In an April 2007 My Turn piece in the Free Press, Colston wrote, ''I believe that racial profiling in Vermont is an epidemic,'' going on to recount his own experience with ''driving while black.''

Colston did more than complain. He worked to open a dialogue within the community, including the police, that allowed people to talk openly about issues surrounding race.

''We're building trust,'' he said. ''I don't believe we will ever eradicate racism, but how do we heal from the wounds?''

All this was a major shift for a man who had made a career as a chef and restauranteur in Philadelphia, and arrived in Vermont in 1989 to become the director of catering at the New England Culinary Institute in Essex.

Colston called his career change a midlife crisis, but said the work put him in touch with his core values, ''truth and justice.''

Today, Colston is engaged in what is perhaps his biggest challenge to date. He serves as director of Partnership for Change, a collaboration between the Burlington and Winooski school districts. The mission is to re-imagine public education to better prepare students from diverse social, economic and cultural backgrounds to succeed in school, in their careers and as members of their communities.

''The reason I love Vermont is it's got its challenges. But it's really on a human scale. You can have a conversation,'' he said.

For his steady faith in the ability of each person to make a difference, and putting that faith to work in the service of his community, Hal Colston is the 2014 Vermonter of the Year.

A NOMINATING LETTER

I would like to nominate Hal Colston for Vermonter of the Year.

Hal is director of Partnership for Change, which is remodeling Burlington and Winooski school districts by establishing a student-centered learning system that enables all learners to develop skills, knowledge, and relationships necessary to become confident, motivated, and self-sufficient learners who are successful in college and careers and are engaged in their communities.

Hal and his team are changing the way education is delivered in our communities so that it is more rigorous and more equitable.

Over the years Hal has been an integral and essential part of our community. He founded Good News Garage, which is one of the first nonprofit social enterprise car donation programs in the U.S. He also founded NeighborKeepers, which was a community nonprofit that helped the generational poor become financially secure.

Hal has spent his life devoted to our community and making a difference in both small and large ways. He seems like the ideal candidate for the Burlington Free Press's Vermonter of the Year. In addition, there has never been a person of color who has been recognized as Vermonter of the Year. It's about time.

There are so many people of color in Vermont who are making important contributions to our community. Now is the time to begin recognizing them.

LABAN HILL,

TRIBUTE TO LORENZO GOCO

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute and thank a dedicated and capable individual, Lorenzo Goco, who retired from the Senate on Friday after 20 years of expert service.

For the past 6 years, Lorenzo has served as the deputy staff director of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, SSCI. He has worked on the committee since 1995, when he was brought over by Senator Bob Kerrey. He has seen the highs and the lows of Senate life, and has made a valued contribution to the committee, to the Senate, and to the national security of the United States.

Since the beginning of my chairmanship of the committee in 2009, Lorenzo has been the heart of the Democratic staff. Without drawing attention to himself, he has gotten things done—whether it meant setting the schedule and wrangling agency witnesses to attend on short notice, assisting the intelligence community to see the wisdom of the committee's approach, or bridging the divide between the majority and minority in the rare case of disagreement, Lorenzo kept the committee on track and headed in the right direction.

As the deputy staff director, Lorenzo is responsible for everything but gets the credit for nothing. He has represented the SSCI at the weekly meeting of Democratic staff directors more often than the actual staff director, and he has had my full faith in representing the committee and me countless times. Often, a line of committee staffers will build in front of his door as people seek his advice on how to handle an issue or ask a question about a program.

Classification prevents me from relating on the Senate floor most of the projects that Lorenzo has contributed to or overseen in his time on the committee staff. But they include numerous reviews of CIA covert actions, reviews of acquisition programs by the National Security Agency and the National Reconnaissance Office, and the budget review of the Defense Intelligence Agency.

Due to CIA's declassification of the underlying information, I can say that Lorenzo was part of the committee's excellent work in investigating CIA's role in a shootdown of a missionary plane in Peru. He was instrumental in the committee's report on the prewar intelligence assessments of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, and a constant force behind the staff's work on the Study of CIA's Detention and Interrogation Program.

The committee's success in enacting six intelligence authorization bills in the past 6 years is in good measure a result of Lorenzo's work in drafting the legislation and the classified annexes the contain, working with other committees in the Senate and the House, and negotiating provisions with the executive branch.

There are plenty of congressional staff that are passionate advocates for aggressive action for this cause or that. Other staff focus on protecting their boss and as a result are more judicious and deliberate. Some are experts on process; some are experts on substance. Lorenzo is all of the above. His depth of experience on intelligence matters is unparalleled today in the Senate. He fights strongly for what he believes in, and has at times pushed me to be stronger on a cause than I might otherwise be. But he is always cool, calm, and collected, and manages to navigate the buffeting winds and tempestuous times that we face all too often.

I am sorry to see a key part of my team go, but I wish Lorenzo the best of luck. I have no doubt that he will have more time to spend with his wonderful wife Audrey and his three boys, whom I know are the source of unending pride, and perhaps the occasional bout of parental frustration. With any luck, they'll grow up like their father.

Thank you, Lorenzo, for your steadfast service.

RESTORING FULL TIME TO FORTY HOURS

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of my remarks from last week's Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee hearing be printed in the RECORD.

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

RESTORING FULL-TIME TO FORTY HOURS

Let me start by telling some stories of what's happening in Tennessee:

In Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Middle Tennessee State University has started limiting hours for part-time workers. This means students can no longer accept multiple on-campus work assignments. And graduate assistants might have to wait tables instead of picking up extra on-campus grant-funded research projects that would better further their careers.

From its headquarters in Knoxville, Regal Entertainment Group, the nation's largest movie theatre chain, announced last year that it was cutting employee hours from 40 to below 30 in order to comply with Obamacare. According to a news report, ''One Regal theatre manager [said] the move has sparked a wave of resignations from full-time managers who have seen their hours cut by 25 percent or more.''

In Johnson City, Pam Cox, the director of finance for Johnson City Public Schools, told a local news outlet about a year ago that her district will have to hire more people to work fewer hours. She said, ''It'll be challenging to find people and it'll also hurt the employees because where they've been able to work as much as they wanted in these types of positions with no benefits attached to it now we're going to be saying, 'we can't let you work . . . even though you want to and you're good at your job, we can't give you the hours, give you the pay, because we can't afford to give you the insurance.' ''

So why are these things happening in Tennessee—and in every other state across the nation?

Obamacare requires businesses with 50 or more full-time employees to provide health insurance to those employees or pay a penalty at tax time. That penalty is $2,000 for each employee whom the government says should have been covered by an employer plan and $3,000 for every employee who receives a subsidy in the exchange.

The law, passed without any Republican support, defined full-time as an employee who works more than 30 hours a week. It is a strange definition—one that sounds more like France than the United States.

The average American between the ages of 25–49 works 8.8 hours per day, or 44 hours per week, according to the American Time of Use Survey published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Obamacare definition of full-time is nearly one-third lower.

Many businesses can't afford Obamacare's mandate and must reduce their number of full-time employees.

The result of all this is that thousands of workers are getting a pay cut. Their work schedules are being reduced to 29 hours a week and below.

This is not enough money for these workers to earn a living. Many must take second jobs.

A Hoover Institution study found the 30-hour definition puts 2.6 million working-age Americans with a median income under $14,333 for individuals and $30,000 for families at risk of losing jobs and hours. The study found:

89 percent of those affected don't have a college degree.

60 percent are between the ages of 19 and 34.

63 percent of those most at risk of lost hours are women, of which half have a high school diploma or less.

These are Americans who are often working one of their first jobs, trying to work their way up the economic ladder. You have to start with a lower-paying job, a job that doesn't require as many skills, and hope that someday your hard work will lead to a higher-paying one.

Many of these Americans are working in service industries, such as hospitality, retail and restaurants. But the Obamacare provision is affecting all kinds of employers.

In September 2014, Investor's Business Daily reported that at least 451 employers, county governments, public schools, community colleges and universities across the country have laid off staff or reduced employee work hours to comply with the new Obamacare definition of full time.

Our public schools can't charge higher prices to cover these mandates. They have to cut services like special education, coaches and bus drivers.

Three surveys published by Federal Reserve Banks in August found employers are increasing their proportion of part-time workers.

The Federal Reserve Banks of New York and Philadelphia specifically asked manufacturers what changes they had made because of Obamacare, and in both cities, nearly 1 in 5 respondents reported that they had increased their proportion of part-time workers.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta also surveyed businesses about changes in part-time employment and found that 25 percent of respondents currently have a higher share of part-time workers primarily because ''full-time employee compensation costs

have increased relative to those of part-time employees.'' More troubling is that 31 percent of respondents believe they will have more part-time workers 2 years from now.

There is bipartisan support for repealing this provision. This bill has 34 cosponsors—mostly Republicans, including every Republican member of this committee—but Senator DONNELLY and Senator MANCHIN of West Virginia, also a Democrat, support it.

Republicans have talked a lot about wanting to repair the damage of Obamacare. We have also talked about wanting to get results.

This bipartisan bill should be an important step to doing both.

In fact, this reminds me of why so many of us like being on this committee—because the issues we work on affect so many Americans.

When we talk about fixing No Child Left Behind, we're talking about 50 million children in 100,000 public schools.

When we talk about making it simpler to apply for a Pell Grant to go to college, we're talking about simplifying a form that 20 million families fill out each year.

When we talk about modernizing the Food and Drug Administration and making it easier for Americans to access lifesaving drugs, we're talking about something that affects nearly every American.

But today we are focused on 2.6 million Americans who are mostly low-income and at risk of losing jobs and hours.

I look forward to hearing what our witnesses have to say.

TRIBUTE TO COMMEMORATE THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE RELEASE OF THE IRAN HOSTAGES

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I wish to commemorate in the RECORD the anniversary of the release of the Iran hostages on this date in 1981.

Soon the Senate will be consumed by a great debate regarding the proper strategic approach our Nation must take to ensure that Iran does not develop a nuclear weapons capability. Tomorrow, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee will hear testimony from both State Department and the U.S. Treasury about the current state of play in negotiations with Iran. Next week, the Senate Banking Committee is meeting to consider perspectives on the strategic necessity of Iran sanctions that will further the debate. I, for one, welcome that important discussion, although I recognize that some of my colleagues hold views that are different from my own on how best to contain Iran.

There is, however, yet another important policy matter related to Iran that not only deserves but also demands the unified, bipartisan support of every Senator. Thirty-four years ago today, January 20, 1981, 52 of our fellow American citizens returned home after a harrowing 444-day ordeal of being illegally held hostage in Iran. We sent these diplomats, Foreign Service personnel, along with officers and enlisted members of our Armed Forces, to Iran in service to our Nation as they were seeking only to strengthen ties between our two countries. There was even an American businessman involved. Nevertheless, they all paid dearly for this service by being forced to endure humiliating treatment, brutal interrogations, mental and physical torture, and even mock firing squad executions while their families suffered endless waiting and genuine fear of their loved ones' imminent demise.

Although their return was a joyous occasion for our entire Nation and we celebrated as one people honoring our heroes, those 444 days took a toll not only on the hostages but also on their family members—a toll that continues for many to this day. Unfortunately, we failed to recognize both the long-term impact their incarceration experience and ill treatment would have on many of them and the support they would need. In many instances, the results have been tragic. Among the former hostages and their families, there have been suicides, advanced PTSD-type depression, divorces, alcoholism, and drug dependency. Unfortunately, Phil Ward, a communications officer from Virginia who committed suicide in the fall of 2012, was one who never fully recovered from the cruelty of those events.

We must help to ease this burden and provide these brave Americans with the same measure of justice and healing our courts have already awarded to other hostage victims and their families. While the Algiers Accords, the document which secured the release, bars the former hostages and their families from legal action against Iran for the brutality they endured, to this day they remain not only the first victims of modern hostage-taking but the only Americans barred from seeking justice from Iran. The former hostages and their families have already waited more than three decades to experience the full support of the government they so heroically served and to see some accountability by their captors. Therefore, I will soon introduce legislation to compensate the hostages and their families by assessing penalties on those who continue to do business with Iran in violation of U.S. sanctions policy. This legislation, however, represents but one solution to an issue that is three decades overdue. Another or perhaps an additional option would be to strongly recommend that as a condition of the ongoing nuclear negotiations, such compensation come directly from ''frozen'' assets that for more than a year now have been released to Iran at the rate of $700 million a month.

Accordingly, I look forward to righting this injustice by working with any or all of my colleagues as we stand united in support of the former hostages and their families.

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the Penn State University Nittany Lions Women's Volleyball program for winning the 2014 National Collegiate Athletic Association, NCAA Championship.

Led by four returning starters and legendary coach Russ Rose, the Penn State University Nittany Lions concluded the 2014 season by defeating the Brigham Young University Cougars in straight sets to win the NCAA Championship. The Nittany Lions finished with a record of 36 wins and only 3 losses.

With the 2014 championship, the Nittany Lions have claimed six of the last eight NCAA Championships and seven overall in women's volleyball, setting the record for the most women's volleyball championships by a single program in history.

The 2014 Nittany Lions Women's Volleyball team brought together a group of student-athletes who excelled both on the court and in the classroom. For their efforts on the court, four Nittany Lions were selected to the AVCA Division I All-America team, with Senior Micha Hancock earning both First-Team All-American honors and becoming the fourth Nittany Lion in program history to earn AVCA DI National Player of the Year honors.

Special congratulations go to Junior Megan Courtney who was selected as the 2014 NCAA Tournament Most Outstanding Player and to Freshman Ali Frantti, who earned AVCA DI National Freshman of the Year honors.

Not to be outdone in the classroom, six Nittany Lions earned spots on the Fall Academic All-Big Ten list for their academic performances this season.

Today I want to recognize the significant contributions that the Penn State University Women's Volleyball team has made to collegiate athletics and to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with Coach Russ Rose at the helm. I wish them all the best as they continue to lead by example for student-athletes everywhere and set the stage for the program's continued success into the future.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, today the United States ranks 12th in the world in the percentage of 25–34 year olds achieving post-high school degrees. We need to make changes that help keep students engaged in their futures while also ensuring our educational programs are adequately preparing students for the jobs of the 21st century.

Career and technical education, CTE, programs are proven to help keep students more engaged in the classroom and less likely to drop out of high school, and to help meet the needs of high-growth, skill-intensive industries looking for the next generation of workers. The U.S. Department of Education announced that the average U.S. high school graduation rate is 80 percent, while the graduation rate for students in CTE concentrations is higher than 90 percent. 81 percent of high school dropouts say real-world learning opportunities would have kept them in school.

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act is a major source of Federal support for the development

of career and technical skills among secondary and postsecondary students. Last reauthorized in 2006, the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act needs to be modernized to meet the demands of the 21st century workforce and ensure that students have access to the highest-quality CTE programs.

This is why I am pleased to introduce with my colleagues, Senator PORTMAN and Senator BALDWIN, the Educating Tomorrow's Workforce Act, which would amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act to raise the quality of CTE programs. This legislation defines what constitutes a rigorous CTE curriculum and requires Perkins grant recipients to incorporate key high-quality elements in their programs including credit-transfer opportunities; academic and technical skills assessments; training tools that align with today's industries; CTE-focused professional development for teachers, administrators, and counselors; and CTE curriculum alignment with local, regional, and State workforce demands. Additionally, the bill improves links between high school and postsecondary education to help ease attainment of an industry recognized credential, license, apprenticeship, or postsecondary certificate to obtain a job in a high-demand career field and promotes partnerships between local businesses, and other community stakeholders to create pathways for students through work-based learning opportunities.

When I was Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I worked on a number of educational issues, but one that I was most proud of was starting the Governor's Career and Technical Academies. At the start of my term as Governor we had nine academies. The Republican Governor who followed me continued the academies, and at the end of his term there were 23. The Educating Tomorrow's Workforce Act encourages these models and allows states and localities to use Perkins grant funding to establish CTE-focused academies.

I am proud to introduce this commonsense, bipartisan legislation to raise the quality of CTE programs and ensure that high-quality career and technical education helps students develop skills that meet the needs of 21st century employers.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING DALTON VERNON MARTIN

• Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I wish to honor the memory and service of Dalton Vernon Martin, chief petty officer, U.S. Navy, Retired, and sherriff's deputy, East Baton Rouge Sherriff's Department, who passed away 4 years ago, on January 23, 2011. Mr. Martin devoted his life and career to the service of others which was evident in his combined 61 years of military and civil service to our great Nation and the Baton Rouge community.

Born in St. Francisville, LA, Mr. Martin first excelled as a high school boxer, compiling a record of 63 victories in 65 bouts. He dedicated that resolve and fighting spirit towards serving and defending his country, enlisting in the U.S. Navy to fight in World War II and the Korean war, including the Pacific battles of the Gilbert and Marshall Islands, Tarawa, and Okinawa. Mr. Martin served onboard the USS *Charleston*, USS *Taswell*, and the USS *Indianapolis*.

After a distinguished 38-year career in the Armed Forces, Mr. Martin retired from active duty and embarked on a new mission of service as a deputy of the East Baton Rouge Sherriff's Office. Here, Mr. Martin spent 23 years protecting his fellow citizens and upholding the rule of law.

Mr. Martin lived a life of service, but he never sought to label himself as the hero he truly was. He spoke honestly and openly about the fear and sadness that are inseparable from the glory and honor of serving in combat. He was grateful for the opportunities afforded by his service to visit the farthest reaches of the world, but he served for no other reason than to defend his country and one day return home to his beloved Louisiana.

If the measure of a person is by what they leave behind, then Mr. Martin sets a standard to which we should all aspire. His life's story is yet another testament to the strength and legacy of the ''greatest generation.'' And for his wife Christy, his children Paul, John, and Susan, and his grandchildren Erin, Tristan, Madeleine, Jack, Lauren, and Caroline, his spirit and legacy live on. The country he helped to preserve as the greatest beacon for freedom and opportunity in the world remains forever grateful.•

TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW J. WATTS

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I wish to honor Pastor Matthew Watts, a dear friend and a truly inspiring West Virginian whose ministry career spans more than three decades.

I have personally known Reverend Watts for many years now, and he truly embodies what it means to be a great West Virginian. He is a man of deep conviction and unwavering passion for justice. He is an uplifting force to many and a role model to many more.

I have known Pastor Watts for many years, and as the former Governor, the reverend would visit often and bring me his thoughts, suggestions, and ideas. I always appreciated his sincere candor and genuine interest in improving our state.

As a native of Mount Hope, located in beautiful Fayette County, Pastor Watts currently serves as senior pastor of the Grace Bible Church of Charleston. He is a graduate of the West Virginia Institute of Technology with a bachelor of science in civil engineering, which led to a 20-year career with the Union Carbide Corporation. His theological study and training from the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago and the Christian Research and Development Center in Philadelphia, combined with his years of experience in corporate America, have blessed him with a vitally unique perspective on economic development.

In December of 1996, he left Union Carbide to pursue his ministry and focus on community service projects. A year later, he established the HOPE Community Development Corporation, a nonprofit organization with the mission of empowering inner-city communities through spiritual renewal, education, employment training and economic development.

With this perspective, he developed Kingdom Management Consultants, which assists minority owned businesses with startup and expansion, as well as provides supportive strategies to those seeking employment.

His active community involvement has truly set the standard in West Virginia throughout the years. Much of his community service is still done through the HOPE Community Development Corporation, which now has a branch specifically for youth.

Reverend Watts always amazes me with his unique ability to relate to strangers. While he is strong in stature and his voice is so commanding, his approach is dynamic, sincere, and composed.

His years of unwavering service and leadership have certainly not gone unrecognized. In 1996, he received the West Virginia Small Business Administration's Small Business Advocate of the Year Award. In 2002, Pastor Watts was awarded the Washington Times Foundation Leadership Award for Faith Based Organization of the Year. He was also the 2004 recipient of the Crown of Peace Award for Exemplary Leadership in Reconciliation and Peacemaking from the Inter-religious and International Peace Council.

Pastor Watts is a strong leader, mentor, and friend to so many within West Virginia. It takes a truly remarkable individual to accomplish so much in community service. Particularly now, having just celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and as we near Black History Month, it is fitting that we should celebrate such an inspiring individual as Pastor Watts. His community service programs have empowered countless minority groups within our State and are sure to continue the tradition of excellence for many years to come.•

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:33 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 7. An act to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions.

The message also announced that pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Joint Economic Committee: Mr. AMASH of Michigan, Mr. PAULSEN of Minnesota, Mr. HANNA of New York, Mr. SCHWEIKERT of Arizona, and Mr. GROTHMAN of Wisconsin.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 7. An act to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions; to the Committee on Finance.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–371. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''OMB Final Sequestration Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2015'' ; to the Special Committee on Aging; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Select Committee on Ethics; Finance; Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Indian Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans' Affairs.

EC–372. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Children and Families (Family Support), Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–373. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Connect America Fund, ETC Annual Reports and Certifications, Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 160(c) from Obsolete ILEC Regulatory Obligations that Inhibit Deployment of Next-Generation Networks'' ((RIN3060–AF85) (FCC 14–190)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 21, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–374. A communication from the Acting Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Rural Call Completion'' ((RIN3060–AJ89) (FCC 14–175)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 21, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–375. A communication from the Associate Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Modernizing the E-rate Program for Schools and Libraries, Connect America Fund'' ((RIN3060–AF85) (FCC 14–189)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 21, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–376. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0567)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–377. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer'' (RIN0648–XD656) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–378. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Framework Action to Modify the Commercial Annual Catch/Limit Annual Catch Target Regulations for Three Individual Fishing Quota Species Complexes'' (RIN0648–BE23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–379. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Transshipment, Port Inspection, and Vessel Identification'' (RIN0648–BE12) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–380. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2015 Gulf of Alaska Pollock and Pacific Cod Total Allowable Catch Amounts'' (RIN0648–XD688) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–381. A communication from the Chief of the Recovery and State Grants Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Status for the Mexican Wolf'' (RIN1018–AY00) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–382. A communication from the Chief of the Recovery and State Grants Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revision to the Regulations for the Nonessential Experimental Population of the Mexican Wolf'' (RIN1018–AY46) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–383. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Listing Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Threatened Status for the Western Distinct Population Segment of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo (Coccyzus americanus)'' (RIN1018–AY53) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–384. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Foreign Species Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing the Straight-Horned Markhor as Threatened With a Rule Under Section 4(d) of the ESA'' (RIN1018–AY42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–385. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Migratory Bird Hunting; Late Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds'' (RIN1018–AZ80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–386. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Late-Season Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations'' (RIN1018–AZ80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–387. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2014–15 Late Season'' (RIN1018–AZ80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–388. A communication from the Chief of the Endangered Species Listing Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for Gunnison Sage-grouse'' (RIN1018–AX71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–389. A communication from the Chief of the Endangered Species Listing Branch, Fish

and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Status for Gunnison Sage-grouse'' (RIN1018–AZ20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. Res. 39. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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. HATCH (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 250. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit threats against former Vice Presidents and members of their families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 251. A bill to aid and support pediatric involvement in reading and education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 252. A bill to prohibit the consideration of any bill by Congress unless a statement on tax transparency is provided in the bill; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. HELLER:

S. 253. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1943 to consolidate the reporting obligations of the Federal Communications Commission in order to improve congressional oversight and reduce reporting burdens; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. SCOTT):

S. 254. A bill to lower health premiums and increase choice for small businesses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 255. A bill to restore the integrity of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. Res. 39. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CARPER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 40. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding efforts by the United States and others to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP):

S. Res. 41. A resolution congratulating the North Dakota State University football team for winning the 2014 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 11

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 11, a bill to protect the separation of powers in the Constitution of the United States by ensuring that the President takes care that the laws be faithfully executed, and for other purposes.

S. 48

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. 48, a bill to prohibit discrimination against the unborn on the basis of sex or gender, and for other purposes.

S. 73

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 73, a bill to prohibit the Federal Government from mandating, incentivizing, or coercing States to adopt the Common Core State Standards or any other specific academic standards, instructional content, curricula, assessments, or programs of instruction.

S. 85

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 85, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a simplified income-driven repayment plan, and for other purposes.

S. 108

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 108, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve access for students to Federal grants and loans to help pay for postsecondary, graduate, and professional educational opportunities, and for other purposes.

S. 143

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 143, a bill to allow for improvements to the United States Merchant Marine Academy and for other purposes.

S. 158

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 158, a bill to authorize health insurance issuers to continue to offer for sale current group health insurance coverage in satisfaction of the minimum essential health insurance coverage requirement, and for other purposes.

S. 165

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 165, a bill to extend and enhance prohibitions and limitations with respect to the transfer or release of individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and for other purposes.

S. 167

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 167, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of annual evaluations of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 168

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 168, a bill to codify and modify regulatory requirements of Federal agencies.

S. 178

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 178, a bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

S. 183

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 183, a bill to repeal the annual fee on health insurance providers enacted by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. 200

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 200, a bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for macroeconomic analysis of the impact of major revenue legislation.

S. 203

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 203, a bill to restore Americans' individual liberty by striking the Federal mandate to purchase insurance.

S. 207

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

(Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 207, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use existing authorities to furnish health care at non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities to veterans who live more than 40 miles driving distance from the closest medical facility of the Department that furnishes the care sought by the veteran, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 5

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 5, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

S. RES. 35

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 35, a resolution commemorating the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz extermination camp in Nazi-occupied Poland.

AMENDMENT NO. 48

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 48 intended to be proposed to S. 1, a bill to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

AMENDMENT NO. 92

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 92 intended to be proposed to S. 1, a bill to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 251. A bill to aid and support pediatric involvement in reading and education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I introduce with my colleague, Senator GRASSLEY, the Prescribe a Book Act I thank Senators MARKEY, STABENOW, and WARREN for joining us as original cosponsors of this bipartisan bill.

Literacy skills are the foundation for success in school and in life. Developing and building these skills begins at home, with parents as the first teachers. Children who are read to frequently at home are more likely to become frequent readers themselves in later years. Indeed, according to Scholastic's Kids and Families Reading Report, among children ages 6–11, 60 percent of frequent readers, those who read 57 days per week for fun, were read to aloud by a parent 5–7 times per week before they entered kindergarten. This highlights the important role that parents play in building their children's literacy skills.

To help support the parental role in literacy, the Prescribe a Book Act would create a federal pediatric early literacy grant initiative based on the long-standing, successful Reach Out and Read program. The program would award grants on a competitive basis to high-quality nonprofit entities to train doctors and nurses to discuss with parents the importance of reading aloud to their children and to give books to children at pediatric check-ups from 6 months to 5 years of age, with a priority for children from low-income families. It builds on the relationship between parents and medical providers and helps families and communities encourage early literacy skills so children enter school prepared for success in reading.

I was pleased to see last year that the American Academy of Pediatrics, AAP, recognized the important role that pediatric providers play in enhancing children's literacy skills In a policy statement, AAP recommended that pediatric providers promote early literacy development for children from birth to at least kindergarten entry, including by counseling parents on the importance of reading to their children and through providing age-appropriate books to high-risk, low-income young children.

Evidence shows that that the pediatric literacy model works. Research published in peer-reviewed, scientific journals has found that parents who have participated in the Reach out and Read program are significantly more likely to read to their children and include more children's books in their home, and that children served by the program show an increase of 4–8 points on vocabulary tests. I have seen up close the positive impact of this program on children and their families when visiting a number of Rhode Island's Reach Out and Read sites. Building on existing efforts, which in the past have been supported by Federal funding included in the appropriations process and distributed by the Department of Education, and matched by tens of millions of dollars from the private sector and State governments, the Prescribe a Book Act would establish a formal authorization modeled on this type of successful public-private partnership. By so doing, it would leverage Federal dollars to expand pediatric literacy initiatives so that more young children reap the developmental benefits of having books at home and being read to by their parents.

I urge our colleagues to join us in cosponsoring the Prescribe a Book Act, and to work to include its provisions in the upcoming reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 252. A bill to prohibit the consideration of any bill by Congress unless a statement on tax transparency is provided in the bill; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 252

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 ''Tax Transparency Act of 2015''.

SEC. 2. TAX EFFECT TRANSPARENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title 1, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 102 the following:

''§ 102a. Tax effect transparency

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Each Act of Congress, bill, resolution, conference report thereon, or amendment there to, that modifies Federal tax law shall contain a statement describing the general effect of the modification on Federal tax law.

''(b) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A failure to comply with subsection (a) shall give rise to a point of order in either House of Congress, which may be raised by any Senator during consideration in the Senate or any Member of the House of Representatives during consideration in the House of Representatives.

''(2) NONEXCLUSIVITY.—The availability of a point of order under this section shall not affect the availability of any other point of order.

''(c) DISPOSITION OF POINT OF ORDER IN THE SENATE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Any Senator may raise a point of order that any matter is not in order under subsection (a).

''(2) WAIVER.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any Senator may move to waive a point of order raised under paragraph (1) by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn.

''(B) PROCEDURES.—For a motion to waive a point of order under subparagraph (A) as to a matter—

''(i) a motion to table the point of order shall not be in order;

''(ii) all motions to waive one or more points of order under this section as to the matter shall be debatable for a total of not more than 1 hour, equally divided between the Senator raising the point of order and the Senator moving to waive the point of order or their designees; and

''(iii) a motion to waive the point of order shall not be amendable.

''(d) DISPOSITION OF POINT OF ORDER IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If a Member of the House of Representatives makes a point of order

under this section, the Chair shall put the question of consideration with respect to the proposition of whether any statement made under subsection (a) was adequate or, in the absence of such a statement, whether a statement is required under subsection (a).

''(2) CONSIDERATION.—For a point of order under this section made in the House of Representatives—

''(A) the question of consideration shall be debatable for 10 minutes, equally divided and controlled by the Member making the point of order and by an opponent, but shall otherwise be decided without intervening motion except one that the House of Representatives adjourn or that the Committee of the Whole rise, as the case may be;

''(B) in selecting the opponent, the Speaker of the House of Representatives should first recognize an opponent from the opposing party; and

''(C) the disposition of the question of consideration with respect to a measure shall be considered also to determine the question of consideration under this section with respect to an amendment made in order as original text.

''(e) RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.—The provisions of this section are enacted by the Congress—

''(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the House of Representatives and the Senate, respectively, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of each House, respectively, or of that House to which they specifically apply, and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent therewith; and

''(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change such rules (so far as relating to such House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of such House.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 2 of title 1, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 102 the following new item:

''102a. Tax effect transparency.''.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 39—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 39

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (in this resolution referred to as the ''committee'') is authorized from March 1, 2015 through February 28, 2017, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2015.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015 under this resolution shall not exceed $3,219,522.

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016 under this section shall not exceed $5,519,181.

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2017.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2016 through February 28, 2017 under this section shall not exceed $2,299,659.

SEC. 3. REPORTING LEGISLATION.

The committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendations for legislation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 2017.

SEC. 4. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for ''Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations'' of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015;

(2) for the period October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2016 through February 28, 2017.

SENATE RESOLUTION 40—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING EFFORTS BY THE UNITED STATES AND OTHERS TO PREVENT IRAN FROM DEVELOPING A NUCLEAR WEAPON

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CARPER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 40

Whereas any acquisition by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran of a nuclear weapon would pose a grave threat to international peace and stability and the national security of the United States and United States allies, including Israel;

Whereas the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is a leading state sponsor of terrorism, continues to materially support the regime of Bashar al-Assad, and is responsible for continuing and gross violations of the human rights of the people of Iran;

Whereas, since 2006, the United Nations Security Council has adopted multiple resolutions demanding an end to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran's illicit nuclear activities and Iran's full cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) regarding its nuclear program and international commitments;

Whereas the United States Government has led the international community in imposing costly economic sanctions against the Islamic Republic of Iran, which have contributed to the decision of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to return to the negotiating table and provided leverage to press Iran's leaders to agree to end Iran's illicit nuclear activities;

Whereas the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran entered the present negotiation with the five permanent Member States of the United Nations Security Council, plus Germany (the ''P5+1''), having previously violated its commitments under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968, and not complied with multiple United Nations Security Council Resolutions;

Whereas the Joint Plan of Action, also known as the interim agreement, was entered into by the P5+1 and Iran on November 24, 2013, in order to facilitate good faith negotiations toward a final comprehensive agreement that prevents Iran from developing a nuclear weapon;

Whereas, under the Joint Plan of Action, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has ceased enrichment of near-20 percent uranium gas, eliminated its stockpile of near-20 percent uranium gas, halted significant construction activities at the Arak nuclear reactor, halted the installation of additional centrifuges and not operated its most advanced centrifuges to accumulate enriched uranium, agreed to more intrusive international inspections of its enrichment sites and provided managed access to its centrifuge assembly workshops, centrifuge rotor production workshops and storage facilities, and uranium mines and mills;

Whereas the International Atomic Energy Agency concluded in a January 20, 2015, report that Iran has not enriched uranium above 5 percent at any of its declared facilities, has not made ''any further advances'' to its activities at the Natanz and Fordow fuel enrichment plants or the Arak reactor, and has continued to provide managed access to uranium mines and mills, daily access to the enrichment facilities at Natanz and Fordow, and managed access to centrifuge assembly workshops, rotor production workshops, and storage facilities;

Whereas the P5+1 and Iran have extended the terms of the Joint Plan of Action and have set a target date for reaching a political framework agreement by the end of March 2015 and a deadline of July 1, 2015, to reach a final comprehensive agreement, including relevant technical annexes;

Whereas, in a public speech on January 12, 2015, United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations Samantha Power stated that, ''increasing sanctions would dramatically undermine our efforts to reach this shared goal . . . of getting Iran to give up its nuclear program'';

Whereas, during a press conference on January 16, 2015, Prime Minister David Cameron stated that, ''it's the opinion of the United Kingdom that further sanctions [against Iran] or further threat of sanctions at this point won't actually help to bring the talks to a successful conclusion and they could fracture the international unity that there's been, which has been so valuable in presenting a united front to Iran'';

Whereas, during a press conference on January 16, 2015, President Barack Obama stated, ''On Iran, we remain absolutely committed to ensuring that Iran cannot develop a nuclear weapon. The best way to achieve that now is to create the space for negotiations to succeed. We should not impose further sanctions now; that would be counterproductive and it could put at risk the valuable international unity that has been so crucial to our approach.'';

Whereas any final comprehensive agreement with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran must prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon in any manner;

Whereas any final comprehensive agreement with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran must allow for the prompt reimposition of sanctions if the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran fails to comply with the final comprehensive agreement; and

Whereas Congress retains the sole authority to repeal statutory sanctions against the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the Senate—

(1) reaffirms that it is the policy of the United States that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran will not be allowed to develop a nuclear weapon and that all instruments of United States power and influence must remain on the table to prevent this outcome;

(2) supports the ongoing diplomatic efforts of the United States Government and the members of the P5+1 countries to reach a comprehensive agreement with Iran that prevents Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon;

(3) affirms that support for the prompt reimposition of suspended sanctions as well as the imposition of additional sanctions against Iran would be strong and widespread in the Senate in the event—

(A) negotiations fail to achieve a comprehensive agreement;

(B) Iran violates the Joint Plan of Action; or

(C) Iran violates any final comprehensive agreement on its nuclear program;

(4) agrees that future new sanctions against Iran may include measures further targeting Iran's energy, financial, and strategic economic sectors, and its foreign currency transactions, as well as the designation of additional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran officials linked to its illicit nuclear program and sanctions evasion; and

(5) supports the universal rights and democratic aspirations of the people of Iran.

SENATE RESOLUTION 41—CONGRATULATING THE NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2014 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION TITLE

Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 41

Whereas the North Dakota State University (referred to in this preamble as ''NDSU'') Bison won the 2014 National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as the ''NCAA'') Division I Football Championship Subdivision title game in Frisco, Texas, on January 10, 2015, in a hard-fought victory over the Illinois State Redbirds by a score of 29 to 27;

Whereas NDSU has won 12 NCAA Football Championships;

Whereas NDSU has now won 4 consecutive NCAA Football Championships since 2011, an unprecedented achievement in Football Championship Subdivision history;

Whereas the NDSU Bison have displayed tremendous resilience and skill over the past 4 seasons, with 58 wins to only 3 losses, including a streak of 33 consecutive winning games;

Whereas an estimated 17,000 Bison fans attended the Championship game, reflecting the tremendous spirit and dedication of Bison Nation that has helped propel the success of the team; and

Whereas the 2014 NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision title was a victory not only for the NDSU football team, but also for the entire State of North Dakota: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the North Dakota State University football team as the 2014 champion of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision;

(2) commends the North Dakota State University players, coaches, and staff for their hard work and dedication; and

(3) recognizes the students, alumni, and loyal fans that supported the Bison in their successful quest to capture another Division I trophy for North Dakota State University.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 144. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 145. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 146. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 147. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 148. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. UDALL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 149. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 150. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 151. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 75 proposed by Mr. CARDIN to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 152. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 153. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 154. Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 155. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 156. Mr. REED (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 157. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 158. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 159. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 160. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 161. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 162. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 163. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 164. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 165. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 166. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 167. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 168. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 169. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 170. Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 171. Mrs. BOXER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 172. Mrs. BOXER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 173. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 98 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 174. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 175. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 176. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 177. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 178. Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 179. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 180. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 142 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 181. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 146 submitted by Mr. MANCHIN and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 182. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 149 submitted by Mrs. GILLIBRAND and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 183. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 170 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 184. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 178 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 185. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 141 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 186. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 140 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 187. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 139 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 188. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 138 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 189. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 137 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 190. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 134 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 191. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 130 submitted by Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 192. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 128 submitted by Mrs. BOXER and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 193. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 121 submitted by Mr. CARPER to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 194. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 9 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 195. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 10 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 196. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 37 submitted by Mr. MANCHIN and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 197. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 54 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 198. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 55 submitted by Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 199. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 57 submitted by Mrs. BOXER and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 200. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 82 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr.

DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 201. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 81 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 202. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 70 submitted by Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 203. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 131 submitted by Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 204. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 59 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 205. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 59 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 206. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 59 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 207. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 116 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 208. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 60 submitted by Mr. MENENDEZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 209. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 60 submitted by Mr. MENENDEZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 210. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 60 submitted by Mr. MENENDEZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 211. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 31 submitted by Mr. KAINE and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 212. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 31 submitted by Mr. KAINE and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 213. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 31 submitted by Mr. KAINE and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 214. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 114 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 215. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 114 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 216. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 114 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 217. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 115 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 218. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 115 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 219. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 11 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 220. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 11 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 221. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 11 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 222. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 8 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 223. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 8 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 224. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 8 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 225. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 7 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 226. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 7 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 227. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 7 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO)

to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 228. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 12 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 229. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 12 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 230. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 12 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 231. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 6 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 232. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 6 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 233. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 6 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 234. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 115 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 235. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 145 submitted by Mr. MANCHIN and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 236. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 145 submitted by Mr. MANCHIN and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 237. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 145 submitted by Mr. MANCHIN and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 238. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 55 submitted by Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 239. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 75 proposed by Mr. CARDIN to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 240. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 59 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 241. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 242. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 144. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. FOREST CARBON INCENTIVES PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CLIMATE MITIGATION CONTRACT; CONTRACT.—The term ''climate mitigation contract'' or ''contract'' means a 15-year contract that specifies—

(A) the eligible practices that will be undertaken;

(B) the acreage of eligible land on which the practices will be undertaken;

(C) the agreed rate of compensation per acre; and

(D) a schedule to verify that the terms of the contract have been fulfilled.

(2) CONSERVATION EASEMENT AGREEMENT; AGREEMENT.—The term ''conservation easement agreement'' or ''agreement'' means a permanent conservation easement that—

(A) covers eligible land that will not be converted for development;

(B) is enrolled under a climate mitigation contract; and

(C) is consistent with the guidelines for—

(i) the Forest Legacy Program established under section 7 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2103c); or

(ii) any other program approved by the Secretary for use under this section to provide consistency with Federal legal requirements for permanent conservation easements.

(3) ELIGIBLE LAND.—The term ''eligible land'' means forest land in the United States that is privately owned at the time of initiation of a climate mitigation contract or conservation easement agreement.

(4) ELIGIBLE PRACTICE.—The term ''eligible practice'' means a forestry practice, including improved forest management that produces marketable forest products, that is determined by the Secretary to provide measurable increases in carbon sequestration and storage beyond customary practices on comparable land.

(5) FOREST CARBON INCENTIVES PROGRAM; PROGRAM.—The term ''forest carbon incentives program'' or ''program'' means the forest carbon incentives program established under subsection (b)(1).

(6) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(b) SUPPLEMENTAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTIONS IN UNITED STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a forest carbon incentives program to achieve supplemental greenhouse gas emission reductions and carbon sequestration on private forest land of the United States through—

(A) climate mitigation contracts; and

(B) conservation easement agreements.

(2) PRIORITY.—In selecting projects under this subsection, the Secretary shall provide a priority for contracts and agreements—

(A) that sequester the most carbon on a per acre basis; and

(B) that create forestry jobs or protect habitats and achieve significant other environmental, economic, and social benefits.

(3) ELIGIBILITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—To participate in the program, an owner of eligible land shall enter into a climate mitigation contract.

(B) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PROGRAMS.—An owner or operator shall not be prohibited from participating in the program due to participation of the owner or operator in other Federal or State conservation assistance programs.

(4) REVERSALS.—In developing regulations for climate mitigation contracts under this subsection, the Secretary shall specify requirements to address intentional or unintentional reversal of carbon sequestration during the contract and agreement period.

(c) INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide to owners of eligible land financial incentive payments for—

(A) eligible practices that measurably increase carbon sequestration and storage over a designated period on eligible land, as specified through a climate mitigation contract; and

(B) subject to paragraph (2), conservation easements on eligible land covered under a conservation easement agreement.

(2) NO CONSERVATION EASEMENT AGREEMENT REQUIRED.—Eligibility for financial incentive payments under a climate mitigation contract described in paragraph (1)(A) shall not require a conservation easement agreement.

(d) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue regulations that specify eligible practices and related compensation rates, standards, and guidelines as the basis for entering into the program with owners of eligible land.

(e) SET-ASIDE OF FUNDS FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—At the discretion of the Secretary, a portion of program funds made available under this program for a fiscal year may be used—

(A) to develop forest carbon modeling and methodologies that will improve the projection of carbon gains for any forest practices made eligible under the program;

(B) to provide additional incentive payments for specified management activities

that increase the adaptive capacity of land under a climate mitigation contract; and

(C) for the Forest Inventory and Analysis Program of the Forest Service to develop improved measurement and monitoring of forest carbon stocks.

(2) PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—In establishing the program, the Secretary shall provide that funds provided under this section shall not be substituted for, or otherwise used as a basis for reducing, funding authorized or appropriated under other programs to compensate owners of eligible land for activities that are not covered under the program.

(f) PROGRAM MEASUREMENT, MONITORING, VERIFICATION, AND REPORTING.—

(1) MEASUREMENT, MONITORING, AND VERIFICATION.—The Secretary shall establish and implement protocols that provide monitoring and verification of compliance with the program, including both direct and indirect effects and any reversal of sequestration.

(2) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—At least annually, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that contains—

(A) an estimate of annual and cumulative reductions achieved as a result of the program, determined using standardized measures, including measures of economic efficiency;

(B) a summary of any changes to the program that will be made as a result of program measurement, monitoring, and verification;

(C) the total number of acres enrolled in the program by method; and

(D) a State-by-State summary of the data.

(3) AVAILABILITY OF REPORT.—Each report required by this subsection shall be available to the public through the website of the Department of Agriculture.

(4) PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS.—At least once every 2 years the Secretary shall adjust eligible practices and compensation rates for future climate mitigation contracts based on the results of monitoring under paragraph (1) and reporting under paragraph (2).

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as are necessary.

SA 145. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING CLIMATE CHANGE.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) Congress is in agreement with the opinion of virtually the entire worldwide scientific community and a growing number of top national security experts, economists, and others that—

(A) climate change is real;

(B) human activities contribute to climate change; and

(C) climate change has already begun to cause problems in the United States and around the world;

(2) the Energy Information Administration projects that fossil fuels could continue to produce 68 percent of the electricity in the United States through 2040; and

(3) it is imperative that the United States invest in research and development for clean fossil fuel technology.

SA 146. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2, line 3, insert ", on the condition that any steel purchased or used for the construction, operation, or maintenance of the pipeline and cross-border facilities after the date of enactment of this Act shall be manufactured in the United States, or, if the steel purchased or used is not manufactured in the United States, TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, L.P. shall certify that no such steel is available for purchase" before the period.

SA 147. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

After section 2, insert the following:

Section ____. Sense of Congress Regarding Green Building Programs.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) The U.S. building sector consumes nearly 40 percent of the nation's energy.

(2) Investments in building efficiency are among the most cost-effective, energy-saving measures the federal government can deploy to save money for taxpayers, families and businesses, grow the domestic economy, create jobs, reduce emissions and make the United States more energy secure.

i. The State Energy Program converts every dollar of federal finding into $7.22 in energy cost savings, according to a study by Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The study also found that for every $1 of State Energy Program federal funding, the program leverages $10.71 in state and non-federal funds.

ii. The Weatherization Assistance Program saves low-income families up to 22.9 percent on their home energy costs.

iii. From 2009 to 2011, the Federal Energy Management Program arranged energy savings performance contracts that leveraged almost $1.2 billion in private-sector investment to save the federal government and taxpayers more than $3.5 billion in energy and water costs.

iv. A 2012 analysis of federal appliance and equipment efficiency standards prepared by the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy and the Appliance Standards Awareness Project found that federal efficiency standards already established would save consumers about $27 billion in 2010, increasing to $61 billion in 2025.

(3) Federal building energy efficiency programs related to the construction and operations and maintenance of buildings play a key role in cost-effectively reducing energy and water waste in both the private and public sector.

(4) Reducing energy and water use in buildings requires a network of federal programs that strategically target different segments of the diverse building sector and use a variety of approaches.

(5) The Government Accountability Office report, entitled "2012 Annual Report: Opportunities to Reduce Duplication, Overlap and Fragmentation, Achieve Savings, and Enhance Revenue" recommends enhanced coordination between agencies to increase effectiveness of complimentary programs. This report did not find any specific instances of program duplication and it did not recommend the elimination of any green building programs.

(b) Sense of Congress—It is the sense of Congress that—

1. The federal government successfully employs a variety of federal green building programs to address the complex challenge of reducing energy and water waste in buildings.

2. Federal green building programs save U.S. families, taxpayers and businesses energy and money, boost domestic job creation and strengthen the U.S. economy.

3. The federal government should encourage enhanced coordination between agencies, State and local governments, tribes and the private-sector to increase continued effectiveness and avoid unnecessary duplication of federal green building programs.

SA 148. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. UDALL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. ____. CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURES BY THOSE PROFITING FROM TAR SANDS DEVELOPMENT.

Section 304 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1974 (52 U.S.C. 30104) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(j) DISCLOSURE BY TAR SANDS BENEFICIARIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—

"(A) INITIAL DISCLOSURE.—Every covered entity which has made covered disbursements and received covered transfers in an aggregate amount in excess of $10,000 during the period beginning on December 1, 2012, and ending on the date that is 165 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection shall file with the Commission a statement containing the information described in paragraph (2) not later than the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection.

"(B) SUBSEQUENT DISCLOSURES.—Every covered entity which makes covered disbursements (other than covered disbursement reported under subparagraph (A))and received covered transfers (other than a covered transfer reported under subparagraph (A)) in an aggregate amount in excess of $10,000 during any calendar year shall, within 48 hours of each disclosure date, file with the Commission a statement containing the information described in paragraph (2).

"(2) CONTENTS OF STATEMENT.—Each statement required to be filed under this subsection shall be made under penalty of perjury and shall contain the following information:

"(A) The identification of the person making the disbursement or receiving the transfer, of any person sharing or exercising direction or control over the activities of such person, and of the custodian of the books and accounts of the person making the disbursement or receiving the transfer.

"(B) The principal place of business of the person making the disbursement or receiving the transfer, if not an individual.

"(C) The amount of each disbursement or transfer of more than $200 during the period covered by the statement and the identification of the person to whom the disbursement was made or from whom the transfer was received.

"(D) The elections to which the disbursements or transfers pertain and the names (if known) of the candidates involved.

"(E) If the disbursements were paid out of a segregated bank account which consists of funds contributed solely by individuals who are United States citizens or nationals or lawfully admitted for permanent residence

(as defined in section 101(a)(20) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(20))) directly to this account for electioneering communications, the names and addresses of all contributors who contributed an aggregate amount of $1,000 or more to that account during—

''(i) in the case of a statement under paragraph (1)(A), during the period described in such paragraph, and

''(ii) in the case of a statement under paragraph (1)(B), the period beginning on the first day of the preceding calendar year and ending on the disclosure date.

Nothing in this subparagraph is to be construed as a prohibition on the use of funds in such a segregated account for a purpose other than covered disbursements.

''(F) If the disbursements were paid out of funds not described in subparagraph (E), the names and addresses of all contributors who contributed an aggregate amount of $1,000 or more to the person making the disbursement during—

''(i) in the case of a statement under paragraph (1)(A), during the period described in such paragraph, and

''(ii) in the case of a statement under paragraph (1)(B), the period beginning on the first day of the preceding calendar year and ending on the disclosure date.

''(3) COVERED ENTITY.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'covered entity' means—

''(i) any person who is described in subparagraph (B), and

''(ii) any person who owns 5 percent or more of any person described in subparagraph (B).

''(B) PERSON DESCRIBED.—A person is described in this subparagraph if such person—

''(i) holds one or more tar sands leases, or

''(ii) has received revenues or stands to receive revenues of $1,000,000 or greater from tar sands production, including revenues received in connection with—

''(I) exploration of tar sands;

''(II) extraction of tar sands;

''(III) processing of tar sands;

''(IV) building, maintaining, and upgrading the Keystone XL pipeline and other related pipelines used in connection with tar sands;

''(V) expanding refinery capacity or building, expanding, and retrofitting import and export terminals in connection with tar sands;

''(VI) transportation by pipeline, rail, and barge of tar sands;

''(VII) refinement of tar sands;

''(VIII) importing crude, refined oil, or byproducts derived from tar sands crude;

''(IX) exporting crude, byproducts, or refined oil derived from tar sands crude; and

''(X) use of production byproducts from tar sands, such as petroleum coke for energy generation.

''(C) TAR SANDS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'tar sands' means bitumen from the West Canadian Sedimentary Basin.

''(4) COVERED DISBURSEMENT.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'covered disbursement' means a disbursement for any of the following:

''(A) An independent expenditure.

''(B) A broadcast, cable, or satellite communication (other than a communication described in subsection (f)(3)(B)) which—

''(i) refers to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office;

''(ii) is made—

''(I) in the case of a communication which refers to a candidate for an office other than President or Vice President, during the period beginning on January 1 of the calendar year in which a general or runoff election is held and ending on the date of the general or runoff election (or in the case of a special election, during the period beginning on the date on which the announcement with respect to such election is made and ending on the date of the special election); or

''(II) in the case of a communication which refers to a candidate for the office of President or Vice President, is made in any State during the period beginning 120 days before the first primary election, caucus, or preference election held for the selection of delegates to a national nominating convention of a political party is held in any State (or, if no such election or caucus is held in any State, the first convention or caucus of a political party which has the authority to nominate a candidate for the office of President or Vice President) and ending on the date of the general election; and

''(iii) in the case of a communication which refers to a candidate for an office other than President or Vice President, is targeted to the relevant electorate (within the meaning of subsection (f)(3)(C)).

''(C) A transfer to another person for the purposes of making a disbursement described in subparagraph (A) or (B).

''(5) COVERED TRANSFER.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'covered transfer' means any amount received by a covered entity for the purposes of making a covered disbursement.

''(6) DISCLOSURE DATE.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'disclosure date' means—

''(A) the first date during any calendar year by which a person has made covered disbursements and received covered transfers aggregating in excess of $10,000; and

''(B) any other date during such calendar year by which a person has made covered disbursements and received covered transfers aggregating in excess of $10,000 since the most recent disclosure date for such calendar year.

''(7) CONTRACTS TO DISBURSE; COORDINATION WITH OTHER REQUIREMENTS; ETC,.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (5), (6), and (7) of subsection (f) shall apply for purposes of this subsection.''.

SA 149. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall not take effect until the date that, pursuant to an Act of Congress, the limit on liability for oil spills at onshore facilities is modified to be unlimited.

SA 150. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. COMMUNITY RIGHT TO PROTECT LOCAL WATER SUPPLIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act and prior to construction of the pipeline described in section 2(a), the President, or the designee of the President, shall provide to each municipality or county that relies on drinking water from a source that may be affected by a tar sands spill from the pipeline an analysis based on the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement referred to in section 2(b) of the potential risks to public health and the environment from a leak or rupture of that pipeline.

(b) NOTIFICATION TO GOVERNORS.—The President shall provide a copy of the analysis described in subsection (a) to the Governor of each State in which an affected municipality or county is located.

(c) EFFECT ON CONSTRUCTION.—Construction of the pipeline described in section 2(a) may not begin if the Governor of a State with an affected municipality or county submits, not later than 30 days after receiving an analysis under subsection (b), a petition to the President requesting that the pipeline not be located in the affected municipality or county.

(d) WITHDRAWAL.—A petitioner may withdraw a petition submitted by that petitioner under subsection (c) at any time.

SA 151. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 75 proposed by Mr. CARDIN to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and, insert the following:

. _____. COMMUNITY RIGHT TO PROTECT LOCAL WATER SUPPLIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act and prior to construction of the pipeline described in section 2(a), the President, or the designee of the President, shall provide to each municipality or county that relies on drinking water from a source that may be affected by a tar sands spill from the pipeline an analysis based on the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement referred to in section 2(b) of the potential risks to public health and the environment from a leak or rupture of that pipeline.

(b) NOTIFICATION TO GOVERNORS.—The President shall provide a copy of the analysis described in subsection (a) to the Governor of each State in which an affected municipality or county is located.

(c) EFFECT ON CONSTRUCTION.—Construction of the pipeline described in section 2(a) may not begin if the Governor of a State with an affected municipality or county submits, not later than 30 days after receiving an analysis under subsection (b), a petition to the President requesting that the pipeline not be located in the affected municipality or county.

(d) WITHDRAWAL.—A petitioner may withdraw a petition submitted by that petitioner under subsection (c) at any time.

SA 152. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. THIRD-PARTY CERTIFICATION UNDER ENERGY STAR PROGRAM.

Section 324A of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6294a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) THIRD-PARTY CERTIFICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall revise the certification requirements for the labeling of consumer, home, and office electronic products for program partners that have complied with all requirements of the Energy Star program for a period of at least 18 months.

''(2) ADMINISTRATION.—In the case of a program partner described in paragraph (1), the new requirements under paragraph (1)—

''(A) shall not require third-party certification for a product to be listed; but

''(B) may require that test data and other product information be submitted to facilitate product listing and performance verification for a sample of products.

''(3) THIRD PARTIES.—Nothing in this subsection prevents the Administrator from using third parties in the course of the administration of the Energy Star program.

''(4) TERMINATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), an exemption from third-party certification provided to a program partner under paragraph (1) shall terminate if the program partner is found to have violated program requirements with respect to at least 2 separate models during a 2-year period.

''(B) RESUMPTION.—A termination for a program partner under subparagraph (A) shall cease if the program partner complies with all Energy Star program requirements for a period of at least 3 years.''.

SA 153. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. FEDERAL BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.

Section 305(a)(3)(D) of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6834(a)(3)(D)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking subclause (III) and inserting the following:

''(III) SUSTAINABLE DESIGN PRINCIPLES.—

''(aa) IN GENERAL.—Sustainable design principles shall be applied to the siting, design, and construction of buildings covered by this clause.

''(bb) SELECTION OF CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS.—The Secretary, after reviewing the findings of the Federal Director under section 436(h) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17092(h)), in consultation with the Administrator of General Services, and in consultation with the Secretary of Defense relating to those facilities under the custody and control of the Department of Defense, shall determine those certification systems for green commercial and residential buildings that the Secretary determines to be the most likely to encourage a comprehensive and environmentally sound approach to certification of green buildings.

''(cc) BASIS FOR SELECTION.—The determination of the certification systems shall be based on ongoing review of the findings of the Federal Director under section 436(h) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17092(h)) and the criteria described in clause (iii).

''(dd) ADMINISTRATION.—In determining certification systems under this subclause, the Secretary shall—

''(AA) make a separate determination for all or part of each system;

''(BB) use criteria that does not prohibit, disfavor, or discriminate against any specific technology, brand, product, or material based on a hazard characteristic or other arbitrary measure and is based on an objective assessment of relevant technical data; and

''(CC) use environmental and health criteria that are based on risk assessment methodology that is generally accepted by the applicable scientific disciplines.'';

(2) in clause (iii), by striking ''identifying the green building certification system and level'' and inserting ''determining the green building certification systems'';

(3) by redesignating clauses (vi) and (vii) as clauses (vii) and (viii), respectively;

(4) by striking clauses (iv) and (v) and inserting the following:

''(iv) REVIEW.—The Secretary shall conduct an ongoing review to evaluate and compare private sector green building certification systems, taking into account—

''(I) the criteria described in clause (iii); and

''(II) the identification made by the Federal Director under section 436(h) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17092(h)).

''(v) EXCLUSIONS.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subclause (II), if a certification system fails to meet the review requirements of clause (i)(III), the Secretary shall—

''(aa) identify the portions of the system, whether prerequisites, credits, points, or otherwise, that meet the review criteria of clause (i)(III);

''(bb) determine the portions of the system that are suitable for use; and

''(cc) exclude all other portions of the system from identification and use.

''(II) ENTIRE SYSTEMS.—The Secretary shall exclude an entire system from use if an exclusion under subclause (I)—

''(aa) impedes the integrated use of the system;

''(bb) creates disparate review criteria or unequal point access for competing materials; or

''(cc) increases agency costs of the use.

''(vi) INTERNAL CERTIFICATION PROCESSES.—The Secretary may by rule allow Federal agencies to develop internal certification processes, using certified professionals, in lieu of certification by certification entities identified under clause (i)(III).''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(ix) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

''(I) DETERMINATIONS MADE AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2015.—The amendments made by section _____ of the Keystone XL Pipeline Approval Act shall apply to any determination made by a Federal agency after December 31, 2015.

''(II) DETERMINATIONS MADE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2015.—This subparagraph (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Keystone XL Pipeline Approval Act) shall apply to any determination made by a Federal agency on or before December 31, 2015.''.

SEC. _____. HIGH-PERFORMANCE GREEN FEDERAL BUILDINGS.

Section 436(h) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17092(h)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking ''SYSTEM'' and inserting ''SYSTEMS'';

(2) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Based on an ongoing review, the Federal Director shall identify and shall provide to the Secretary pursuant to section 305(a)(3)(D) of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6834(a)(3)(D)), a list of those certification systems that the Director identifies as the most likely to encourage a comprehensive and environmentally sound approach to certification of green buildings.''; and

(3) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''system'' and inserting ''systems'';

(B) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

''(A) an ongoing review provided to the Secretary pursuant to section 305(a)(3)(D) of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6834(a)(3)(D)), which shall—

''(i) be carried out by the Federal Director to compare and evaluate standards; and

''(ii) allow any developer or administrator of a rating system or certification system to be included in the review;'';

(C) in subparagraph (E)(v), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(D) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

''(G) a finding that, for all credits addressing grown, harvested, or mined materials, the system promotes the use of domestic products that have obtained certifications of responsible sourcing; and

''(H) a finding that the system incorporates life-cycle assessment as a credit pathway.''.

SA 154. Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2, strike line 24 and all that follows through page 3, line 9, and insert the following:

(d) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect—

(1) the availability or scope of judicial review under chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code, or any other provision of law, of any agency action relating to—

(A) the pipeline or cross-border facilities described in subsection (a); or

(B) any related facility in the United States; or

(2) the form or venue of any proceeding for, or the court with jurisdiction of an action seeking, judicial review of an agency action described in paragraph (1).

SA 155. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 2, add the following:

(f) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in subsection (b) relieves any Federal agency of the obligation of the Federal agency to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

(42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), including the obligation of the Federal agency to prepare a supplement to the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement described in subsection (b) in connection with the issuance of any permit or authorization needed to construct, connect, operate, or maintain the pipeline and cross-border facilities described in subsection (a) if there are significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the environmental impacts resulting from the construction, connection, operation, and maintenance of the pipeline and cross-border facilities, including from greenhouse gas emissions associated with the crude oil being transported by the pipeline.

SA 156. Mr. REED (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF THE SENATE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (referred to in this section as ''LIHEAP'') is the main Federal program that helps low-income households and senior citizens with their energy bills, providing vital assistance during both the cold winter and hot summer months.

(2) Recipients of LIHEAP assistance are among the most vulnerable individuals in the country, with about 90 percent of LIHEAP households having at least one member who is a child, a senior citizen, or disabled, and approximately 20 percent of LIHEAP households including at least one veteran.

(3) The number of households eligible for LIHEAP assistance continues to exceed available funding, with current funding reaching just 20 percent of the eligible population.

(4) The average LIHEAP grant covers just a fraction of home energy costs, leaving many low-income families and senior citizens struggling to pay their energy bills and with fewer resources available to meet other essential needs.

(5) Access to affordable home energy is a matter of health and safety for many low-income households, children, senior citizens, individuals with disabilities, and veterans.

(6) Funding LIHEAP at $4,700,000,000 annually would ensure that more low-income households, households with children, senior citizens, individuals with disabilities, and veterans can meet basic home energy needs.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that LIHEAP should be funded at not less than $4,700,000,000 annually.

(c) DATE OF ENACTMENT.—This section takes effect on the day after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 157. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. REPORT ON ENERGY SECURITY.

Not later than 1 year after the date on which the pipeline and cross-border facilities described in section 2(a) begin operating and annually thereafter for the next 10 years, the Secretary of Energy shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the effect of the pipeline and cross-border facilities with respect to the energy matters of the United States considered in section 1.4 of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Keystone XL Pipeline project.

SA 158. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. REPORT ON FEDERAL PERMITTING EFFICIENCY.

Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that identifies—

(1) whether the more than 2,300-day process associated with the approval of the application described in section 2(a) meets the goal of Executive Order 13337 (3 U.S.C. 301 note; relating to issuance of permits with respect to certain energy-related facilities and land transportation crossings on the international boundaries of the United States) to ''expedite reviews of permits as necessary to accelerate the completion of energy and transmission projects''; and

(2) a full accounting for the hours of Federal employees, and all associated costs to taxpayers, that were devoted to the review of the cross-border permit application for the Keystone XL Pipeline during the period beginning on September 19, 2008, and ending on the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 159. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 2 of the amendment, add the following:

(f) REPORT ON THE MOST ENVIRONMENTALLY BENEFICIAL MODE OF TRANSPORTING OIL BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall, based on a review of the final environmental impact statement described in subsection (b), submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that identifies the mode of transportation for oil between the United States and Canada that is estimated to result in—

(1) the lowest number of injuries and fatalities;

(2) the lowest volume of oil spilled; and

(3) the lowest transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions.

SA 160. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section of 2 of the amendment, add the following:

(f) PROHIBITION OF ADDITIONAL FEDERAL MITIGATION MEASURES FOR CONNECTED ACTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—No Federal agency shall require mitigation measures with respect to any of the specific projects identified in section 4.8.5 of the final environmental statement described in subsection (b) that are in addition to the mitigation measures described in that subsection.

(2) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in paragraph (1) prevents a State or local agency from requiring mitigation measures with respect to the projects referred to in that paragraph under applicable State or local law.

SA 161. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 2 of the amendment, strike subsection (c) and insert the following:

(c) PERMITS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any Federal permit or authorization issued before the date of enactment of this Act for the pipeline and cross-border facilities referred to in subsection (a) shall remain in effect.

(2) PERMITTING CERTAINTY.—On the completion of the permitting process with respect to the pipeline and cross-border facilities described in subsection (a), the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall not restrict activities allowed under a permit issued under section 404(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344(c)) with respect to the pipeline.

SA 162. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE STUDY.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study that determines the number of construction jobs and permanent jobs that are projected to be associated with—

(1) the project for the pipeline and cross-border facilities described in section 2(a);

(2) the renewable energy and transmission projects that have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior as of the date of enactment of this Act; and

(3) the renewable energy and transmission projects provided assistance under the temporary loan guarantee program of the Department of Energy under section 1705 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16516).

SA 163. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. REPORT ON THE DEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES ON OIL AND NATURAL GAS PRODUCED IN CERTAIN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that assesses—

(1) whether potential, continued, or growing instability in Yemen, Venezuela, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and other energy-producing countries is likely to impact world oil and natural gas production during the 20-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) whether the construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline would reduce the projected dependence of the United States on oil and natural gas from any of the countries described in paragraph (1) or the regions in which those countries are located.

SA 164. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the

Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 165. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 166. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. __. RELEASE OF CERTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS.

(a) BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LAND.—With respect to Bureau of Land Management land identified as a wilderness study area and recommended for a wilderness designation under section 603(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(a)), if, within 1 year of receiving the recommendation, Congress has not designated the wilderness study area as wilderness, the area shall no longer be subject to—

(1) section 603(c) of that Act; or

(2) Secretarial Order No. 3310 issued by the Secretary of the Interior on December 22, 2010.

(b) FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE LAND.—With respect to land administered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service that has been recommended by the President or the Secretary of the Interior for designation as wilderness under the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), if, within 1 year of receiving the recommendation, Congress has not designated the land as wilderness, the land shall no longer be managed in a manner that protects the wilderness character of the land.

SA 167. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.

No area of the coastal plain (as defined in section 1002 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3142)) shall be managed as a wilderness study area without the express authorization of Congress.

SA 168. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 2, strike line 7 and all that follows through line 23 on page 3 and insert the following:

cross-border facilities described in the application filed on May 4, 2012, by TransCanada Corporation to the Department of State (including any subsequent revision to the pipeline route within the State of Nebraska required or authorized by the State of Nebraska).

(b) PERMITS.—Any Federal permit or authorization issued before the date of enactment of this Act for the cross-border facilities referred to in subsection (a) shall remain in effect.

(c) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Except for review in the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit shall have original and exclusive jurisdiction over any civil action for the review of an order or action of a Federal agency regarding the cross-border facilities described in subsection (a), and the related facilities in the United States, that are approved by this Act (including any order granting a permit or right-of-way, or any other agency action taken to construct or complete the project pursuant to Federal law).

(d) PRIVATE PROPERTY SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this Act alters any Federal, State, or local process or condition in effect on the date of enactment of this Act that is necessary to secure access from an owner of private property to construct the cross-border facilities described in subsection (a).

SA 169. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 1, strike line 9 and all that follows through the end of the amendment and insert the following:

cross-border facilities described in the application filed on May 4, 2012, by TransCanada Corporation to the Department of State (including any subsequent revision to the pipeline route within the State of Nebraska required or authorized by the State of Nebraska).

(b) PERMITS.—Any Federal permit or authorization issued before the date of enactment of this Act for the cross-border facilities referred to in subsection (a) shall remain in effect.

(c) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Except for review in the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit shall have original and exclusive jurisdiction over any civil action for the review of an order or action of a Federal agency regarding the cross-border facilities described in subsection (a), and the related facilities in the United States, that are approved by this Act (including any order granting a permit or right-of-way, or any other agency action taken to construct or complete the project pursuant to Federal law).

(d) PRIVATE PROPERTY SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this Act alters any Federal, State, or local process or condition in effect on the date of enactment of this Act that is necessary to secure access from an owner of private property to construct the cross-border facilities described in subsection (a).

SA 170. Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 2, add the following:

(f) LIMITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), none of the crude oil and bitumen transported into the United States by the operation of the Keystone XL pipeline under the authority provided by subsection (a), and none of the refined petroleum fuel products originating from that crude oil or bitumen, may be exported from the United States.

(2) WAIVERS AUTHORIZED.—The President may waive the limitation described in paragraph (1) if—

(A) the President determines that a waiver is in the national interest because it—

(i) will not lead to an increase in domestic consumption of crude oil or refined petroleum products obtained from countries hostile to the interests of the United States or with political and economic instability that compromises energy supply security; and

(ii) will not lead to higher gasoline costs to consumers than consumers would pay in the absence of the waiver;

(B) an exchange of crude oil or refined product provides for no net loss of crude oil or refined product consumed domestically; or

(C) a waiver is necessary under the Constitution, a law, or an international agreement.

SA 171. Mrs. BOXER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

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

(1) Congress supports the permanent protection of public land as National Monuments and other appropriate designations for the preservation and benefit of future generations;

(2) National Monuments should focus on historic and natural features and cultural

sites on Federal land deserving of protection; and

(3) public input from local communities, bipartisan elected leaders, and interested stakeholders, existing land use rights, and existing criteria enumerated in established law should be considered in making recommendations for potential National Monuments.

SA 172. Mrs. BOXER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

(1) Federal law enforcement officers protect the public and put their lives at risk every day;

(2) it is necessary for officers to carry firearms to protect themselves in dangerous situations;

(3) Federal law enforcement officers are required to follow detailed guidelines on the use of their firearms; and

(4) Environmental Protection Agency law enforcement officers are required to—

(A) follow guidelines originally established by the attorney general of President George H.W. Bush; and

(B) complete the same training as all other Federal law enforcement officers, including officers for the Secret Service, Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, the Federal Protective Service, and the United States Marshals Service.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) Environmental Protection Agency law enforcement officers should follow all applicable Federal laws (including regulations), policies, and practices; and

(2) if an Environmental Protection Agency law enforcement officer fails to follow applicable laws (including regulations), policies, and practices, or is found to engage in illegal or improper conduct, the officer should be held fully accountable under applicable laws.

SA 173. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 98 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, strike line 3 and all that follows through the end of the amendment and insert the following:

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund, with the objective of helping developing countries deal with the impacts of climate change and advancing mitigation efforts;

(2) many communities in the United States, including many rural and indigenous communities, face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries and are also being impacted by climate change;

(3) these communities include indigenous and traditional communities in the Arctic region of the United States;

(4) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural and other vulnerable communities in the United States; and

(5) the United States should prioritize and fund adaptation projects in vulnerable communities in the United States, including rural and indigenous communities, while also helping to fund climate change adaptation and mitigation in developing countries.

SA 174. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING FUNDING OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROGRAMS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund, with the objective of helping developing countries deal with the impacts of climate change and advancing mitigation efforts;

(2) many communities in the United States, including many rural and indigenous communities, face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries and are also being impacted by climate change;

(3) these communities include indigenous and traditional communities in the Arctic region of the United States;

(4) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural and other vulnerable communities in the United States; and

(5) the United States should prioritize and fund adaptation projects in vulnerable communities in the United States, including rural and indigenous communities, while also helping to fund climate change adaptation and mitigation in developing countries.

SA 175. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. __. CERTIFICATION REGARDING USE OF FIREARMS BY EPA EMPLOYEES.

Section 3063 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting ''certification under subsection (c) and'' after ''Upon''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) Prior to authorizing a law enforcement officer of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry firearms under subsection (a), the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall certify that—

''(1) the officer has been trained in the proper use of a firearm; and

''(2) carrying a firearm is necessary for the officer to carry out the duties of the officer under paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a).''.

SA 176. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 2 of the amendment, strike subsection (b) and insert the following:

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.—The Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State in January 2014, regarding the pipeline referred to in subsection (a), and the environmental analysis, consultation, and review described in that document (including appendices)—

(1) shall be considered to fully satisfy—

(A) all requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

(B) any other provision of law that requires Federal agency consultation or review (including the consultation or review required under section 7(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1536(a))) with respect to the pipeline and facilities referred to in subsection (a); and

(2) shall be modified to include a provision requiring that the designation of National Monuments in any States in which the pipeline or cross-border facilities described in subsection (a) is to be located shall be subject to—

(A) consultation with each unit of local government within the boundaries of which the proposed National Monument is to be located; and

(B) the approval by the Governor and legislature of each State within the boundaries of which the proposed National Monument is to be located.

SA 177. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. REPORT ON FEDERAL PERMITTING EFFICIENCY.

Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that identifies whether the more than 2,300-day process associated with the approval of the application described in section 2(a) meets the goal of Executive Order 13337 (3 U.S.C. 301 note; relating to issuance of permits with respect to certain energy-related facilities and land transportation crossings on the international boundaries of the United States) to ''expedite reviews of permits as necessary to accelerate the completion of energy and transmission projects''.

SA 178. Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. INCLUSION OF OIL DERIVED FROM TAR SANDS AS CRUDE OIL.

This Act shall not take effect prior to 10 days following the date that diluted bitumen and other bituminous mixtures derived from

tar sands or oil sands are treated as crude oil for purposes of section 4612(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SA 179. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. PIPELINE INSPECTIONS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no activities may restrict the pipeline safety inspections described in the prevention and mitigation measures section of the Executive Summary to the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State in January 2014, including aerial surveillance and integrated sensors within the pipeline.

SA 180. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 142 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 181. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 146 submitted by Mr. MANCHIN and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 182. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 149 submitted by Mrs. GILLIBRAND and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 183. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 170 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 184. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 178 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 185. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 141 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 186. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 140 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 187. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 139 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 188. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 138 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN,

Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 189. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 137 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 190. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 134 submitted by Mr. MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 191. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 130 submitted by Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 192. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 128 submitted by Mrs. BOXER and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 193. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 121 submitted by Mr. CARPER to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 194. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 9 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 195. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 10 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 196. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 37 submitted by Mr. MANCHIN and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 197. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 54 submitted by Mr.

MARKEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 198. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 55 submitted by Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 199. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 57 submitted by Mrs. BOXER and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 200. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 82 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 201. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 81 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 202. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 70 submitted by Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 203. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 131 submitted by Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the section, add the following:

(__) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply until the date the Secretary of Energy certifies to Congress that—

(1) at least 12 consecutive editions of the Monthly Energy Review of the Energy Information Administration report that domestic crude oil production has exceeded domestic crude oil consumption for the applicable month; and

(2) the Reference Case of the Annual Energy Outlook for the applicable year projects that domestic crude oil production will exceed domestic crude oil consumption during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 204. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 59 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 205. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 59 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) any payments the United States ultimately makes to the Green Climate Fund will be redistributed to finance adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

(3) none of the eligible developing country parties to the Convention is an Arctic nation;

(4) the residents of the Arctic, many of whom represent vibrant indigenous and traditional cultures, too often face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries;

(5) despite the fact that the United States is an Arctic nation, President Obama has made no similar effort to provide financial assistance to the residents of the United States Arctic region, even though many of those communities have opportunities for adaptation projects;

(6) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural communities in the United States;

(7) the United States should prioritize adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities before allocating any taxpayer dollars to the Green Climate Fund; and

(8) to the extent that Congress appropriates any taxpayer dollars for adaptation, those funds should first be applied to known and anticipated adaptation needs of communities within the United States.

SA 206. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 59 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 207. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 116 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ___. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 208. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 60 submitted by Mr. MENENDEZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ___. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 209. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 60 submitted by Mr. MENENDEZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 210. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 60 submitted by Mr. MENENDEZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) any payments the United States ultimately makes to the Green Climate Fund will be redistributed to finance adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

(3) none of the eligible developing country parties to the Convention is an Arctic nation;

(4) the residents of the Arctic, many of whom represent vibrant indigenous and traditional cultures, too often face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries;

(5) despite the fact that the United States is an Arctic nation, President Obama has made no similar effort to provide financial assistance to the residents of the United States Arctic region, even though many of those communities have opportunities for adaptation projects;

(6) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural communities in the United States;

(7) the United States should prioritize adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities before allocating any taxpayer dollars to the Green Climate Fund; and

(8) to the extent that Congress appropriates any taxpayer dollars for adaptation, those funds should first be applied to known and anticipated adaptation needs of communities within the United States.

SA 211. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 31 submitted by Mr. KAINE and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 212. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 31 submitted by Mr. KAINE and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) any payments the United States ultimately makes to the Green Climate Fund will be redistributed to finance adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

(3) none of the eligible developing country parties to the Convention is an Arctic nation;

(4) the residents of the Arctic, many of whom represent vibrant indigenous and traditional cultures, too often face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries;

(5) despite the fact that the United States is an Arctic nation, President Obama has made no similar effort to provide financial assistance to the residents of the United States Arctic region, even though many of those communities have opportunities for adaptation projects;

(6) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural communities in the United States;

(7) the United States should prioritize adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities before allocating any taxpayer dollars to the Green Climate Fund; and

(8) to the extent that Congress appropriates any taxpayer dollars for adaptation, those funds should first be applied to known and anticipated adaptation needs of communities within the United States.

SA 213. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 31 submitted by Mr. KAINE and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 214. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 114 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 215. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 114 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) any payments the United States ultimately makes to the Green Climate Fund will be redistributed to finance adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

(3) none of the eligible developing country parties to the Convention is an Arctic nation;

(4) the residents of the Arctic, many of whom represent vibrant indigenous and traditional cultures, too often face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries;

(5) despite the fact that the United States is an Arctic nation, President Obama has made no similar effort to provide financial assistance to the residents of the United States Arctic region, even though many of those communities have opportunities for adaptation projects;

(6) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural communities in the United States;

(7) the United States should prioritize adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities before allocating any taxpayer dollars to the Green Climate Fund; and

(8) to the extent that Congress appropriates any taxpayer dollars for adaptation, those funds should first be applied to known and anticipated adaptation needs of communities within the United States.

SA 216. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 114 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 217. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 115 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 218. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed

to amendment SA 115 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) any payments the United States ultimately makes to the Green Climate Fund will be redistributed to finance adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

(3) none of the eligible developing country parties to the Convention is an Arctic nation;

(4) the residents of the Arctic, many of whom represent vibrant indigenous and traditional cultures, too often face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries;

(5) despite the fact that the United States is an Arctic nation, President Obama has made no similar effort to provide financial assistance to the residents of the United States Arctic region, even though many of those communities have opportunities for adaptation projects;

(6) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural communities in the United States;

(7) the United States should prioritize adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities before allocating any taxpayer dollars to the Green Climate Fund; and

(8) to the extent that Congress appropriates any taxpayer dollars for adaptation, those funds should first be applied to known and anticipated adaptation needs of communities within the United States.

SA 219. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 11 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 220. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 11 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) any payments the United States ultimately makes to the Green Climate Fund will be redistributed to finance adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

(3) none of the eligible developing country parties to the Convention is an Arctic nation;

(4) the residents of the Arctic, many of whom represent vibrant indigenous and traditional cultures, too often face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries;

(5) despite the fact that the United States is an Arctic nation, President Obama has made no similar effort to provide financial assistance to the residents of the United States Arctic region, even though many of those communities have opportunities for adaptation projects;

(6) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural communities in the United States;

(7) the United States should prioritize adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities before allocating any taxpayer dollars to the Green Climate Fund; and

(8) to the extent that Congress appropriates any taxpayer dollars for adaptation, those funds should first be applied to known and anticipated adaptation needs of communities within the United States.

SA 221. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 11 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 222. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 8 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 223. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 8 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) any payments the United States ultimately makes to the Green Climate Fund will be redistributed to finance adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

(3) none of the eligible developing country parties to the Convention is an Arctic nation;

(4) the residents of the Arctic, many of whom represent vibrant indigenous and traditional cultures, too often face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries;

(5) despite the fact that the United States is an Arctic nation, President Obama has

made no similar effort to provide financial assistance to the residents of the United States Arctic region, even though many of those communities have opportunities for adaptation projects;

(6) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural communities in the United States;

(7) the United States should prioritize adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities before allocating any taxpayer dollars to the Green Climate Fund; and

(8) to the extent that Congress appropriates any taxpayer dollars for adaptation, those funds should first be applied to known and anticipated adaptation needs of communities within the United States.

SA 224. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 8 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 225. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 7 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 226. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 7 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) any payments the United States ultimately makes to the Green Climate Fund will be redistributed to finance adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

(3) none of the eligible developing country parties to the Convention is an Arctic nation;

(4) the residents of the Arctic, many of whom represent vibrant indigenous and traditional cultures, too often face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries;

(5) despite the fact that the United States is an Arctic nation, President Obama has made no similar effort to provide financial assistance to the residents of the United States Arctic region, even though many of those communities have opportunities for adaptation projects;

(6) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural communities in the United States;

(7) the United States should prioritize adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities before allocating any taxpayer dollars to the Green Climate Fund; and

(8) to the extent that Congress appropriates any taxpayer dollars for adaptation, those funds should first be applied to known and anticipated adaptation needs of communities within the United States.

SA 227. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 7 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 228. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 12 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ____. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 229. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 12 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) any payments the United States ultimately makes to the Green Climate Fund will be redistributed to finance adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

(3) none of the eligible developing country parties to the Convention is an Arctic nation;

(4) the residents of the Arctic, many of whom represent vibrant indigenous and traditional cultures, too often face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries;

(5) despite the fact that the United States is an Arctic nation, President Obama has made no similar effort to provide financial assistance to the residents of the United States Arctic region, even though many of those communities have opportunities for adaptation projects;

(6) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural communities in the United States;

(7) the United States should prioritize adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities before allocating any taxpayer dollars to the Green Climate Fund; and

(8) to the extent that Congress appropriates any taxpayer dollars for adaptation, those funds should first be applied to known and anticipated adaptation needs of communities within the United States.

SA 230. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 12 submitted by Mr. MERKLEY and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 231. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 6 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ___. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 232. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 6 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) any payments the United States ultimately makes to the Green Climate Fund will be redistributed to finance adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

(3) none of the eligible developing country parties to the Convention is an Arctic nation;

(4) the residents of the Arctic, many of whom represent vibrant indigenous and traditional cultures, too often face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries;

(5) despite the fact that the United States is an Arctic nation, President Obama has made no similar effort to provide financial assistance to the residents of the United States Arctic region, even though many of those communities have opportunities for adaptation projects;

(6) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural communities in the United States;

(7) the United States should prioritize adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities before allocating any taxpayer dollars to the Green Climate Fund; and

(8) to the extent that Congress appropriates any taxpayer dollars for adaptation, those funds should first be applied to known and anticipated adaptation needs of communities within the United States.

SA 233. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 6 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 234. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 115 submitted by Mr. COONS and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the

continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 235. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 145 submitted by Mr. MANCHIN and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ___. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON ENERGY COSTS AND SUPPLIES.

It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

(1) reject efforts to impose economy-wide taxes, fees, mandates, or regulations that will—

(A) increase the cost of energy for families and businesses of the United States; or

(B) destroy jobs; and

(2) prioritize policies that encourage and enable innovation in the United States that might lead to energy supplies that are more abundant, affordable, clean, diverse, and secure.

SA 236. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 145 submitted by Mr. MANCHIN and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) President Obama has committed $3,000,000,000 from the United States to the Green Climate Fund of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) any payments the United States ultimately makes to the Green Climate Fund will be redistributed to finance adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

(3) none of the eligible developing country parties to the Convention is an Arctic nation;

(4) the residents of the Arctic, many of whom represent vibrant indigenous and traditional cultures, too often face social and economic challenges that rival those in developing countries;

(5) despite the fact that the United States is an Arctic nation, President Obama has made no similar effort to provide financial assistance to the residents of the United States Arctic region, even though many of those communities have opportunities for adaptation projects;

(6) similar opportunities for adaptation projects exist across rural communities in the United States;

(7) the United States should prioritize adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities before allocating any taxpayer dollars to the Green Climate Fund; and

(8) to the extent that Congress appropriates any taxpayer dollars for adaptation, those funds should first be applied to known and anticipated adaptation needs of communities within the United States.

SA 237. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 145 submitted by Mr. MANCHIN and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FINDINGS OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT.

It is the sense of Congress that Congress is in agreement with the following findings of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement issued by the Secretary of State for the Keystone XL Project (referred to in this section as the ''FSEIS''):

(1) ''The analyses of potential impacts associated with construction and normal operation of the proposed Project suggest that significant impacts to most resources are not expected along the proposed Project route'' (FSEIS page 4.16-1, section 4.16).

(2) ''The total annual GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions (direct and indirect) attributed to the No Action scenarios range from 28 to 42 percent greater than for the proposed Project'' (FSEIS page ES-34, section ES.5.4.2).

(3) ''. . . approval or denial of any one crude oil transport project, including the proposed Project, is unlikely to significantly impact the rate of extraction in the oil sands or the continued demand for heavy crude oil at refineries in the United States based on expected oil prices, oil-sands supply costs, transport costs, and supply-demand scenarios'' (FSEIS page ES-16, section ES.4.1.1).

SA 238. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 55 submitted by Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 1 of the amendment, strike line 4 and all that follows through page 2, line 6, and insert the following:

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of Energy shall compile and make available to the public on the Internet third party studies assessing the potential environmental, energy, and economic impacts of by-products generated from the refining of oil transported through the pipeline referred to in section 2(a), including petroleum coke.

SA 239. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 75 proposed by Mr. CARDIN to the amendment SA 2 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. CAPITO) to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 2 of the amendment, strike line 24 and all that follows through page 4, line 13, and insert the following:

(b) ANALYSIS OF LOCAL WATER SUPPLIES.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President, or the designee of the President, shall provide to each municipality or county that relies on drinking water from a source that may be affected by a tar sands spill from the pipeline an analysis of the potential risks to public health and the environment from a leak or rupture of that pipeline.

SA 240. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 59 submitted by Mr. SCHATZ and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2 of the amendment, line 2, insert before the period the following: '', recognizing that the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) requires only a 'hard look' at alternatives and that the factual basis for the referenced recommendations are subject to change''.

SA 241. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. COMMUNITY RIGHT TO PROTECT LOCAL WATER SUPPLIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act and prior to construction of the pipeline described in section 2(a), the President, or the designee of the President, shall provide to each municipality or county that relies on drinking water from a source that may be affected by a tar sands spill from the pipeline, and to the Governors of each State in which an affected municipality or county is located, an analysis based on the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement described in section 2(b) of the potential risks to public health and the environment from a leak or rupture of that pipeline.

(b) EFFECT ON CONSTRUCTION.—Construction of the pipeline described in section 2(a) may not begin if the Governor of a State with an affected municipality or county submits, not later than 30 days after receiving an analysis under subsection (a), a petition to the President requesting additional review of the pipeline.

(c) WITHDRAWAL.—A Governor may withdraw a petition submitted under subsection (b) at any time.

SA 242. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. _____. COMMUNITY RIGHT TO PROTECT LOCAL WATER SUPPLIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act and prior to construction of the pipeline described in section 2(a), the President, or the designee of the President, shall provide to each municipality or county that relies on drinking water from a source that may be affected by a tar sands spill from the pipeline, and to the Governors of each State in which an affected municipality or county is located, an analysis based on the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement described in section 2(b) of the potential risks to public health and the environment from a leak or rupture of that pipeline.

(b) EFFECT ON CONSTRUCTION.—Construction of the pipeline described in section 2(a) may not begin if the Governor of a State

with an affected municipality or county submits, not later than 30 days after receiving an analysis under subsection (a), a petition to the President requesting additional review of the pipeline.

(c) WITHDRAWAL.—A petitioner may withdraw a petition submitted by that petitioner under subsection (b) at any time.

CONGRATULATING THE NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2014 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION TITLE

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 41, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 41) congratulating the North Dakota State University football team for winning the 2014 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 41) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Committee on Finance, pursuant to section 8002 of title 26, U.S. Code, the designation of the following Senators as members of the Joint Committee on Taxation: the Senator from Utah, Mr. HATCH, the Senator from Iowa, Mr. GRASSLEY, the Senator from Idaho, Mr. CRAPO, the Senator from Oregon, Mr. WYDEN, and the Senator from Michigan, Ms. STABENOW.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2015

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 11 a.m., Tuesday, January 27; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; and the Senate resume consideration of S. 1. I ask that the time until 12:30 p.m. be equally divided, with the Democrats controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half. I further ask that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

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

PROGRAM

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, we continue to talk to Members on both sides of the aisle to set up a path toward passage on this bill that will include some amendment votes on pending amendments and others that are waiting in the queue. We will look to set some of those votes tomorrow after lunch.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator COONS.

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

The Senator from Delaware.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I come to the floor this evening to speak about our ongoing debate about the Keystone XL Pipeline and the need for this debate to shift to a much larger conversation.

Tonight, as we are continuing in what has been 1½ weeks of debate in our Senate about this single, foreign-owned pipeline, it is my hope that we will begin a larger, broader conversation about America's energy and climate needs.

We have so far voted on amendments confirming that climate change is real, on the future of natural gas and oil exports, on energy efficiency provisions, on rules to ensure that we buy American, and on funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the oil-spill fund.

I, myself, have an amendment, No. 115, that I am hoping we will have a chance to take up, debate, vote on, and pass—one that recognizes that given that the Senate has acknowledged the reality of climate change, we must now move forward to take action to prepare to adapt to those changes—changes that have already begun.

I come from the State of Delaware, the lowest mean-elevation State in America, where our Governor, Jack Markell, has led a community-driven process of preparing for adapting to the coming impact on our infrastructure—our public, private, State, local, and Federal infrastructure in Delaware.

We have to recognize that our Federal Government will have financial liabilities to help State, local, and tribal governments prepare for the impacts of climate change on their infrastructure and to prepare for the impacts of climate change on our Federal infrastructure.

My amendment, I hope, will be taken up, debated, and passed, but the larger point I want to make is this is just the beginning of the much larger debate we need to have about our Nation's energy and climate future.

Energy has long been and will remain central to a strong, diverse, and vibrant economy for our Nation. Throughout our history, Americans have benefited greatly from abundant sources of energy at home. From coal to oil to natural gas, we have been blessed by natural resources that have powered our economy. But new challenges today require new approaches. As human-generated greenhouse gas pollution wreaks havoc on our global climate, we need to come together to create a cleaner and lower-carbon energy future.

There is no single pathway to stop climate change or to deal with it, but there are a number of approaches we need to look at and that I hope we will consider taking.

Tonight I wish to briefly mention four different areas where there were bipartisan bills in the last Congress—areas that I hope, in the spirit of comity and debate in the Senate, we could reconsider and make them part of this broader energy and climate debate.

First, we could start by establishing and implementing a national quadrennial energy review which would ensure that every administration, current and future, takes a hard look at our Nation's energy landscape, the challenges that we face, and to build a blue print for how we will deal with these challenges and overcome them.

Today we already conduct these kinds of quadrennial reviews for the Pentagon, for the State Department, and for the Department of Homeland Security. They allow us to take a big picture and strategic look at our policies, our challenges, and to chart a predictable, longer term path forward.

It is time we did the same for our country's energy challenges. This administration is already at work doing this, but Congress needs to act to ensure that future administrations will continue this practice.

Second, we can invest in clean and renewable energy and in energy efficiency technology so that we can outinnovate the rest of the world and lay the groundwork for job creation, not only for today but for tomorrow. We can do this through sustained, annual program funding and through smart and innovative financing models that lower the cost of clean energy, such as expanded master limited partnerships.

Third, we can improve the way our national labs collaborate with the private sector so that the innovation pipeline that takes ideas from the lab to the market is smooth, efficient, and predictable so that today's discoveries are tomorrow's world-changing products.

And, fourth, we can improve STEM education and skills training throughout America so that every day we are training tomorrow's future energy innovators.

We can do this. We need to do these things.

I will admit that at times it can seem quite daunting. But in this country we should have no doubt that if we focus our greatest minds on these challenges, there is no limit to what we can achieve. The bottom line to all this is that we don't have a choice. Pretending otherwise is an exercise in denial.

We need to curb emissions from transportation. We need to reduce pollution from powerplants. We need to better finance clean energy solutions. We need to strengthen our infrastructure so we are more resilient in the face of coming climate challenges. We need to address the real challenges of energy and water demand. We need to improve our regulations so that we do more to protect and conserve our land. And we need to invest in research, development, and the demonstration of new and innovative technologies. Overall, we can and should institute smart and market-based regional and national policies that will lower carbon pollution and send businesses and households the signal that the future is in cleaner not in dirtier energy technology.

We need to do all this and bring the rest of the world along as well because our national energy and climate challenges are not just ours, they are the world's, and we need to come together around the world to get this done. The administration's clean power plan rules and the recently announced accord with China are all great initial steps in this direction. It is my hope as we continue this debate that we will come together in the Senate to show we are willing to rise to these challenges as a nation as well.

Mr. President, for me, all of this ultimately comes down to our obligations—yes, of course, to our Nation, to our constituents, to our home States, but particularly as parents to our children and to future generations. Every day when I get to return home from the train station after taking what is often a late-evening train from Washington to Delaware, I get to see my family, and it is my children who leave me most concerned about the question of whether I will be leaving them a safer and healthier world than we received.

My daughter Maggie in particular is passionate about the environment and is concerned about whether what we do here is not just helping to create jobs today—although that is an important issue for us to turn to—but whether we are helping to preserve our world for tomorrow. Maggie helps keep me focused not just on this quarter, this month, this election, or this term, but on the next 50 years and on whether what we do here leaves to our children and their children a cleaner and a better and brighter future. That is what our focus should be—on the future, on what we are doing not just for today but for tomorrow and all the days after that.

I hope when the debate about this one pipeline is over we will refocus our energies on the bigger picture and on the great and big challenges we face together. That is what we get elected to do, and that is what our time demands.

AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I would like to speak for a few minutes about our Nation's economic relationship with Africa and one area of concern I have as we work toward further strengthening our ties.

Since its passage under President Clinton, the African Growth and Opportunity Act, known as AGOA, has been a powerful tool for increasing trade and boosting economies across the African Continent, and no country has taken greater advantage of the opportunities provided through AGOA than South Africa.

Over the past 4 years, as the chairman of the African Affairs Subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations, I have worked closely with African leaders and know the importance of AGOA to their economies and to their growing middle classes. Just last week I met with a group of African trade ministers who emphasized to me how important prompt reauthorization of AGOA is to them, to their nations, and to tens of thousands of men and women who work in reliance upon AGOA.

AGOA is not a partisan issue. I have worked closely with my Republican colleague and friend from Georgia Senator ISAKSON on its reauthorization. But, as I have also long believed, trade must be fair, and with increased trade comes a responsibility by both parties to play by the same set of rules.

I am concerned because I fear that South Africa's refusal to drop its antidumping duties that prevent American poultry from having free and fair access to the South African market will have negative repercussions for our relationship and South Africa's economy.

Much of the time, nations will use antidumping duties to prevent other countries from exporting artificially cheap goods into their economies, putting their own businesses at an unfair disadvantage. But what South Africa has done for years in this area lacks any merit. They are using the same justification that China has used to ban American poultry imports. They claim our poultry is being sold below market value. Not only is this claim false, the World Trade Organization recently deemed China's nearly identical ban to be illegal.

American companies want the chance to sell healthy, affordable, and safe poultry to South Africa and at a fair market value. So during the Africa leaders summit last August, which brought the heads of state of more than 50 African nations here to Washington and to our Capitol, I had the opportunity to meet with President Zuma of South Africa as well as other South African senior officials. During our meeting we discussed their country's policies toward our country, the importance of renewing AGOA, and also my concerns about their unfair practices with regard to our poultry industry. I was optimistic that following our constructive conversations, we could work together with them and with South Africa's poultry industry to get rid of this inappropriate trade barrier. In September we also had constructive meetings where our Ambassador and their Ambassador were present, and leaders of both poultry sectors began constructive conversation. But soon thereafter their willingness to engage abruptly stopped. They apparently think they can continue to benefit from AGOA and shirk their most basic trade responsibilities.

In my home State of Delaware the poultry industry supports more than 13,000 jobs and has long been the backbone of our agriculture sector. I have made clear to our friends and partners in South Africa that although I deeply believe in their nation's promise and future, my first responsibility is and always will be to my home State and my constituents. Across the country—and Senator ISAKSON's State of Georgia is the single biggest poultry-growing State in the country—the United States supports 1.8 million American jobs, contributing more than $470 billion to our Nation's economy.

So I want to be clear about this tonight, as I have been before. I support AGOA's reauthorization, and I hope we can negotiate a fair path forward. But South Africa cannot expect to continue to reap the benefits of increased trade without following fair trade rules. They can't expect us to open up our markets wide to duty-free and quota-free access for South African goods if they will not fairly open theirs. If they insist on maintaining their longstanding and illegal antidumping duties on American poultry, I will do everything in my power to ensure they do not continue to benefit from AGOA. The choice is theirs.

Senator ISAKSON of Georgia and I communicated this concern to President Zuma back in December in writing, and this week we will write to the Senate Finance Committee with the same message. We only have a short period of time where we can get a long-term extension of AGOA done, and I will work hard to reauthorize and improve AGOA so its benefits are even more widely felt on the continent of Africa, but I won't allow it to include countries that violate fair trade rules, which means an important ally and partner of the United States—South Africa—won't be included if they are not willing to play by the rules. There

are too many jobs at stake, too much work to do to allow a critical trading partner such as South Africa to continue its unfair treatment of American industry.

I hope and pray we can still resolve this needless impasse, but if we don't, my commitment and my path forward is clear.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:29 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, January 27, 2015, at 11 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

SIM FARAR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2015. (REAPPOINTMENT)

SIM FARAR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2018. (REAPPOINTMENT)

WILLIAM JOSEPH HYBL, OF COLORADO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2015. (REAPPOINTMENT)

WILLIAM JOSEPH HYBL, OF COLORADO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2018. (REAPPOINTMENT)

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

DALLAS P. TONSAGER, OF SOUTH DAKOTA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION BOARD, FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION, FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 21, 2020, VICE JILL LONG THOMPSON, TERM EXPIRED.

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 271(E):

To be lieutenant commander

GEORGE F. ADAMS
JOHN E. ADKINS
WILLIAMS C. ALBRIGHT
HILLARY A. ALLEGRETTI
DOUGLAS W. APPERSON
PATRICK N. ARMSTRONG
STEVEN B. ARNWINE
CHRISTOPHER P. ARTAC
CHRISTOPHER A. AUMENT
JPHILIP J. BALEM
CHRISTIAN J. BARGER
JEFFERY C. BARNUM
ERIKA F. E. BARRON
NICHOLAS A. BARROW
SEAN H. BARTONICEK
JAMES A. BATES JR.
EILEEN BECK
MATTHEW M. BECK
WILLIAM W. BELCHER
MICHAEL S. BELL
NATALIA M. BEST
BRENDAN A. BLAIN
TOLAN J. BLANCHARD
ORION R. BLOOM
SARA BOOTH
AMALIA D. BOYER
SARAH E. BRENNAN
DAKATA B. BRODIE
MARK H. BROWN
STEVEN R. BRUGMANN
BRIAN J. BRUNS
BRADLY T. BURNESS
DEREK J. BURRILL
ERIN M. CALDWELL
MATTHEW B. CAPON
KYRA N. CARBAJAL
JANE N. CARLEY
MICHAEL A. CARR
MICHAEL J. CARROLL
LENELL J. CARSON
REY F. CASTILLO
STEPHEN A. CHAINE
WILLIAM R. CHEW
MICHAEL A. CHOCHOLAK
JOEL C. COITO
JUDSON A. COLEMAN
MICHELLE COMEAUX
CHRISTOPHER M. CONDIT
JAMES O. CONNER
MICHAEL P. CORTESE
WILLIAM F. COTY III
TIMOTHY N. CRONIN
BEN W. CROWELL
CHRISTOPHER K. CUMBERLAND
KRISTEN A. CURRAN
CAREN C. DAMON
LEO T. DANAHER
JOSHUA J. DAUBENSPECK
HOLLY J. DEAL
CHAD E. DEJOURNETT
ANTHONY M. DESTEFANO
ANTHONY E. DEWINTER
EDWARD L. DIPIERRO
JOSHUA M. DIPIETRO
ADAM J. DISQUE
MICHAEL J. DOUGHERTY
MEGAN L. DREWNIAK
BENJAMIN J. DUARTE
JAYME L. DUBINSKY
MICHAEL S. DYKEMA
CHAD A. ECKHARDT
DONALD W. EDMON II
SARA M. ELLIS–SANBORN
PATTON J. EPPERSON
JUSTIN M. ERDMAN
RYAN R. ERICKSON
VINCENT E. ESCOBEDO
DANIEL W. EUSTACE
SCOTT L. FARR
BOBBIE–JEAN FELIX
JOHN A. FERREIRA
BRIAN M. FINN
SUSAN M. FISCHER
KIRK C. FISTICK
ARI D. FITZWATER
DONALD F. FLUSCHE
JUSTIN M. FORBES
KARYN S. FORSYTH
PETER F. FRANCISCO
ROCCO W. FRANCO
ZACHARY D. FUENTES
LAUREN U. FULLAM
JEFFREY M. GARVEY
ELIZABETH A. GILLIS
DANIEL A. GONZALES
SARAH P. GRAHAM
SIMON C. GREENE
MARK C. HAINES
JARED A. HARLOW
JONATHAN R. HARRIS
COURTNEY A. HARRISON
ANNA M. HART–WILKINS
WILLIAM K. HAYWOOD
CORYDON F. HEARD
JAMES L. HELLER
KIMBERLY A. HESS
GORDON A. HOOD
SCOTT R. HOULE
ROBERT M. HUNTER
THOMAS J. HUNTLEY
JEFFERY B. HUSTACE
JESSE E. HYLES
KENNETH R. INGRAM
CHRISTOPHER A. JASNOCH
ROXANNE B. JENSEN
ERIC S. JESIONOWSKI
TIFFANY A. JOHNSON
JENNIFER M. JOJOLA
LEE H. JONES
ERICA KELLY
MATTHEW V. KEMPE
ANDREW A. KENNEDY
HAROLD J. KIFFER
BRUCE W. KIMMELL
RAYMOND S. KINGSLEY
JOHN M. KIRK
SCOTT R. KOSER
BRIAN A. KUDRLE
FRANK R. KULESA
GRAHAM E. LANZ
DEWEY E. LAWSON
JAN J. LEAGUE
NICHOLAS D. LEITER
JOHN M. LISKO
AMY M. LOCKWOOD
MICHAEL A. MAAS
JONATHAN R. MACKIN
ANDREW P. MADJESKA
HEATHER M. MAJESKA
BRETT A. MAJOR
ROBERTSON MARQUARDT
THOMAS E. MARSH
MICHAEL T. MARTIN
JUSTIN M. MATEJKA
BENJAMIN D. MAZYCK
CHRISTOPHER N. MCANDREW
JON M. MCCAMISH
MICHAEL D. MCCARTY
KATHRYN A. MCCORMACK
MARC R. MCDONNELL
TYLER J. MCGILL
MICHAEL S. MCGRAIL
JEREMY M. MCKENZIE
RENEE V. MCKINNON
DAVID M. MCLOUGHLIN
JACOB T. MCMILLAN
BRIAN K. MEADOWCROFT
JOSE A. MERCADO
RUSSELL P. MERRICK
MARCUS R. MERRIMAN
PAUL J. MILLER
RYAN C. MILLER
GARY R. MILLS
MATTHEW J. MITCHELL
DANIEL P. MOCHEN
JASON M. MOLINARI
JEREMY J. MONTES
MICHAEL C. MORGAN
FRANKLIN J. MORRISON
SEAN F. MORRISON
MATTHEW K. MOTHANDER
ELLEN M. MOTOI
LISA T. MOTOI
DENNIS R. MOULDER
MICHAEL T. MYERS
GINNY R. NADOLNY
AARON G. NELSON
NATHAN L. NOYES
WAYNE T. O'DONNELL
ANDERSON J. OGG
ERIC D. OLIPHANT
JEFFREY S. OLK
ROLAND T. ORR
BRIERLEY K. OSTRANDER
JEFFREY K. PADILLA
JON P. PARKER
STARR E. PARMLEY
TREVOR E. PARRA
ANDREW L. PASZKIEWICZ
MICHAEL A. PATTERSON
JENNIFER G. PAULSON
KRYSTYN E. PECORA
PIERO A. PECORA
KENNETH E. PEPPER
KRYSIA V. POHL
BRITTANY C. POLEY
RYAN B. POPIEL
CHRISTOPHER D. PRESNELL
MATTHEW J. PRESS
STEVEN L. PUFFER
NICHOLAS O. RAMIREZ
HECTOR R. RAMOS
JEDEDIAH A. RASKIE
DARYL J. REED
RAYMOND J. REICHL
PATRICK S. REID
BENJAMIN M. ROBINSON
MICHAEL T. ROSS
SARAH K. ROUSSEAU
ERIC E. ROY
KYLE T. RUSSELL
JOSHUA H. SAGERS
LARRY J. SANTOS
NATHANIEL F. SARGENT
DERRICK D. SAUNDERS
SHANNON F. SCAFF
MICHELLE M. SCHOPP
MAEGAN R. SCHWARTZ
JOSEPH R. SEMKE
NICHOLAS C. SENIUK
BROOK I. SERBU
BONNIE M. SHANER
REBECCA B. SHULTS
JARED L. SILVERMAN
RICHARD S. SLOCUM
CLINTON P. SMITH
DALLAS D. SMITH
JACK B. SMITH
JUSTIN C. SMITH
KELLY L. SMITH
LAURA M. SPRINGER
ERIC D. STAHL
ROBERT C. STARR
PARRIS R. STRATTON
JUSTIN W. STROCK
RACHEL A. STRYKER
RACHEL A. STUTT
COLLEEN A. SYMANSKY
MICHAEL C. THOMAS
TIMOTHY S. TILGHMAN
JONATHAN T. TILLMAN
GERALYN M. VAN DE KROL
JUSTIN O. VANDENHEUVEL
STEVEN B. VANDERLASKE
ERIC J. VELEZ
OSVALDO E. VERA
GABRIEL T. VIGIL DIAZ
PHILIP C. WADE
JEREMY A. WEISS
JONATHAN I. WELCH
KEITH R. WILKINS
SCOTT K. WILLIAMS
BRADLY G. WINANS
KEITH D. WOOLDRIDGE
MARK L. WYCKOFF
CHRISTOPHER T. YANE
CARLTON D. YOUNG
JEFFREY S. ZAMARIN
JOSHUA L. ZIKE
ANDREW H. ZUCKERMAN

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

KOREY E. AMUNDSON
MICHELE MARIE E. ARMENTROUT
JOHN D. BEATTY
BRUCE M. BENDER
VICKEN ALBERT BEZJIAN
JEANNE E. BISESI
SEAN C. BITTNER
AMY JEANETTE BOEHLE
DANIEL R. BOURQUE
JUDAH C. BRADLEY

WILLIAM M. BRANDT, JR.
WILLIAM R. BRIDGEMOHAN
SCOTT B. CALVERT
MAUREEN B. CARROLL
DAVID M. CASTANEDA
ROBERT D. CHURCHILL, JR.
HOWARD T. CLARK III
LAWRENCE ANDREW COLBY
STEPHEN P. COLVIN
MARK A. DEATON
LAURIE A. DICKSON
MATTHEW A. DORNAN
JOHN L. DOUCET III
GEORGE M. DOUGHERTY
BRIAN A. DOYLE
PETER C. DRAHEIM
PATRICK LAWRENCE DUFRAINE
DENISE J. EDWARDS
ANDREW J. ELBERT
DAVID ANDREW EMERY
STEVEN GREGORY ENGLAND
PATRICK L. ERDMAN
JIM FABIO
WILLIAM J. FRIDAY, JR.
CADE C. GIBSON
JAMES L. GREENWALD
ERIKA L. GRIFFITH
DAVID S. HALES
EDWARD G. HAMILL
GREGORY P. HAYNES
DENIS A. HEINZ
GARY ALAN HELFELDT
CHRISTOPHER J. HOBBS
CHRISTINE FRANCIS HOLLIDAY
RANDALL I. HONKE
RHYS WILLIAM HUNT
PATRICK E. JOCHEM
MAXIE G. JOLLEY II
LORI C. JONES
LYNN E. JUI
AMBER R. KASBEER
THOMAS K. KERR
CHRISTINE P. KLINK
DAVID J. KNOLMAYER
JASON M. KNUDSEN
GREGORY T. LARGEN
ROGER S. LAW
MICHAEL J. LEE
LELAND K. LEONARD
MICHAEL F. LESMAN
DAVID DONALD LESSICK
DAVID E. LINEBACK
DAREL L. LONGYEAR
BRUCE K. LYMAN
CARL J. MAGNUSSON
LISA M. MALONEY
LISA MARIE MANION
TIMOTHY H. MARTZ
JOHN T. MASER
PRESTON J. MCCONNELL
PRESTON F. MCFARREN
JENNIFER B. MCGONIGLE
JEROME MCLIN
THOMAS J. MCNAMARA
CRAIG MCPIKE
KEVIN J. MERRILL
TIMOTHY J. MICHEL
JAMES THOMAS MOORE
DANA N. NELSON
STEPHEN D. NELSON
ANDREW H. NICHOLS
JADE B. NORSTROM
RODERICK C. OWENS
TIMOTHY EARL OWENS
BELINDA A. PETERSEN
JAMES B. PETTIGREW
SEAN P. PIERCE
LAURA J. RADLEY
ESTEBAN L. RAMIREZ
JOSHUA C. REDDEN
KIRSTIN J. REIMANN
MICHAEL JOE REMUALDO
ERIC T. RIVERA
WILLIAM A. ROCK
CHERIE E. ROFF
SARAH HELEN RUSS
CHARLES E. SARGENT
JOSEPH H. SAVAGE, JR.
ANDREW D. SCHAD
MICHAEL T. SCHULTZ
JAMAR D. SCOTT
GERARD K. SIMON
NICOLE C. SLOMINSKI
EUGENE B. SMITH III
RYAN S. SPAULDING
DOUGLAS A. STOUFFER
TIMOTHY I. STRETCH
DIANA F. STRIEDIECK
MICHAEL C. THODE
TODD R. TRUMPOLD
LANCE F. TURNER
SANDRA I. VANDIVIERE
MICHAEL J. VANZO
ERIC A. VITOSH
KENT A. WATSON
JAMES CAMERON WEST
THOMAS W. WHITE
GIL BRADLEY WILLIAMS
NOEL F. WILLIAMS
BRUCE M. WINHOLD
BRIAN E. WISH
PETER A. WOJCIECHOWSKI
KENNETH P. WOODCOCK
WILLIAM A. WOOLF
ANNE E. YELDERMAN
CHRISTOPHER L. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MARK E. HEATHERLY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

KARIS K. GRAHAM
CHARLES T. TOWERY
MARVIN WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JESUS A. FLORES
ROBERT C. GOLDTRAP

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

ERICA R. AUSTIN
WILLIAM C. AUSTIN
DIANE CAROL BOLDT
ROBERT A. BORICH, JR.
ROBIN L. BRODRICK
PETER J. CAMP, JR.
STEPHEN P. DELANGE
STEPHEN A. GONTIS
KENNETH P. GORNIC
GAYLE L. HELLINGER
JOSEPH S. KIEFER
CATHERINE J. MCSWAIN
LAURA J. MEGAN POSCH
JULIO A. OCAMPO
JONATHAN M. POLK
SLOAN M. PYE
RICHARD G. STEPHENSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

GERARD IRVELT BAZILE
JUNE M. COOK
PAUL B. DESCHNER
TERRY A. HAAG
CHAD M. HIVNOR
GREGORY S. HSU
JOSEPH C. LAWLOR
REINALDO MORALES, JR.
GREGORY A. PINNELL
RICHARD D. QUINTANA
ALFRED CHARLES ROSSUM
EUGENE M. SHUSTERMAN
JEFFERSON R. THURLBY
GRISELDA E. TIU
KENNETH J. WRIGHT
FREDERICK L. YOST

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

STEPHEN L. NELSON, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MARY J. ABERNETHY
MAUREEN ANN ALLEN
MONSITA J. FALEY
THERESE JULIA KERN
CHERYL A. KNIGHT
JOSEPH MICHAEL MATSON
MATTHEW D. SOMMER
KAREN B. STEINER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MICHAEL D. AYRES
TAMMY LYNN BURTSCHI
JULIE M. CLEMENT
MICHAEL D. NELSON
JOHN G. OLMEDO
MICHELLE L. WAGNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

LAURA J. MCWHIRTER
DENISE J. THOMPSON
GREGG E. WENTWORTH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 716:

To be major

NICHOLAS J. ZIMMERMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

ERIC M. CHUMBLEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

SCOTT L. WILSON

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND AS PERMANENT PROFESSOR AT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 4333(B) AND 4336(A):

To be colonel

JOHN P. HARTKE

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 5721:

To be lieutenant commander

ALYSSA B. Y. ARMSTRONG
CHARLES S. BARRS III
BURNES C. W. BROWN
GRANT T. BRYAN
BRYAN J. CARLSON
PATRICK M. CERONE
FRANCIS E. ECLEVIA, JR.
ROBERT S. FAIRLIE
CHRISTIANA M. FLOECK
JASON L. FREDERICK
JESSE W. GASKELL
BRIAN S. GIBSON
BRANDON R. GILESSUMMERS
JOHN W. GILLIGAN
WILLIAM S. GREEN
ROBERT V. HEINZE
KEVIN F. HENDERSON
JOHN E. HOLTHAUS
BENJAMIN K. JONES
AARON K. JORDAN
TOWNEY G. KENNARD III
KEVIN M. KERNO
LEANDRA N. KISSINGER
MATTHEW R. LEWIS
KEN H. LUSK
THOMAS C. MANEMEIT
JOSHUA L. NORVILLE
JOSEPH W. NUTTING
ROBERT W. PERRIS
DWIGHT D. ROBERTS
ANDREW B. SAMPLE
ANTONIA K. SHEY
JEREMY J. SHIPLOV
SCOTT J. TEDRICK
ARTURO TREJO
CHRISTOPHER A. WILLIAMS
KARI E. YAKUBISIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

MIRIAM BEHPOUR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be captain

THOMAS P. MURPHY

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JERMAINE M. CADOGAN
MICHEAL J. CORBIN
AUSTIN E. WREN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ANTHONY K. ALEJANDRE
NATHANIEL W. BAKER III
TRACY G. DENMARK
HERMAN E. HOLLEY
KYLE L. HOLLIS
BRIAN E. KELLY
JONATHAN R. RISSER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

PAUL M. HERRLE
ROBERT R. KONO
JAIMEY L. POLK
ROBERT W. PUCKETT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

REBECCA L. WILKINSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JAY B. DURHAM
ANDREW K. LAW

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

DANIEL H. CUSINATO
DONALD E. PILCHER
EDUARDO QUIROZ
JOSE C. SOTO
HENRY W. SOUKUP
WILLIAM C. VOLZ

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

RYAN M. CLEVELAND

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

NICHOLAS K. ELLIS
MARIO A. ORTEGA
ANTHONIE L. SCOTT
JAMES M. WEATHERS
KOLLEEN L. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JONATHAN L. RIGGS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

BRETT D. ABBAMONTE
THOMAS R. ABBOTT
BRETT E. ACKERBAUER
JASON D. ACTIS
GREGORY P. ADAMS
AKEEM O. ADELAGUN
JEFF W. ADUSEI
ROY AGILA
ARTEM S. AGOULNIK
FRANK ALBA, JR.
JOSHUA D. AMBROSE
JAYME M. ARENAS
ANDREW H. ARMSTRONG
ERIC R. ARMSTRONG
JAMES N. ARRASMITH
JEFFREY W. ARROYO
HAMILTON N. ASHWORTH
ORLANDO L. ASHWORTH
CHRISTOPHER T. ATHANAS
JOSHUA M. AVINA
BRIAN M. BAGLEY
COLTER J. BAHLAU
MATTHEW D. BAILEY
DAVID B. BAIN
RAMON BALLESTER III
LUKE I. BALTHAZAR
MATTHEW P. BANKS
NICOLE A. BARBAREE
ROBERT D. BARBAREE III
JEFFREY J. BARNES
RYAN M. BARRY
MICHAEL G. BASHARA
NICOLE V. BASTIAN
JONATHAN R. BEARCE
THOMAS J. BECK
JAMES E. BEESON
SCOTT A. BEIMER
BLAZE A. BELOBRAJDIC
AMY L. BERNARD
JENNIE L. BERNIER
BESSIE L. BERNSTEIN
ANDREW S. BIDDELL
GARY R. BILLINGS
SCOTTY E. BLACK
JARED D. BLAKE
GARRETT A. BLAKELY
PATRICK E. BLANKENSHIP
BRIAN T. BLOCK
MATTHEW E. BLOSE
DAVID J. BLOSSOM II
GEOFFREY T. BLUMENFELD
TODD B. BOESE II
JARED E. BOMBACI
LUKE A. BORGAN
NICHOLAS K. BORNS
STEPHEN W. BORRETT
DREW T. BOSSART
BRIAN R. BOSTON
JOSHUA BOURNE
STEVEN P. BRADFORD
JAMES R. BRAME
CHRISTOPHER E. BRANDT
JOHN A. BRENNAN
DERRICK F. BREVILLE
JEFFREY M. BREWER
PAUL A. BRILLANT
PAUL M. BRISKER
JASON W. BRITAIN
REX L. BROOKS III
EDWARD C. BROWN
TYLER G. BRUMMOND
AARON A. BRUSCH
JONATHAN L. BRYANT
ERIC C. BRYE
JESSAMY J. BUBAN
CHAD A. BUCKEL
THOMAS A. BUIJTEN
CODY P. BURAS
CLINT J. BURBACH
JAMES A. BURKART
RODNEY L. BURKS
TYLER E. BURNHAM
CHRISTOPHER J. BUSCEMI
DAMIEN M. BUTEL
JUSTIN G. BUTLER
EBEN C. BUXTON
ADAM M. CAMPBELL
DAVID M. CAMPBELL
JUSTIN C. CAMPBELL
NELSON F. CANDELARIO, JR.
CHRISTIAN S. CARLSON
RICHARD F. CARMEAN
SARAH A. CARRASCO
JEREMY L. CARROLL
JONATHAN C. CARTRETT
CHARLES A. CASEY
MATTHEW A. CAVE
CHRISTOPHER J. CAYERE
BRIAN M. CLEGG
PAUL B. CLIFFORD II
JAVIER V. COBA
JOHN C. COLEMAN II
CRAIG W. COLLINGS
STEVEN T. CONTRASCERE
DEREK A. COOK
JODY L. COOLEY
JAMES R. CORRINGTON
PATRICK W. COSGROVE
STEVEN W. COULON
MARC E. COUVILLON
JAMES M. COVEY, JR.
JAMES E. COVINGTON III
NATHAN H. COX
THOMAS A. COYLE
JOSHUA J. CRAVENS
BRADLEY S. CREEDON
JACOB V. CRESPIN
MATTHEW T. CROMPTON
WILLIAM W. CRONKRIGHT
DAVID R. CROOKHAM
JAVIER CRUZ, JR.
DOMINIC J. DALY
JOSHUA J. DARBY
JAYSON M. DAVIDSON
JEREMY L. DAVIS
ARMANDO A. DAVIU
MATTHEW S. DECOURSEY
JAMES E. DEE
MATTHEW D. DEFFENBAUGH
ANTHONY J. DEFURIO
PATRICK C. DEGRAAF
CHRISTOPHER M. DEMARS
JASON R. DEMPSEY
SALVATORE A. DEPAOLA
JARROD T. DEPASQUALE
WALTER R. DICKSON
NICHOLAS R. DIMITRUK
MATTHEW P. DINEEN
ROBERT J. DOLEZAL
MICHAEL R. DONLIN
DAMON A. DOYKOS
JAROD A. DRENNAN
ADAM W. DREXLER
ANIA V. DRISCOLL
DAVID J. DRISCOLL
THOMAS E. DRISCOLL
WALTER C. DRIVER III
NOLAN P. DUCHATEAU
KELSEY L. DUCKWORTH
GREGORY M. DUESTERHAUS
TIMOTHY DUEY
MICHAEL S. DUFFY
PATRICK E. DUNCAN
JOEL D. DUNIVANT
IAN G. DUNLAP
DAVID C. DUNSWORTH
JEREMY B. DURRETTE
GREGORY W. DYSON, JR.
BENJAMIN D. EARLY
NATHANIEL M. EARLY
MATTHEW E. EARNHARDT
ANDREW C. ECKERT
JOSHUA S. EDWARDS
BUDDY J. ELLIS
WILLIAM B. ERDEL
ADAM K. ERNST
MATTHEW T. ESPOSITO
ADRIAN R. EVANGELISTA
BRIAN T. EVERETT
BLAIR W. FAULK
ADORJAN S. FERENCZY
BURR FERGUSON, JR.
LEO FERGUSON III
SEAN J. FERN
CHARLES D. FERREIRA
ADAM J. FERRONE
MATTHEW J. FICHTNER
JASON H. FINCHER
JOHN P. FINKEN
BRIAN J. FISHER
CRAIG T. FITZHUGH
AUSTIN C. FLETCHER
VICTOR V. FLORES
JUSTIN D. FLOYD
SEAN P. FOLEY
CHRISTOPHER J. FOOTE
JOHN F. FORSHTAY
JAMEY D. FOSTER
JOSEPH D. FOSTER
MICHAEL A. FOX
DAVID C. FRANK
JOHN C. FRASER
BRETON A. FREDERICK
TIMOTHY C. FRETWELL
CHRISTOPHER M. FREY
THOMAS A. FREY
LUCAS C. FROKJER
JOSEPH A. FRY
JOHN A. FULTON
MATTHEW C. GAEDE
ALBERT GARCIA IV
ADAM C. GARDNER
MICHAEL L. GARDNER
GARRON J. GARN
ROSS A. GARNETT
PAUL J. GATES, JR.
MATTHEW D. GAYLER
ANITA J. GENETTI
MICHAEL A. GERSON
BRIAN J. GILBERT
MARCUS D. GILLETT
MICHAEL J. GLEESON
JUSTIN P. GOGEL
BRAD A. GOLDVARG
NATHAN L. GOLIKE
RACHEL A. GONZALES
JOSHUA K. GORDON
PATRICK G. GRAHAM
SCOTT D. GRANIERO
JOEL W. GRAVES
JACOB O. GRAY
SAMUEL P. GRAY
JAMES M. GREEN
MATTHEW J. GREEN
ANDREW B. GREER
JOSHUA D. GREER
NICHOLAS S. GREGSON
DANIEL W. GRINER
DUANE M. GROSS
FELIX GUERRA III
PHILLIP L. GUILLORY II
ANDREA N. GULLIKSEN
NATHAN J. GULOSH
JONATHAN D. GURFEIN
SCOTT D. GURLEY
JORDAN M. GWIAZDON
DAVID K. HAGLUND
REBECCA R. HAGNER
MATTHEW HALTON
AARON M. HAMBLIN
BRIAN HANSELL
NOLAN G. HARDAGE
BRIAN J. HARP
THOMAS M. HARRIS
BRIAN M. HART
GREGORY A. HARTFELDER
BENJAMIN D. HARTLEY
LESLIE A. HARVEY
NICHOLAS J. HARVEY
REBECCA M. HARVEY
KURT R. HASSELL
ANTHONY R. HATALA
NATHAN W. HATFIELD
RORY J. HAYDEN
DALLAS J. HAYES
MICHAEL K. HAYES
RICHARD W. HEASER, JR.
RYAN T. HEIDER
CARL J. HEIM
SCOTT H. HELMINSKI
MATTHEW L. HENDRICKSON
NICHOLAS S. HENRY
LUCAS F. HERNANDEZ
PETER J. HICKSON
EMMALINE J. HILL
MARK J. HODGES
JASEN L. HOFFMAN
MARCUS A. HOFFMAN
KERRY A. HOGAN
JUSTIN P. HOOD
JUSTIN A. HOOKER
TRAVIS L. HORD
ADAM A. HORNE
JACOB E. HOSKINS
WILLIAM R. HOUCK
ALISTAIR E. HOWARD
JOHN HUDOCK IV
JOHN C. HUENEFELD II
JACOB M. HUMMITZSCH
JUSTIN D. HUNTER
CHARLES R. IBATUAN II
HEATHER A. ICHORD
KARL E. IGLER
FREDRICK M. INGRAM
LUIS O. IZQUIERDO
BLAKE JACKSON, JR.
RUSSELL J. JACKSON
NATHAN D. JACOB
PAUL N. JAENICHEN
RICHARD S. JAHELKA
ANTHONY N. JANSEN
ANDREW M. JAROSZ

TANZANIA R. JAYSURA
CEDRIC A. JEFFERSON
MICHAEL F. JIABIA
ESTEBAN JIMENEZ
COLE W. JOHNS
DANIEL J. JOHNSON
JEROMY R. JOHNSON
MATTHEW B. JOHNSON
SAMUEL A. JOHNSON
BLAKE G. JOHNSTON
JACOB P. JONES
MACKENZIE R. JONES
PORTER B. JONES
SAMUEL P. JONES, JR.
ZACHARY P. JONES
PATRICK H. JOSEPH
JOSE A. JURADO III
JESSICA J. KARLIN
ERIC T. KAUFFMAN
ELIZABETH R. KEALEY
GARY A. KEEFER
RUSSELL H. KEENE
ELISHA D. KELLER
JOHN G. KENNEDY
WILLIAM T. KERRIGAN
BRENT L. KERSHAW
MICHAEL J. KIBLER
JASON M. KIKTA
BENJAMIN J. KILEY
DOMINIC F. KIMZEY
ANDREW D. KINGSBURY
JARROD L. KLEMENT
JARED P. KLUSMANN
LUKE B. KNORRA
DANIEL R. KOCAB
ANDREW W. KOCH
DUANE H. KORTMAN, JR.
ASHLEY A. KOSAVANNA
RYAN T. KREBSBACH
JARED A. KROGH
AARON M. KRUDWIG
THOMAS A. KULISZ
LUCAS T. KUNCE
CHRISTOPHER A. KURKA
SHELLEY R. KURTZ
STEPHEN A. LACOVARA
BART P. LAMBERT
KYLE E. LARISH
ANTHONY L. LAVISTA II
NICHOLAS B. LAW
LISA Y. LAWRENCEAROCHO
CHRISTOPHER G. LEASE
EVERETT D. LEDMAN, JR.
BRAD A. LEEMAN
JOSEPH R. LENNOX
MARK A. LENZI
BRANDON G. LEV
JONATHAN M. LEWENTHAL
DANIEL D. LEWIS
ANDREW J. LINCOLN
MICHAEL T. LIPPERT
JOHN P. LLOYD
GAVIN K. LOGAN
JOEL M. LOMASNEY
CARRICK T. LONGLEY
MICHAEL A. LOWE
PAUL M. LOWMAN
MATTHEW A. LUKE
CLAYTON C. MACALONEY
ANDREW A. MACDOUGALL
MICHAEL C. MADDOCK
MICHAEL B. MAGEE
CHAD J. MAGRO
GABRIEL M. MAGUIRE
PATRICK R. MAHONEY
ADAN A. MALDONADO
KENNETH W. MALONE
PAUL A. MANN
SHANE M. MANN
DAVID S. MANWILLER
DANIEL A. MARQUEZ
CORBETT B. MARTIN
SAMUEL J. MARTIN
MATTHEW D. MARTINEZ
NICOLAS L. MARTINEZ
BRAXTON H. MASHBURN
KARI N. MATTHEWS
WESLEY J. MATTHEWS
NATHAN T. MCANDREWS
LABARRON L. MCBRIDE
EMILY C. MCCABE
THOMAS G. MCCABE
BRIAN L. MCCARTHY
MICHAIAH M. MCCOLLUM
KEITH J. MCGILVRAY
DAVID R. MCGRATH, JR.
ELIZABETH A. MCKEON
JAMES G. MCKEON
JOHN P. MCLAUGHLIN
JAMES S. MCLEAN
STEPHEN M. MCNEIL
MATTHEW S. MCNERNEY
MICHAEL R. MCNICOLL
JOHN A. MCNULTY
WESTON S. MCPHEE
JILL A. MCQUISTAN
DANIEL W. MECKLEY
ALEXANDER M. MELLMAN
BENJAMIN T. MENCKE
JOHN R. MENZEL
SCOTT R. MERCER
WILLIAM T. MESSMER
CHARLES R. MICHALK
AARON E. MIDDLETON
BRIAN W. MILLER
JONATHAN R. MILLICAN
BRANDON L. MILLS
ERIC L. MITCHELL
JUSTIN M. MOEYKENS
RAZY MOLINA
MAIA MOLINASCHAEFER
ARNOLD R. MOLLETTE
ROBERT A. MONROE
WILLIAM J. MORAN
ANDREW L. MUELLER
GRAHAM E. MUELLER
JONATHAN M. MUELLER
NICHOLAS W. MULL
ANDREW D. MYERS
DANIEL J. NARDIELLO
EMILY J. NASLUND
JOHN B. NAUGHTON II
BRIAN J. NAWROCKI
TIMOTHY C. NEDER
ANGELA M. NELSON
DAVID C. NELSON
WILLIAM D. NELSON
ROBERT J. NEMAN
COLIN J. NEWBOLD
ANDREW C. NEWBRANDER
ANTHONY J. NGUYEN
ANDREW D. NICHOLSON
NICOLE F. NICHOLSON
SETH A. NICHOLSON
THOMAS L. NICHOLSON III
JARON M. NIX
THANE A. NORMAN
RICHARD S. NORTON
MARK P. NOSTRO
EDWIN D. NUNEZ
JAMES P. OBRIEN, JR.
CHARLES M. OLMSTED
TOMMY L. OLSON
KIERAN R. ONEIL
JOSHUA J. ONUSKA
JANE R. OREN
CHRISTOPHER T. ORR
IZAC E. OSSIANDER
GREGORY D. OSTRIN
JAROD N. OVERTON
DOUGLAS B. PACK
GEOFF S. PALMER
JAY M. PALMER
PANAGIOTIS A. PAPADOPOULOS
MATTHEW J. PARENTE
BRIAN PARK
FRANCIS M. PASCUCCI
CHRISTOPHER A. PASSERELLA
TIMOTHY L. PATRICK
MARK R. PATRIDGE
WILLIAM T. PAXTON
EUGENE G. PAYNE IV
JERRY E. PEACOCK
QUINCY R. PEARSON
MARK S. PECKHAM
STEPHEN F. PENNY, JR.
ALEJANDRO C. PEREZ
CHRISTOPHER G. PERGOLA
TODD A. PETERSON
KYLE A. PETKOVSEK
MARK M. PHELPS
HEATH A. PHILLIPS
KENNETH N. PHILLIPS
HANSON W. PITCHFORD
MARIA C. PLOSKI
JOSEPH A. PLOT
AARON K. POLANCO
ANTHONY G. POLLMAN
WILLIAM J. POMEROY
TRAVIS R. POST
AARON R. POWELL
DOUGLAS T. PUGH
JEFFREY P. PULLINGER
SHEREL D. QUINONEZAVILA
JOSEPH D. QUIRK
MICHAEL D. RADIGAN
ANTHONY D. RAMEY
AUGUSTO D. RAMIREZVALDEZ
ADRIAN J. RANKINEGALLOWAY
LECHELLE D. RAPALLINI
DOUGLASS L. RAUSCHELBACH
ANDREW R. REAVES
KEVIN M. RECTOR
JARED L. REDDINGER
STEPHEN N. REIFF
THOMAS M. RICE
SAMUEL A. RICHARD
PATRICK W. RICHARDSON
TODD B. RICHARDSON
TIMOTHY F. RIEMANN
PHILIPP E. RIGAUT
JOSEPH T. ROBERTSON
JEFFERY H. ROBICHAUX
GAVIN T. ROBILLARD
JOHN C. ROCK
SALOMON RODRIGUEZ
CHRISTOPHER T. ROGERS
ERIC S. ROGERS
MICHAEL Y. ROGERS
NATHAN M. ROLLINS
CARL J. RONHAAR
JOHN D. ROTH
BRADLEY K. ROTHMAN
JARROD C. ROTHMAN
CURTIS R. RUBECK
RICHARD RUIZ
ZANE M. RUNNING
JEFFREY A. RZASA
GEORGE A. SAENZ, JR.
ANTHONY N. SAMA
GARY J. SAMPSON
TAJ T. SAREEN
JOHN A. SAUTTER
ANTHONY B. SCARCELLA
STUART P. SCHELLER, JR.
WILL A. SCHMITT
JASON C. SCHNEIDER
ROBERT C. SCHOTTER
CHRISTOPHER E. SCHREINER
JOHN T. SCHREINER
JASON T. SCHULZE
JESSE P. SCHWEIG
CAROLINE A. SCUDDER
REGINALD M. SEALEY II
JUSTIN M. SHARPE
TAYLOR E. SHENKMAN
WAYNE SHEW
WAN J. SHO
STEVEN J. SICLARI
SCOTT M. SILVA
WILLIAM B. SIMI
DWANE SIMS
JOHN R. SISSON
ERIC J. SKOCZENSKI
COURTNEY E. SLAFTER
JOSEPH L. SLUSSER
KEVIN T. SMALLEY
CHRISTOPHER M. SMITH
JASON L. SMITH
JEREMY B. SMITH
JOHN K. SMITH
JUSTIN G. SMITH
KENNETH W. SMITH
KEVIN A. SMITH
MATTHEW T. SMITH
JASON M. SNOOK
ADAM M. SNYDER
KEVIN M. SOEDER
JARROD M. SOKOLOWSKI
GUNNAR A. SPAFFORD
JAMES J. STANFORD
NICHOLAS B. STATS
MICAH A. STEINPFAD
JASON T. STEPHENSON
CAYCE M. STEVENS
RYAN A. STEVENS
ROBERT L. STEVENSON III
NICKOLAS A. STEWARD
RYAN C. STEWART
ANDREW W. STGEORGE
JESSE C. STICE
WILLIAM H. STROM
BRIAN J. SULLIVAN
PATRICK C. SULLIVAN
CHAD SUMMERVILLE
JUSTIN E. SUMNER
EARL A. SWEIGART, JR.
ADDISON T. TAFEL
HOI W. TAM
BILL C. TAMAYO, JR.
DILLON C. TAYLOR
EVAN E. TAYLOR
MICHAEL A. TAYLOR
ERIKA M. TEICHERT
BRYCESON K. TENOLD
JEFFREY M. THARP
ADAM B. THOMAS
CRAIG W. THOMAS II
JAMES C. THOMPSON, JR.
STEVEN K. THOMPSON
CHARLENE L. THOREEN
GABRIEL W. TIGGS
WILLIAM M. TOMASZEK, JR.
DAVID L. TRAN
VIET B. TRAN
CHAD E. TUCKER
SETH E. TUFVESSON
RAYMOND J. TUNG
PETER C. TUNIS
DANIEL T. TURAJ
RYAN J. TUTTLE
NICHOLAS A. TVERDOSI
NICHOLAS R. TYSON
DONALD W. UNDERWOOD
GEORGE M. UREKE
KATELYN M. VANDAM
GRAHAM C. VANDUSEN
GREGORY A. VAUGHAN
DOUGLAS J. VERBLAAUW
MATTHEW D. VERDIN
RYAN E. VONREMBOW
RICHARD J. WAGNER
MORGAN J. WALKER
MICHAEL T. WALLACE
MICHAEL P. WALLS
MICHAEL L. WATKINS
JOSEPH J. WEAKLEY
MICHAEL R. WEBB
NEVILLE A. WELCH
ADAM D. WELLINGTON
RICHARD J. WHALEN III
PATRICK J. WHERRY
JONATHAN G. WHITE
MICHAEL D. WHITEFORD
JASON P. WHITTAKER
ROBERT W. WICKHAM
JOSEPH T. WIDMAYER
JOSEF H. WIESE
MATTHEW D. WILCKENS
CHRISTOPHER F. WILDT
ADAM S. WILKIE
JON K. WILKINS
JOHN L. WILLIAMS II
CURTIS A. WILLIAMSON
MICHAEL W. WILLIAMSON
NATHAN S. WILLIS
LOGAN K. WILLMAN
SEAN D. WILLS
KYLE S. WILT
ANDREW G. WIMSATT
ERIC P. WINKOFSKY

CHRISTOPHER D. WINN
DAVID J. WINSLOW
JAMES J. WISSMANN
MARK A. WLASCHIN
JAVIER W. WONG
LISA S. WOO
DOUGLAS A. WOODCOCK
BRANDON H. WOODS
JOSHUA W. WORT
ADAM YANG
DAVID M. YORCK
PETER J. YOUNG
KENNETH M. ZEBLEY
JASON E. ZELLEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U. S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MATTHEW F. AMIDON
THOMAS M. ARMAS
MARK C. BOONE
ERIC A. BORSONI
CHARLES W. BREWER
BRIAN T. CASKEY
ALEXANDER J. CHOTKOWSKI
RICHARD J. CREVIER
SEAN N. DAY
DOMINIC J. DEFAZIO
KYLE R. DEWAR
STEFAN M. DIRGHALLI
RICHARD G. ERICKSON
PRISCILLA P. FAILMEZGER
PHILIP B. FARR
SPENCER T. FARRAR
KEITH M. FULLER
MARK J. HENDERSON
JON S. HETLAND
MARGARET M. JOHNSON
JOHN F. KELLIHER III
JOHN G. KERWOOD
ALBERT K. KIM
PATRICIA S. KLOP
MARK A. LAMELZA
AMBER M. LEHNING
KIM J. MAHONEY
MATTHEW A. MCGARVEY
ARTHUR B. MCKEEL
EDWARD D. MCNULTY
SETH M. MILSTEIN
JOHN E. MOORE
KYLE J. MOORE
PAUL R. OUELLETTE
JOHN F. PETERSON
CATHLEEN M. REYNOLDS
BENJAMIN P. RICHMOND
JOAQUIN A. SALAS
MATTHEW C. SHORTAL
KENT E. WALSH
DANIEL P. WHISNANT
JOHN A. WRIGHT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

DAVID C. WALSH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

SCOTT W. ZIMMERMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

DAWN R. ALONSO
JAMES H. BAIN
THOMAS P. BAJUS II
DAVID G. BARDORF
JOHN B. BARRANCO, JR.
ANDREW J. BERGEN
ANTHONY C. BOLDEN
RICHARD T. BRADY
TIMOTHY G. BURTON
CURTIS W. CARLIN
ADAM L. CHALKLEY
DARIN J. CLARKE
JOSEPH R. CLEARFIELD
MARK H. CLINGAN
ERIC D. CLOUTIER
SCOTT E. CONWAY
ELMER K. COUCH
JOSEPH E. DELANEY
STEVEN J. DELAZARO
WILLIAM L. DEPUE, JR.
JONATHAN P. DUNNE
KYLE B. ELLISON
CHRISTOPHER R. ESCAMILLA
JAMES P. FALLON
PETER C. FARNUM
WALKER M. FIELD
DOM D. FORD
SCOTT A. GONDEK
THOMAS D. GORE
WENDY J. GOYETTE
RYAN R. GUTZWILLER
ROBERT J. HALLETT
ANDRE T. HARRELL
GARRETT R. HOFFMAN
BRIAN M. HOWLETT
MIKEL R. HUBER
LAWRENCE K. HUSSEY
EDWARD L. JEEP
SCOTT R. JOHNSON
TERRY M. JOHNSON
CRAIG C. LEFLORE
RAUL LIANEZ
GEORGE W. MARKERT V
JAMES C. MCARTHUR
PATRICK S. MCDONIEL
MARIA S. MCMILLEN
HALSTEAD MEADOWS III
ROBERT S. MORGAN
CHANDLER S. NELMS
KEVIN A. NORTON
KEVIN T. OROURKE
BRIAN R. PETERSON
FORREST C. POOLE III
MATTHEW S. REID
ERIC J. ROPELLA
RICHARD J. SCHMIDT
TIMOTHY A. SHEYDA
FARRELL J. SULLIVAN
JOHN P. SULLIVAN, JR.
LELAND W. SUTTEE
MICHAEL C. TAYLOR
DONALD J. TOMICH
CARLOS O. URBINA
NICHOLAS P. VAVICH
ROBERT S. WHITE
STEVEN J. WHITE
ZACHARY M. WHITE
JOHN J. WIENER
VINCENT J. YASAKI

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLACK JANUARY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, one of the seminal events in 20th century was the demise of the Soviet Union, which altered the balance of power in the world, most profoundly in Europe and Central Asia. But the event that sparked the tinderbox of democratic uprisings through the sphere of Soviet satellites began in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijanis remember the night that democratic fire was sparked; it was January 20, 1990. The Azeris called it ''Black January.'' At midnight on that fateful night, 26,000 armed Russian troops stormed into Baku with tanks.

The weeks and months prior to Black January had seen a surge in the national independence movement. Hundreds of thousands of Azeris pushed then USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev's glasnost policy by publicly marching for independence and territorial integrity.

Some of the emerging democratic groups were projected to win seats in the upcoming Parliamentary elections. Since only Communists could hold government office in a Soviet satellite, Gorbachev moved quickly to put down the independence movement.

Gorbachev declared a state of emergency to repress a growing independence movement. The Soviet heavyhandedness served only to elevate Azeri resolve and passion. Soviet troops, under orders to ''restore order,'' tried dispersing the throngs of peaceful Azeri demonstrators by firing arbitrarily into the crowds on the Baku streets, killing women and children who were among the protesters calling for independence from the Soviet Union.

Over 130 Azeris were killed in the violence of Black January; 611 were injured, nearly 1,000 were arrested, and five were never found.

Human Rights Watch's report ''Black January in Azerbaijan,'' said that, ''among the most heinous violations of human rights during the Baku incursion were the numerous attacks on medical personnel, ambulances and even hospitals.'' Human Rights Watch concluded, ''The punishment inflicted on Baku by Soviet soldiers may have been intended as a warning to nationalists, not only in Azerbaijan, but in other Republics of the Soviet Union.''

The standoff between nationalists in Azerbaijan and the Soviet leaders in Moscow escalated into an Azeri threat to hold a referendum on secession unless Soviet troops withdrew in 48 hours. Soviet troops were hampered when Azerbaijani oil tankers blockaded the Baku harbor, keeping Soviet naval vessels at bay.

Soviet forces withdrew, but formal independence would come nearly two years later.

On this day, Azeri patriots stood up for their freedom, sealing the fate of the Soviet empire and forever changing the history of the world.

I ask my colleagues to join me in standing with the people of Azerbaijan today in solitude and gratitude for their passion for independence and remembrance of the lives lost on Black January.

RECOGNITION OF DEAN LESTER'S 20 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. THOMAS J. ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a member of my staff, Dean Lester, on his 20 years of service to the House of Representatives and the people of the United States.

Dean came to Washington, DC in January, 1995 to work for his home state Congresswoman, Representative Helen Chenoweth-Hage of Idaho. He fondly remembers the ''united sense to accomplish things'' in the first 100 days of that year as the House embarked on a hectic schedule to implement the Contract with America.

Dean must have enjoyed that fast pace, because even when Congress slows down or goes into recess, he maintains a full schedule. Over time, he began working for multiple House offices at once, and he now serves as office and financial administrator to eight different members of Congress. In total, Dean has worked for 20 members of Congress in 20 years.

Dean is an irreplaceable member of every staff on which he serves. He tracks our budgets, manages our office moves, and ensures all of our equipment is working properly; in short, Dean makes sure the trains run on time. He knows every inch of this building and every trick of the trade. When a problem arises, we call Dean and we can always count on him to fix it.

Dean is a mentor and guide not just to younger staff members but to senior staff and members of Congress as well. Through it all, he maintains a sense of humor, an upbeat attitude, and a positive view of what we can accomplish together. He reminds us of why we came here and what an incredible, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity it is to serve.

Dean, we could not do our jobs without you. For your tireless work ethic, your dedication to Congress and the people of this great country, and your 20 years of service, we salute you.

HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S SUE PARDUE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to recognize the life and legacy of Northwest Florida's beloved Sue Pardue. For decades, Sue was a leader and integral part of the Northwest Florida community, and she will be missed by all who were fortunate to know her.

Sue married her loving husband of more than 42 years, Alvin, in 1972, before moving to Pace, Florida, where they started a family and became an integral part of the Pace community. While raising her five children, Sue also took steps to further her education, receiving bachelor's, master's, and PhD degrees from the University of West Florida. Sue used her education and kind-hearted nature serving as a counselor at many institutions in Northwest Florida, including Pace Assembly Ministries, Santa Rosa Correctional Institute, and Pensacola Family Care for Youth, amongst many others.

While raising a family and working as a counselor, Sue also took an active role in many community organizations helping to serve the community that she loved. Sue was deeply devoted to serving the Lord, and she served for many years as head of the Children's Ministries at Pace Assembly of God and the Women's Ministries at Pensacola First Assembly of God, while also holding a position on the church's board. In addition to her service at her church, Sue was deeply involved in many other organizations, including: Concerned Citizens for Gifted Children, Crisis Line Counseling, RSVP Advisory Board, Red Cross, Advisory Board for Children's Home, Advisory Board for Guardian Ad Litem, Pace Water System, Family Promise, Pregnancy Resource Center, and Santa Rosa County Bond Review Board.

To some, Sue will be remembered as a devoted servant of Jesus Christ, working tirelessly to spread His word at her church and throughout Northwest Florida. To others she will be remembered as a highly educated, hard-working, and dedicated counselor. To her family and friends, she will always be remembered as a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

On behalf of the United States Congress, my wife Vicki and I send our deepest condolences and prayers to Sue's husband, Alvin; her children, Donna, Deniece, Brian, Edwin, and Calvin; her seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and the entire Pardue family.

IN HONOR OF 2015 NASCAR HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE BILL ELLIOTT

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate racing legend Bill Elliott upon his induction into the sixth class of the NASCAR Hall of Fame. There is a rhyme that holds true about this inductee, ''Awesome Bill from Dawsonville.''

The Dawsonville, Georgia, native got his first career win at the 1976 Carolina 500 at ''The Rock'' in Rockingham, North Carolina. In fact, Bill reached victory lane six times at tracks within North Carolina's 8th congressional district.

These wins are just a small part of one of the greatest careers in NASCAR history.

In 1985, Elliott won the first ''Winston Million'' in NASCAR history by winning three of four races in NASCAR's then ''Grand Slam.'' In that season, he won the Daytona 500 at Daytona International Speedway, the Winston 500 at Talladega Superspeedway, and the Southern 500 at Darlington Raceway. He is one of only two drivers in the Winston Million era to ever accomplish this feat and for being the first to accomplish it he was given the nickname ''Million Dollar Bill.''

In 1988, Elliott earned NASCAR's Winston Cup championship. His win total of 44 ranks him in the top 20 all-time NASCAR Cup Series winners and Elliott also garnered 16 Most Popular Driver Awards during his illustrious career.

It is a true honor to congratulate him on his due induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

IN HONOR OF 2015 NASCAR HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE WENDELL SCOTT

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate racing legend Wendell Scott upon his posthumous induction into the sixth class of the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

Wendell Scott was the first African-American to become a full-time competitor in the series and he did this after serving three years in the U.S. Army during World War II.

He started racing in 1947 and experienced immediate success behind the wheel. He gained the respect and admiration of his competitors and fans as they observed his skill as a mechanic, skill as a driver and his exceptional work ethic.

Scott won over 100 races in the next decade at local area tracks. He made his first start in NASCAR's premier series March 4, 1961, at Piedmont Interstate Fairgrounds in Spartanburg, South Carolina. In 1963, Scott became the first African-American to win a NASCAR premier series event.

Although Scott passed away in 1990, his impact on racing can still be felt today. It is truly an honor to extend these congratulatory remarks for United States Army veteran Wendell Scott for his racing career and his posthumous induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION AND ABORTION INSURANCE FULL DISCLOSURE ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 22, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the misleadingly titled ''No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act.''

This deceivingly-titled bill does nothing more than dramatically restrict the ability of women to purchase affordable health insurance without forfeiting their constitutionally protected right to buy health coverage that includes reproductive services. Federal policy, including explicit language in the Affordable Care Act (ACA), already prohibits the use of taxpayer dollars to fund abortions. Existing law in the ACA states that any individual who joins a plan that covers abortions will pay an additional fee that goes into a separate account; this was specifically designed to ensure that taxpayer dollars are not spent on abortions. The fee is only paid by people who knowingly joined a health plan that covers abortions, and any abortion (except in cases of rape, incest, or to save the mother's life) coverage is paid out of those accounts—not by taxpayer dollars.

The ACA also provides that individuals purchasing their health care from the recently established exchanges can, depending on their income, access tax credits and ensure that their health care plan is affordable. This bill would deny women access to the tax credits on their health plans even though the tax credit does not cover any of the cost of plans that include abortion coverage. In other words, women will be denied access to affordable health care if they exercise their right to use their own funds for abortion coverage. This is unacceptable and violates the careful balance established in the ACA. Whether women purchase their insurance through the marketplace exchanges or receive it through their employers, millions of American women would be denied their choice of affordable health care coverage.

A woman's right to choose her own health care is a fundamental one, and the Congress should not tell women how to manage their private health or reproductive care. Sadly, this legislation will do just that.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this assault on women. This bill was a mistake the first two times it was proposed, and it remains a mistake today. Instead of attacking a woman's access to health care, we should be focused on accelerating job growth and increasing the paychecks of working Americans.

IN HONOR OF 2015 NASCAR HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE FRED LORENZEN

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate racing superstar Fred Lorenzen upon his induction into the sixth class of the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

The Elmhurst, Illinois, native got his start in NASCAR as a mechanic with the famed Holman-Moody team in 1960, but was elevated to lead driver by the end of that year.

In 1964, Lorenzen began one of the most dominant five race runs in NASCAR history in which he led 1,679 of the possible 1,953 laps. This stretch of lap-leading highlights how dominant Lorenzen was between 1962 and 1967. He won multiple major events during this period such as the Daytona 500, World 600, and the American 500.

Nicknamed the ''Elmhurst Express,'' Lorenzen notched 26 wins on the NASCAR circuit and he reached victory lane five times in the 8th district of North Carolina.

It is an honor to congratulate him on his induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION AND ABORTION INSURANCE FULL DISCLOSURE ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 22, 2015

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, once more, Republicans are seeking to limit women's access to safe reproductive health care through H.R. 7, the ''No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act.'' This is a sweeping ban on abortion coverage and another callous attempt to insert Congress into the most personal of conversations between a woman and her physician and I did not vote for it.

Last week marked the 42nd anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court decision, Roe v. Wade. It is exasperating that we still have to go through this annual charade as Republican leadership tries to force those of us who support women and their reproductive choices to take a ''hard vote.''

It is not hard for me to stand with the millions of women who depend on access to safe, legal abortion. It is not hard for me to vote against any bill that imposes the will of an intolerant, albeit vocal, minority on our mothers, sisters, and daughters. It is not hard for me to protect freedom of choice, because it is right and it is just.

Instead of bringing up legislation to strengthen our economy or improve our infrastructure, Republican leadership is choosing to focus its efforts on legislation that will trump women's health, override family decisions, and compromise the ability of women and their doctors to deal with reproductive issues. It's a blatant attack on women and it's not hard for me to say that it is wrong.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIMI WALTERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 39, I was unavoidably detained during the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yes.''

RECOGNIZING MS. SAILOR GUTZLER

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself, and Representative JOHN SHIMKUS, to recognize Ms. Sailor Gutzler. On January 2, 2015, a small Piper PA–34 plane carrying the family of Marty and Kimberly Gutzler crashed in the remote forest of Kuttawa, Kentucky, located in the First Congressional District of Kentucky. The family was headed back home to Nashville, Illinois, located in the Fifteenth Congressional District of Illinois, from a family vacation in Key West, Florida.

Marty, Kimberly, their nine-year-old daughter Piper, and fourteen-year-old niece Sierra Wilder were instantly killed in the crash. Miraculously, the Gutzler's youngest daughter, seven-year-old Sailor, emerged from the wreckage alive and as the lone survivor. With a broken wrist, no shoes, and wearing only a T-shirt and shorts, the second grader bravely searched the cold, dark forest for nearly a mile until she found the only inhabited house in a 1,400 acre area.

Young Sailor arrived at the home of Larry Wilkins, ''with lips trembling, crying, trying to talk'' according to Wilkins. This brave young girl, grief stricken and mangled, managed to point authorities in the direction of the crash, but is left without her parents, and with the trauma of this tragic event.

This tragedy made national news, and Sailor was deemed the ''Miracle Girl'' by People Magazine. Sailor's strength and courage is truly remarkable, and we want to recognize her brave actions on that night and in the days following. Young Sailor has even noted that she has to be strong for her mom and dad, because they would want her to be strong.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sailor and her surviving family. It is truly a miracle this young girl survived and we are certain God has a purpose for her.

IN HONOR OF 2015 NASCAR HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE REX WHITE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate racing legend Rex White upon his induction into the sixth class of the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

After being diagnosed with polio as a child, White didn't imagine automobiles as anything more than a source of transportation. However, by the time he started racing in NASCAR in 1956, White was ready to start one of the most consistent careers in NASCAR history.

The Taylorsville, North Carolina, native finished among the top five in 110 of the 233 races he participated in. His skill on the short tracks that dominated the schedule in his era allowed him to tally up top five and top ten finishes at a historic rate.

White won six times during his 1960 championship season and his victory total ranks 22nd among all-time premier series winners.

Rex White was named one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers in 1998 and it is an honor to congratulate this North Carolina native on his induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

DOLLY MAE NAVE

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dolly Nave, who passed away on December 23, 2014, at her home in San Rafael, California. As a dedicated community organizer and leader, Ms. Nave helped to transform recreational facilities in the City of San Rafael for the benefit of countless Marin County residents.

In the 1980s, on behalf of Ms. Nave's eight children and the children in the local community, Ms. Nave rallied the support of local contractors and volunteers to donate the equipment, labor, and funding necessary to breathe new life into public schools and city-owned recreation fields and facilities. Ms. Nave continued to improve recreational facilities throughout her life, and founded the Marin Bocce Federation in Albert Park, San Rafael.

Ms. Nave was a skillful community leader who possessed the necessary organizational skills to always put the pieces in place and get the job done. She was the project manager for the construction of Marin Community Fields in Larkspur and was in the forefront of numerous projects at San Rafael High, initiating the successful ''Save Night Football'' campaign. A volunteer at Albert Park for 35 years, she became known as the ''Angel of Albert Park'' because she was one of its foremost advocates. In 1993, she was a founding board member and construction chair of the Marin Bocce Federation in Albert Park. The ten bocce courts are now used by more than 1,000 players a week.

Ms. Nave's work did not go unnoticed, and her longstanding commitment to others was recognized by numerous awards including San Rafael Citizen of the Year, the Marv Lechner Award from San Rafael High, and Woman of the Year for California's Third Senate District in 1991. She was also one of the first women to be inducted into the Marin Athletic Foundation High School Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, Dolly Nave's selfless efforts have benefited countless residents of San Rafael and Marin County. Her legacy will not soon be forgotten as her accomplishments can be seen all around the City of San Rafael. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to her today and express our deepest condolences to her husband, Rich; three sons, Richard Jr., Paul and Tom; and three daughters, Sheri, Kathy and Patti; as well as her twenty-four grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren. Ms. Nave was predeceased by her sons, Bruce and Louie.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was $10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is $18,087,425,445,178.53. We've added $7,460,548,396,265.45 to our debt in 6 years. This is over $7.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN OPPOSITION TO THE FY15 DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 240, the FY2015 Homeland Security Appropriations bill, which included the adoption of five anti-immigrant amendments. By including these policy riders, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have decided to hold hostage and disrupt funding for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Failure to promptly fund the Department of Homeland Security puts our country at risk.

At the end of last year, House and Senate Appropriators came to a compromise agreement on funding for the Department of Homeland Security at a level of $39.67 billion, $1.5 billion above the President's request. This agreement contained funding for many important programs vital to our national security interests. Unfortunately, Speaker BOEHNER decided to abandon that agreement and instead have a negotiation between the far right and the far, far right.

In particular, I strongly oppose the inclusion of an amendment offered by Congressman ADERHOLT that would deny the use of any funds or fees for the administration to implement the President's Executive Action on immigration that was issued last November. As many legal experts have determined, there is clear precedent for this action, which seeks to further secure our border and prioritize deporting felons over families. In fact, over the last 50 years, every President has used executive authority to take limited action on immigration, including six Republican Presidents.

I was also very disappointed that an amendment offered by Congresswoman BLACKBURN was adopted in final passage of this bill. This amendment would prevent Dreamers in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA) from renewing the two-year Deferred Action they have already received. This would effectively end the DACA program—which has already provided temporary protection for 700,000 individuals who were brought to the United States as children—and would subject hundreds of thousands of Dreamers to deportation.

If our Republican colleagues want to address immigration issues, they should start by

taking up legislation to fix our broken immigration system. Over 18 months ago, the Senate passed a comprehensive immigration reform bill with bipartisan support. House Republicans allowed that bill to die in the House without allowing it to come to a vote. Republicans should come up with a proposal to reform our broken immigration system. They should not threaten to defund the Department of Homeland Security because of their inaction.

It is especially unfortunate that these anti-immigrant amendments were adopted because the bill that had previously been agreed to contained funding for many critical programs. Specifically, I appreciate the robust funding in the bill provided for the SAFER and AFG fire grant programs which have helped pay for emergency vehicles and increased staffing needs at a time when the numbers of volunteer fire fighters across the country has been declining. Furthermore, in light of this week's cyberattack on the U.S. Central Command's Twitter account, I am encouraged by the bill's funding for cyber security programs. I am also pleased to see the increased funding provided for the Secret Service, which has experienced well reported challenges last year.

Mr. Speaker, now is not the time to play politics with our national security. I urge my colleagues to vote no on this bill.

IN HONOR OF 2015 NASCAR HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE JOE WEATHERLY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate racing legend Joe Weatherly upon his posthumous induction into the sixth class of the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

The Norfolk, Virginia, native established himself as one of boldest personalities in NASCAR history. Affectionately called the ''Clown Prince of Stock Car Racing'' for pulling such antics as wearing costumes during practice laps, he was all business come race time.

Weatherly won the 1953 NASCAR modified championship and then in 1962 and 1963 he won the NASCAR premier series championships. He also earned five victories on tracks in the 8th district of North Carolina during his career.

His tragic death in 1964 due to injuries sustained during a race that season made him the first reigning champion to die during the season.

Weatherly was previously inducted into the American Motorcycle Association Hall of Fame and the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America and it is a great honor to extend these congratulatory remarks for one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers of all-time on his posthumous induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

IN RECOGNITION OF BISHOP PARNELL M. LOVELACE, JR.

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bishop Parnell M. Lovelace, Jr. as he steps aside from his position as Senior Pastor of the Center of Praise Ministries of Sacramento, California. As a spiritual leader, he has served the Sacramento community since he founded the Center of Praise Ministries in 1989. Before this he held various other positions for which our community is grateful. As his congregation, family, colleagues and community leaders gather to celebrate his efforts, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his many years of contributions to the Sacramento region.

Bishop Lovelace has been an enthusiastic and effective spiritual leader. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Social Work from Oral Roberts University and Master of Arts in Social Work from the University of Oklahoma. He received early spiritual training at Sacramento's Shiloh Baptist Church, and went on to receive his Certificate of Completion from the Jack W. Hayford School of Pastoral Nurture at King's College and Seminary, a Master of Arts in Practical Theology with High Honors from Oral Roberts University, and his Doctor of Ministry from the Talbot School of Theology at Biola University.

In addition to leading the Center of Praise Ministries, Bishop Lovelace was a public servant in Oklahoma and Sacramento, where he held a number of positions, including being the Sacramento Regional Office Manager and Case Worker for the Koinonia Foster Homes, a Pediatric Medical Social Worker for the University of California, Davis Medical Center, and served as the Vice Chairperson for the Board of Directors of CARES Community Health clinic.

In 1989 Bishop Lovelace led the Center of Praise Ministries' founding meeting and it has grown exponentially since then. As Senior Pastor, he has contributed an unimaginable amount of time and effort to improving our community and has made it a priority to reach out to those in need. Other important positions he has held include a stint as a Senior Fellow with the American Leadership Forum's Mountain Valley Chapter, Advisory Board Member of East Lawn, Inc., leadership within 100 Black Men of America, Inc., co-pastoral chair of the 2012 Luis Palau Sacramento Festival, and he served as member of the Board of Trustees at William Jessup University.

Not surprisingly, Bishop Lovelace has received numerous honors throughout his career. Some of his most recent awards include being honored by the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Board of Preachers and Collegium Scholars at Morehouse College, receiving the 2012 President's Award from the Sacramento Black Chamber of Commerce, and in 2013 he was named Person of the Year by the Observer Media Group.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of his dedication to the betterment of our community, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking and recognizing the Bishop Parnell M. Lovelace, Jr. for his many years of service and in wishing him and his family all the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAUL DAVID LANTZ, PRESIDENT OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paul Lantz as he completes his term as President of the Jewish Community Alliance of the Greater Wyoming Valley. Under Paul's dedicated leadership, the Jewish Community Alliance has made great strides in preparing for its future, most notably in the acquisition of land that will allow for establishment of a new Jewish Community Center for the Wyoming Valley. This project will maintain many of the traditional aspects and artifacts of the current structure but will also allow the center to expand into a modern facility designed to meet future needs. The Jewish community in the Wyoming Valley has had a rich history of charitable and educational works dating back many years, and this project will allow this work to continue well into the future.

Educated at Connecticut College, Paul graduated with a bachelor of arts in zoology. After receiving his master's in business administration from the University of Connecticut, Paul went to work for Price Waterhouse in New York as a CPA. In 1981, he moved to Wilkes-Barre with his wife, where they still reside. Paul is actively involved in the Wilkes-Barre community in many ways. In addition to serving as the President of the Jewish Community Alliance, Paul has also served on the board of several non-profit organizations, such as the SPCA, the Domestic Violence Service Center, The Wyoming Valley Children's Association, and the Boys & Girls Clubs. Currently, Paul is the owner and President of the A. Rifkin Co. in Wilkes-Barre and Hope Uniform & Security Products in Columbia, New Jersey.

I congratulate Paul on his work as President of the Jewish Community Alliance of the Wyoming Valley, and I commend him for his dedication, his quiet confidence, and his selflessness in offering his time and talents on behalf of others.

LIST OF INCIDENTS TARGETING THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN INDIA

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the following list of incidents of religious persecution targeting the Christian community in India was compiled by the Evangelical Fellowship of India, a charter member of the World Evangelical Alliance and an accredited NGO with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

The Evangelical Fellowship of India expresses concern at the alarming rate at which the Christian community is being targeted in India. The EFI's Religious Liberty Commission recorded more than 38 incidents targeting the Christian community in November–December 2014, with 31 incidents taking place in December alone. The incidents range from physical violence, false accusations, disruption of church services/

Christmas functions, to the hate campaigns and the pressure to convert to Hinduism that the Christian community is facing almost on a daily basis in India.

LIST OF INCIDENTS STATE WISE

Uttar Pradesh—13 incidents
Madhya Pradesh—8 incidents
Chhattisgarh—4 incidents
Delhi—4 incidents
Punjab—2 incidents
Bihar—2 incidents
Tamil Nadu—1 incident
Karnataka—1 incident
Assam—1 incident
Andhra Pradesh—1 incident
Gujarat—1 incident

BHOPAL, MADHYA PRADESH (4TH NOVEMBER 2014)

Members of Bajrang Dal attacked 7 Christians including one Pastor from Mumbai, beat them up and got them arrested in Bhopal. The Christians were stripped and beaten mercilessly by fists and belts, causing internal injuries.

INDORE, MADHYA PRADESH (7TH NOVEMBER 2014)

A Christian was falsely accused, detained and later arrested on allegations of forced conversions in Indore. According to reports from local sources, Hindu extremists threw cross necklaces in the house where the Christians had gathered and then stormed inside alleging forced conversions. A police complaint alleging that the Christian was forcing them to wear cross necklaces and hence converting them was filed at the local police complaint. The Christian was detained for over four hours at the Chandan Nagar Police Station post the incident and was released later.

UDUMALPET, TAMIL NADU (16TH NOVEMBER 2014)

Over 100 Hindu extremists attacked a Christian community in Udumalpet, Tamil Nadu. The community was attacked when they were participating in a prayer service. The attackers not only beat the Christians present but also burnt more than 20 vehicles belonging to the Christians. They desecrated Bibles, burnt the altar of the Church and destroyed Church property including musical instruments. The Christians were threatened even when they were being treated for injuries at the local hospital.

RAJNANDGAON, CHHATTISGARH (16TH NOVEMBER 2014)

Members of the VHP and the Bajrang Dal stormed the Sunday worship service of the Masihi Aradhna Church in Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh and beat the Church members up. The attackers were looking for the Pastor who was hidden by the Church members as there was a threat to his life.

KOLAR, KARNATAKA (23RD NOVEMBER 2014)

Hindu extremists attacked the Calvary Apostolic Church in Bangarapet, Karnataka. They beat up Church members resulting in eight church members seriously injured. Two members among the eight injured suffered broken legs.

JAGDALPUR, CHHATTISGARH (26TH NOVEMBER 2014)

Media reports carried the news that under pressure from the VHF, the Catholic missionaries in Bastar area of Chhattisgarh state have agreed that the principals in their schools. normally referred to as ''Father'', would now be addressed as ''Pracharya'', or ''Up-pracharya''. or ''Sir''. The reports also mentioned that the missionaries have also agreed to put up photographs of ''Maa Saraswati'' and ''great personalities who have worked for national interest'' in their educational institutions. Local Catholic sources have denied such an agreement and complained of pressure from the VHP.

ASSAM (26TH NOVEMBER 2014)

Pastor of the Believers Church in Moran Amguri, Sivasagar District of Assam received threats from local Hindu leaders to vacate the building that the congregation uses for Church services in one months time or face the consequences.

DELHI (1ST DECEMBER 2014)

A Catholic church in East Delhi's Dilshad Garden area, St Sebastian's Church, was completely gutted in a fire, in the early hours of 1st December 2014. Later, Christians took to the streets to protest the burning, and demanded a judicial enquiry as foul play is suspected. The Governor of Delhi has instituted a Special Investigation Team to probe into the matter.

DELHI (2ND DECEMBER 2014)

Four unidentified men broke into the Catholic convent in Rohini area of Delhi. The CCTV captured the images when the break in happened.

DELHI (6TH DECEMBER 2014)

Unidentified people pelted Our Lady of Fatema Church with stones during mass at about 6 p.m in the Jasola area of New Delhi damaging windows and causing the Syro-Malabar Catholic congregation to rush out in alarm.

ALIGARH, UTTAR PRADESH (9TH DECEMBER 2014)

The RSS and the Dharma Jagran Manch announced that they planned to convert 4000 Christian and 1000 Muslim families in Aligarh on Christmas Day. BJP MP Yogi Adityanath supported the event visibly among others. The organizers said that Christmas was chosen as the day for conversion because the event is a ''shakti pariksha'' (test of strength) for both religions.

LUDHIANA, PUNJAB (11TH DECEMBER 2014)

Members of the Shiv Sena attacked the Kalvari Church, Ludhiana prompting the police to deploy heavy security to protect the Church building. Shiv Sena members later surrounded the local police station alleging forced conversion.

ALIGARH, UTTAR PRADESH (12TH DECEMBER 2014)

Newspapers reported that the Dharam Jagran Samiti (DJS), an RSS offshoot, distributed pamphlets in Aligarh seeking donations for converting Christians and Muslims to Hinduism. The pamphlet said that it costs Rs 2 lakh to convert a Christian and Rs 5 lakh to convert a Muslim. The DJS had set December 25 as the date for a major conversion ceremony and put down an annual target of 2 lakh conversions—1 lakh Muslims and 1 lakh Christians in the area.

RATLAM, MADHYA PRADESH (12TH DECEMBER 2014)

Members of the Bajrang Dal stormed a Christian meeting in Ratlam. Madhya Pradesh along with the media and the police forcing the organizers to cancel the meeting. The organizers and the speakers of the meeting were taken to the police station but were later released. CSP P S Ranawat told the media that no evidence about the alleged conversions, forced or otherwise. was found in the initial probe by the police.

BASTAR, CHHATTISGARH (13TH DECEMBER 2014)

NDTV and other national media organizations reported that the BJP Lok Sabha MP from Bastar, Dinesh Kashyap presided over a ceremony that saw 33 Christian families being converted to Hinduism. The local Christians had complained of pressure from VHP and BJP earlier asking them to convert to Hinduism.

HYDERABAD, ANDHRA PRADESH (13TH DECEMBER 2014)

Christians were attacked and beaten by Hindu extremists for singing Christmas carols in Hyderabad, seriously injuring a pastor and four others. The violence occurred while Pastor Bhim Nayak of Banjara Baptist Church and fifteen church members sang Christmas carols and visited Christian families in the city's Singareny Colony. Local reports say that some thirty ''Hindu extremists'' attacked the Christians and a vehicle they had hired for the evening festivities.

PIPRAICH, UTTAR PRADESH (16TH DECEMBER 2014)

Christians including 4 women were arrested from a Christmas function at Navipur village, Pipraich, Uttar Pradesh and were kept in custody for more than 20 hours before being released. They were accused by Hindu groups of indulging in forced conversion but the police let them go after a detailed investigation.

BEHRAICH, UTTAR PRADESH (16TH DECEMBER 2014)

Pastor Mahendra Kumar from Behraich, Uttar Pradesh was arrested and kept in custody for two days before being released without any charges. He was arrested following complaints of local Hindu groups. The Hindu groups are also targeting a Christian social service organization working in the area, according to local reports.

BHAGALPUR, BIHAR (18TH DECEMBER 2014)

Three Christians who had recently converted to Christianity were forced to re-convert to Hinduism. According to media reports the three converts returned to the Hindu fold after they were threatened with a social boycott.

UTTAR PRADESH (18TH DECEMBER 2014)

Dharm Jagran Manch leader Rajeshwar Singh told media that his organization plans to root out Christianity and Islam from India by December 31, 2021, adding that Christians and Muslims essentially have no right to live in the country.

VARANASI, UTTAR PRADESH (19TH DECEMBER 2014)

Hindu extremists disrupted a Christian prayer meeting and beat up Christians in Varanasi on December 19, 2014. Pastor Shobhnath and local Christians were participating in prayer and fasting in a village in Chiraigaon Block, Varanasi, when 10–12 people came in a Bolero (SUV), entered the house forcefully, and started beating the Christians. They took away Bible and other literature and also destroyed household furniture. According to local sources the attackers are office bearers of RSS and BJP. The matter was reported to the local police.

VALSAD, GUJARAT (19TH DECEMBER 2014)

According to media reports. Vishwa Hindu Parishad ''officially brought back to the Hindu fold'' some 100 Christian tribals who had ''embraced Hinduism earlier'' in south Gujarat. VHP activists later claimed as many as 900 had been ''reconverted''. The 'zhar wapsi' ceremony was conducted this afternoon at Arnai, a village in Kaprada taluka of Valsad district. A news website called scroll.in later investigated the issue and did not find a single convert in the area, a far cry from what was claimed by the VHP.

RATLAM, MADHYA PRADESH (19TH DECEMBER 2014)

A week after insisting that there was no evidence of conversion, forced or otherwise, the Ratlam Police booked Pastor Jose Mathews, the organiser of a Christian convention under the state's anti-conversion law. The convention organised by the Indian Pentecostal Church of God and the United Christian Council (UCC) on December 12, at Ratlam was attended by Christians and was stormed by Bajrang Dal people alleging conversions.

CHHATTISGARH (20TH DECEMBER 2014)

Media reports said that the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is getting ready to clear

the controversial anti-conversion Bill passed by the Chhattisgarh Assembly in 2006. The Dharma Swatantraya Adhiniyam Act, 2006, brought by BJP's Raman Singh government in the state says the return of a person to his ancestor's religion or own original religion shall not be construed as ''conversion.'' The Bill also says that a district magistrate will have to be intimated 30 days prior to the conversion and he will be the final authority on the subject.

PUNJAB (21ST DECEMBER 2014)

In media reports, the RSS and its affiliates claimed that they are engaged in a massive reconversion or ''ghar wapsi'' programme to get Christians back—not just to Hinduism, but also to Sikhism, in Punjab. The organizations claim to have helped some 8,000 people 'return home' in the last three years, some 3,500 of them over the last one year.

DELHIM (21ST DECEMBER 2014)

RSS announced that it will organize a reconversion rally at Ramlila Maidan in New Delhi on Christmas day with at least 25000 people in attendance.

KHARGONE, MADHYA PRADESH (24TH DECEMBER 2014)

A Christian couple, Wilson and Rashmita, was taken into custody under the state's anti-conversion law from a village near district headquarters Khargone, Madhya Pradesh. The couple were a part of a Christmas program held on 24th December at Nayanagar, about 28 kilometres from Khargone, where they live. Members of a Hindu group who alleged conversions disrupted the Christmas program and called the police who then arrested the couple. According to local sources, the Hindu groups produced false witnesses against the couple alleging that they had offered 5000 Rupees every month to a woman if she converts to Christianity.

UJJAIN, MADHYA PRADESH (24TH DECEMBER 2014)

Akash Sisodia from Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh was attacked by members of the Bajrang Dal while he was leading a Christmas prayer service in Ujjain Madhya Pradesh. According to reports, the Bajrang Dal people who were accompanied by the police and media people produced false witnesses and got Sisodia arrested. He was kept in custody for three days before being released, as charges against him could not be substantiated.

UTTAR PRADESH (25TH DECEMBER 2014)

Seven people including two pastors were arrested on Christmas day from Urai. Raibareily and Kushinagar areas of Uttar Pradesh. The Christians were arrested on after BJP members complained of forcible conversions. However according to media reports no such conversions could be verified.

BARLOI, MAU, UTTAR PRADESH (25TH DECEMBER 2014)

Police stopped a Christmas function in Barloi village of Uttar Pradesh following objections by Hindu groups. Local BJP leader Dr. Alka Roy was also accompanying the police as they forced the Christians to stop the Christmas function.

MAINPURI, UTTAR PRADESH (25TH DECEMBER 2014)

Police in Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh, stopped a Christmas celebration following complaints by Hindu groups alleging conversions. However according to media reports, no evidence of any conversion was found after investigation. The Christmas celebrations were organized at the home of one Shankar Lal Verma in Kharagjeet Nagar, Mainpuri. After Hindu groups complained the police reached the spot, stopped the celebrations, dispersed the gathered people and arrested Shankar Lal. He was later released as the charges against him were not proved true.

KHANDWA, MADHYA PRADESH (26TH DECEMBER 2014)

Christians were attacked during a Christmas celebration in village Coloni near Khandwa. The mob cornered the Christians just about they were going to have lunch and threw stones at them. Later the police came and arrested 13 Christians including three very young children, 8 months, 4 years and 7 years and took them to Borgaon police station where they were charged under IP 295 A. The Christians including the children were in police custody till 31st December 2014 till their bail was secured. Earlier Hindu groups in the district court also roughed up a lawyer who appeared for the Christians. The groups told the lawyer to get off the case and not represent the Christians anymore.

VARANASI, UTTAR PRADESH (27TH DECEMBER 2014)

Police arrested Pastor Ashok Prajapati from Varanasi following allegations of forcible conversions. According to reports, Hindu groups as well as the police threatened him and asked him to stop holding prayer meetings in the area. He was released in the evening the same day.

AMETHI, UTTAR PRADESH (27TH DECEMBER 2014)

BJP leaders and Bajrang Dal people threatened Pastor Ramchand from Amethi, Uttar Pradesh of dire consequences if he carries on with worship services in the area. The pastor left the village keeping in mind his own security and has approached the local police for protection.

ALLAHABAD, UTTAR PRADESH (27TH DECEMBER 2014)

More than 25 members of the Youth wing of the BJP and other Hindu groups stormed into the Sam Higginbottom university alleging conversions. The attackers tore banners with Bible verses written on them, shouted anti-Christian slogans, burnt the effigy of the vice chancellor of the University, Dr. R B Lall, and entered into a fight with the security personnel. Two of them were caught and handed over to the police.

GAYA, BIHAR (28TH DECEMBER 2014)

Christians in Gaya, Bihar sought police protection after several outfits of the Hindu right-wing threatened them of dire consequences if they do not convert to Hinduism. In a petition containing two pages of signatures, given to the police, the Christians accused the VHP, the RSS and the Bajrang Dal of indulging in intimidation and force.

INDORE, MADHYA PRADESH 128TH DECEMBER 2014)

Hindu extremist groups forcibly took two Catholic missionaries to police station after disrupting an interfaith meeting organized at the Geeta Bhavan. Indore. Madhya Pradesh. The activists of Bajrang Dal and Dharma Jagran Manch accused Father Prasad and Brother Sleeva of trying to convert Hindus to Christianity. They demanded that the police arrest the missionaries, after registering a First Information Report against them. The missionaries were however, let off as charges against them proved to be frivolous. The next day the Hindu groups proceeded to purify Geeta Bhavan by pouring milk and cow urine on the place where the missionaries had been participating in the interfaith meeting.

DEORIA, UTTAR PRADESH (28TH DECEMBER 2014)

Members of Hindu Yuva Vahini and the police disrupted a Christian worship service at Salempur, Deoria district, Uttar Pradesh. Jaswant Masih and his wife Suman, who have been conducting prayer services for many years in their own home, were arrested and taken to the police station following complaints by the Hindu groups that the couple were involved in forcible conversions. Later, Police, denied any incident of conversion. ''A Christian family has been organising prayers for past many years and people go there. It is just a matter of faith and nothing else,'' said inspector Ram Yadav.

HONORING FRED T. NOLAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. Fred T. Nolan, a native of Dyer, Tennessee, but raised in Paducah, Kentucky, and has lived in Jackson, Mississippi since his graduation from Tougaloo College in the early 1960s. One of his early career choices was teaching in the Jackson Public School District (JPS).

Mr. Nolan taught two years at the then Brinkley High School located on Livingston Road and was a ninth grade teacher of Social Studies and Mathematics. He left JPS to pursue other career options and worked briefly for the Urban League of Jackson as director. The majority of his career spanned 25 years as the executive director of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, a division of Housing Urban Development (HUD).

After fully retiring from HUD in 1996, Mr. Nolan rejoined the JPS family as a substitute and limited service teacher. He worked three years in a limited service capacity at Siwell Middle, Lanier High, and Forest Hill High schools.

Mr. Fred Nolan is married to Mrs. Kisiah Nolan, a former JPS Board member and president. His son, Fredrick Nolan, is coordinator of the JPS WATCH D.O.G.S. program. The Nolans also have two daughters: Renee Nolan Johnson of Huntsville, Alabama, and Adrienne Nolan Colar of Smyrna, Georgia. All three of their children are graduates of the Jackson Public School District.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Fred T. Nolan for his dedication to serving others.

IN OPPOSITION TO H.R. 185, THE REGULATORY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 185, the so-called ''Regulatory Accountability Act.''

Today's bill is yet another attempt by House Republicans to limit the ability of federal agencies to enforce commonsense rules and regulations. While supporters of this rehashed bill claim it is needed to curb overregulation, in reality, it would simply prevent federal agencies from doing their jobs and working to ensure there are safeguards in place to protect consumer health and safety. In fact, H.R. 185

would create more red tape by imposing over 60 new barriers in the federal rulemaking process.

One of the most burdensome provisions in this legislation requires agencies to conduct a cost-benefit analysis for all proposed rules and possible alternatives, even if the rule is limited in scope and has a minimal economic impact. Moreover, agencies would be obligated to adopt the option that was the least costly in the short term, without taking into account the long term impact and costs it would have on public health and safety. This is a myopic way to govern and would create paralysis within the rulemaking process.

President Obama has already implemented significant reforms to the rulemaking process. In January 2010, the President signed an Executive Order that required agencies to determine if the benefits of proposed rules are justified considering their cost to society. He required an interagency review of overlapping rules and regulation between agencies that may prevent innovation in the private sector and instituted a policy to allow agencies to consider input from affected public and private stakeholders and experts when developing rules and regulations. Moreover, federal agencies under President Obama issued significantly less rules during his first four years in office when compared to President Bush's first term.

At a time when Congress should be doing everything it can to create jobs and improve the economy, this bill is nothing but a distraction. I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

RECOGNIZING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2015

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it comes as no surprise that the 2015 theme for Catholic Schools Week is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." As a man of faith and a graduate of Bishop Egan High School in Fairless Hills, I can tell you that both my wife Kathy and I have benefitted greatly from our value-centered Catholic upbringing. As have each of our six children—Katie, Maggie, Molly, Jimmy, Mick and Tommy.

In the 8th District of Pennsylvania, we have so many proud Catholic institutions to send our children to. The commitment of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to our local community is unmatched. These local institutions have spent years building solid communities of faith and knowledge—all of which give back to the greater community in many ways. The rigorous academic curriculum, coupled with spiritual teachings of passion, kindness and respect, give our children the background they need to be upstanding citizens.

In the words of Pope Francis, "It is important not to turn in on ourselves, burying our own talent, our spiritual, intellectual, and material riches, everything that the Lord has given us, but, rather to open ourselves, to be supportive, to be attentive to others. Set your stakes on great ideals, the ideals that enlarge the heart, the ideals of service that make your talents fruitful. Life is not given to us to be jealously guarded for ourselves, but is given to us so that we may give it in turn." Our Catholic School upbringing teaches us to be the best that we can be, and in turn, use the skills that we acquire to give back to the community. I truly value everything that our local Catholic Schools bring to our area, and I am honored to celebrate with you this week.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, due to being unavoidably detained I was unable to cast a vote for roll call vote 44. If I had been present I would have voted "NO".

TRIBUTE TO DuPONT PIONEER CRICK RESEARCH CENTER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the construction and subsequent opening of the DuPont Pioneer Crick Research Center in Johnston, Iowa.

The $40 million DuPont Pioneer Crick Research Center, located in Johnston, Iowa, showcases the investment toward innovation, safety and stewardship of Pioneer agricultural products and contributing to global food security. The 180,000 square foot state-of-the-art research facility will be home to over 400 Pioneer employees, and includes 84,000 sq. ft. of laboratory space, 31 conference rooms, and flexible, ergonomic work stations. The Crick Research Center features an on-site fitness center and cafeteria for employees.

I commend DuPont Pioneer and their staff for providing cutting edge agricultural services that help to improve yields and create a sustainable livelihood for farmers around the world. I urge my colleagues in the United States Congress to join me in congratulating DuPont Pioneer for their numerous achievements' including the opening of the DuPont Pioneer Crick Research Center. I wish them and all of their employees the best of luck moving forward.

RECOGNIZING MR. BOB GODSHALL

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend of mine, Pennsylvania State Representative Bob Godshall for the 50 years of service he has given to our community, and the state of Pennsylvania. Representative Godshall has served 32 years in the Pennsylvania Legislature representing the 53rd District in Montgomery County, PA—an area which encompasses the Indian Valley portion of my Congressional District.

Prior to his work in the legislature, Bob served 3 years as Montgomery County Controller, and 17 years on the Souderton School Board. He also served 3 years as Montgomery County Open Space Director, where he helped bring Montgomery County's beautiful park system to fruition. Bob was also instrumental in the creation of the United States Constitution Center in Philadelphia—a place where thousands of visitors come to pay tribute to the founding fathers each year.

Aside from his many accomplishments, Bob has also been very kind, generous and supportive of me in my work representing the 8th Congressional District. In 2012, when I found out that my district would be taking on a new portion of Montgomery County, Bob was the first person I called. Everyone in the Indian Valley has a story about Representative Godshall, usually involving Bob "helping them, their family or their neighbor." I've never met anyone more dedicated to his community and beloved by the people who live there.

Bob—it's been a pleasure working with you and getting to know you over the past few years. Thanks for everything you have done, and continue to do for our area.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, January 27, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 28

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the impact of the ''Budget Control Act of 2011'' and sequestration on national security.
SD–106

Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine MAP–21 reauthorization, focusing on Federal and state perspectives.
SD–406

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 114th Congress, committee rules of procedure, subcommittee assignments, S. 192, to reauthorize the Older Americans Act of 1965, an original bill entitled, ''Strengthening Education Through Research Act'', and any pending nominations.
SD–430

9:45 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
Organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee, subcommittee assignments, and rules of procedure for the 114th Congress.
SD–419

10 a.m.
Committee on the Budget
To hold hearings to examine the Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) budget and economic outlook for fiscal years 2015–2025.
SD–608

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine freight rail transportation, focusing on enhancing safety, efficiency, and commerce.
SR–253

Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of the Attorney General.
SH–216

10:30 a.m.
Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
Organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee, and rules of procedure for the 114th Congress.
SR–428A

11 a.m.
Committee on Finance
Business meeting to consider H.R. 22, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt employees with health coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of determining the employers to which the employer mandate applies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.
SD–215

2:15 p.m.
Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine combating financial exploitation of vulnerable seniors.
SD–562

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine protecting America from cyber attacks, focusing on the importance of information sharing.
SD–342

Committee on Indian Affairs
Organizational business meeting to consider selection of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee, committee rules of procedure, and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 114th Congress; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine Indian country priorities for the 114th Congress.
SD–628

4 p.m.
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee, rules of procedure for the 114th Congress, and subcommittee assignments.
SR–328A

JANUARY 29

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine global challenges and the U.S. national security strategy.
SD–G50

10 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, ''Nuclear Weapon Free Iran Act of 2015''.
SD–538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security
To hold hearings to examine improving the performance of transportation networks, focusing on stakeholder perspectives.
SR–253

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine S. 33, to provide certainty with respect to the timing of Department of Energy decisions to approve or deny applications to export natural gas.
SD–366

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine employer wellness programs, focusing on better health outcomes and lower costs.
SD–430

Committee on the Judiciary
To continue hearings to examine the nomination of the Attorney General.
SH–216

12 noon
Committee on Rules and Administration
Organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 114th Congress.
S–219

2 p.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold closed hearings to examine the campaign against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).
SVC–217

2:30 p.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.
SH–219

FEBRUARY 11

10 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the Internet.
SR–253

POSTPONEMENTS

JANUARY 28

10 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine articulating the case for American leadership in the world, focusing on the national interest.
SD–419

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S447–S494

Measures Introduced: Six bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 250–255, and S. Res. 39–41. **Page S466**

Measures Reported:

S. Res. 39, authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. **Page S466**

Measures Passed:

Congratulating North Dakota State University Football Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 41, congratulating the North Dakota State University football team for winning the 2014 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title. **Page S488**

Measures Considered:

Keystone XL Pipeline—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Page S449–60**

Pending:

Murkowski Amendment No. 2, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S449**

Vitter/Cassidy Modified Amendment No. 80 (to Amendment No. 2), to provide for the distribution of revenues from certain areas of the outer Continental Shelf. **Page S449**

Murkowski (for Sullivan) Amendment No. 67 (to Amendment No. 2), to restrict the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency to arm agency personnel. **Page S449**

Cardin Amendment No. 75 (to Amendment No. 2), to provide communities that rely on drinking water from a source that may be affected by a tar sands spill from the Keystone XL pipeline an analysis of the potential risks to public health and the environment from a leak or rupture of the pipeline. **Page S449**

Murkowski Amendment No. 98 (to Amendment No. 2), to express the sense of Congress relating to adaptation projects in the United States Arctic region and rural communities. **Page S449**

Flake Amendment No. 103 (to Amendment No. 2), to require the evaluation and consolidation of duplicative green building programs. **Page S449**

Cruz Amendment No. 15 (to Amendment No. 2), to promote economic growth and job creation by increasing exports. **Page S449**

Moran/Cruz Amendment No. 73 (to Amendment No. 2), to delist the lesser prairie-chicken as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. **Page S449**

Daines Amendment No. 132 (to Amendment No. 2), to express the sense of Congress regarding the designation of National Monuments. **Page S449**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 53 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 29), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on Murkowski Amendment No. 2 (listed above). **Page S454–55**

Senator McConnell entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on Murkowski Amendment No. 2 (listed above). **Page S455**

By 53 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 30), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the bill. **Page S455**

Senator McConnell entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the bill. **Page S455**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 11 a.m., on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, with the time until 12:30 p.m. equally divided with the Democrats controlling the first half, and the Republicans controlling the final half. **Page S488**

Appointments:

Joint Committee on Taxation: The Chair announced on behalf of the Committee on Finance, pursuant to section 8002 of title 26, U.S. Code, the designation of the following Senators as members of the Joint Committee on Taxation: Senators Hatch, Grassley, Crapo, Wyden, and Stabenow. **Page S488**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Sim Farar, of California, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2015.

Sim Farar, of California, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2018.

William Joseph Hybl, of Colorado, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2015.

William Joseph Hybl, of Colorado, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2018.

Dallas P. Tonsager, of South Dakota, to be a Member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, Farm Credit Administration, for a term expiring May 21, 2020.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Page S490–94**

Messages from the House: **Page S465**

Measures Referred: **Page S465**

Executive Communications: **Page S465–66**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S466–67**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S467–69**

Additional Statements: **Page S464**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S469–88**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—30) **Page S454–55**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 4:30 p.m. and adjourned at 7:29 p.m., until 11 a.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S488.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 522–538; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 26; H. Con. Res. 9; and H. Res. 49–51, were introduced. **Page H581–82**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H583–84**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 48, providing for consideration on the bill (H.R. 351) to provide for expedited approval of exportation of natural gas, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–5). **Page H581**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Allen to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H537**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:08 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H538**

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Representative Smith (NJ), Chairman. **Page H539**

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Representative Smith (NJ), Chairman. **Page H539**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:12 p.m. and reconvened at 3:33 p.m. **Page H539**

Morning Hour Debate: Agreed by unanimous consent that the order of the House of January 6, 2015 regarding Morning Hour debate does not apply tomorrow, January 27th. **Page H539**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Human Trafficking Prioritization Act: H.R. 514, to prioritize the fight against human trafficking within the Department of State according to congressional intent in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 without increasing the size of the Federal Government; **Page H539–42**

International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking: H.R. 515, to protect children from exploitation, especially sex trafficking in tourism, by providing advance notice of intended travel by registered child-sex offenders outside the United States to the government of the country of destination, and requesting foreign governments to

notify the United States when a known child-sex offender is seeking to enter the United States;

Page H542–46

Human Trafficking Prevention Act: H.R. 357, to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to expand the training for Federal Government personnel related to trafficking in persons; and

Page H546–48

Enhancing Services for Runaway and Homeless Victims of Youth Trafficking Act of 2015: H.R. 468, to amend the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act to increase knowledge concerning, and improve services for, runaway and homeless youth who are victims of trafficking. **Page H548–49**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2015: H.R. 469, to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to enable State child protective services systems to improve the identification and assessment of child victims of sex trafficking; and **Page H549–53**

Improving the response to victims of child sex trafficking: H.R. 246, to improve the response to victims of child sex trafficking. **Page H553–55**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page 539.

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no yea-and-nay votes, and there were no recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LNG PERMITTING CERTAINTY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 351, the "LNG Permitting Certainty and Transparency Act". The committee granted, by voice vote, a closed rule for H.R. 351. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Representatives Whitfield, Pallone, Johnson of Ohio, and Garamendi.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine global challenges and U.S. national security strategy, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee, subcommittee assignments, and rules of procedure for the 114th Congress; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine perspectives on the strategic necessity of Iran sanctions, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine President Obama's 2015 trade policy agenda, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine No Child Left Behind, focusing on supporting teachers and school leaders, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Congressional Budget Office's Budget and Economic Outlook", 10:30 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade, hearing entitled "What are the Elements of Sound Data Breach Legislation?", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Examining Public Health Legislation to Help Patients and Local Communities", 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Sustainable Housing Finance: An Update from the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency", 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Iran Nuclear Negotiations After the Second Extension: Where Are They Going?", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled "Nigeria on the Brink?", 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled "The Evolution of Terrorist Propaganda: The Paris Attack and Social Media", 2:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 114th Congress, 10:30 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on the ''Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2015'', 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 114th Congress; markup on H.R. 50, the ''Unfunded Mandates Information Transparency Act of 2015''; and H.R. 313, the ''Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act of 2015'', 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 114th Congress, 11 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Research and Technology, hearing entitled ''The Expanding Cyber Threat'', 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 114th Congress, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing entitled ''Rebuilding After the Storm: Lessening Impacts and Speeding Recovery'', 10:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Full Committee, business meeting to designate Congresswoman Kathleen Rice to subcommittees; hearing on H.R. 189, the ''Servicemember Foreclosure Protections Extension Act of 2015''; H.R. 216, the ''Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Planning Reform Act of 2015''; H.R. 245, to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify certain existing provisions of law relating to effective dates for claims under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; H.R. 280, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recoup bonuses and awards paid to employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and H.R. 294, the ''Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act'', 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled ''A Review of the Transition Assistance Program (TAP)'', 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''U.S. Trade Policy Agenda'', 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Select Committee on Benghazi, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Hearing 3'', relating to status review of outstanding requests, 10:30 a.m., HVC–210.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of January 27 through January 30, 2015

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, at approximately 11 a.m., Senate will continue consideration of S. 1, Keystone XL Pipeline.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: January 28, organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee, rules of procedure for the 114th Congress, and subcommittee assignments, 4 p.m., SR–328A.

Committee on Armed Services: January 27, to hold hearings to examine global challenges and U.S. national security strategy, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

January 28, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the impact of the ''Budget Control Act of 2011'' and sequestration on national security, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

January 29, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine global challenges and the U.S. national security strategy, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: January 27, organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee, subcommittee assignments, and rules of procedure for the 114th Congress; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine perspectives on the strategic necessity of Iran sanctions, 10 a.m., SD–538.

January 29, Full Committee, business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, ''Nuclear Weapon Free Iran Act of 2015'', 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: January 28, to hold hearings to examine the Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) budget and economic outlook for fiscal years 2015–2025, 10 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: January 28, to hold hearings to examine freight rail transportation, focusing on enhancing safety, efficiency, and commerce, 10 a.m., SR–253.

January 29, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security, to hold hearings to examine improving the performance of transportation networks, focusing on stakeholder perspectives, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: January 29, to hold hearings to examine S. 33, to provide certainty with respect to the timing of Department of Energy decisions to approve or deny applications to export natural gas, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: January 28, to hold hearings to examine MAP–21 reauthorization, focusing on Federal and state perspectives, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: January 27, to hold hearings to examine President Obama's 2015 trade policy agenda, 10 a.m., SD–215.

January 28, Full Committee, business meeting to consider H.R. 22, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt employees with health coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of determining the employers to which the employer mandate applies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, 11 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: January 28, organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee, subcommittee assignments, and rules of procedure for the 114th Congress, 9:45 a.m., SD–419.

January 29, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine the campaign against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), 2 p.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: January 27, to hold hearings to examine No Child Left Behind, focusing on supporting teachers and school leaders, 10 a.m., SH–216.

January 28, Full Committee, organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 114th Congress, committee rules of procedure, subcommittee assignments, S. 192, to reauthorize the Older Americans Act of 1965, an original bill entitled, ''Strengthening Education Through Research Act'', and any pending nominations, 9:30 a.m., SD–430.

January 29, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine employer wellness programs, focusing on better health outcomes and lower costs, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: January 28, to hold hearings to examine protecting America from cyber attacks, focusing on the importance of information sharing, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: January 28, organizational business meeting to consider selection of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee, committee rules of procedure, and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 114th Congress; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine Indian country priorities for the 114th Congress, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: January 28, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of the Attorney General, 10 a.m., SH–216.

January 29, Full Committee, to continue hearings to examine the nomination of the Attorney General, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Rules and Administration: January 29, organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 114th Congress, 12 noon, S–219, Capitol.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: January 28, organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee, and rules of procedure for the 114th Congress, 10:30 a.m., SR–428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: January 27, closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

January 29, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

Special Committee on Aging: January 28, to hold hearings to examine combating financial exploitation of vulnerable seniors, 2:15 p.m., SD–562.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, January 28, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 114th Congress, 9:15 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, January 28, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''A Case for Reform: Improving DOD's Ability to Respond to the Pace of Technological Change'', 9:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, January 28, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 114th Congress, 9:45 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, January 28, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled ''Supercomputing and American Technology Leadership'', 9 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, January 28, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''Examining the Quality and Cost of VA Health Care'', 10:15 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11 a.m., Tuesday, January 27

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 1, Keystone XL Pipeline.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Tuesday, January 27

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 351—LNG Permitting Certainty and Transparency Act (Subject to a Rule).Consideration of the following measures under suspension of the rules: (1) H.R. 350—Human Trafficking Prevention, Intervention, and Recovery Act of 2015; (2) H.R. 159—Stop Exploitation Through Trafficking Act of 2015, as amended; (3) H.R. 285—Stop Advertising Victims of Exploitation Act of 2015; (4) H.R. 181—Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015, as amended; (5) H.R. 460—Human Trafficking Detection Act of 2015; and (6) H.R. 398—Trafficking Awareness Training for Health Care Act of 2015.

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