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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 8, 2015.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEVE WOMACK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

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

Dear Lord, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the Members of this people's House return from a lengthy time in their home districts, in the wake of a great American holiday, we ask Your special blessing upon American workers, those fortunate to have jobs during these difficult economic times and those desiring work. May they know and be confident of the nobility and sacredness of their labor.

Lord, the task facing the Nation's Congress is a difficult one which will call upon each Member to consider what is best for American workers first. It is the challenge facing all Americans.

Give the Members wisdom in their work that our economy might continue to rebound and our countrymen and -women throughout these United States be able to provide for their families and to build lives we have all come to expect for our citizens.

May all that is done 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 Texas (Mr. BURGESS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BURGESS 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.

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, August 5, 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 August 5, 2015 at 9:18 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1138.

That the Senate passed S. 1297.

That the Senate passed S. 267.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT, THE HONORABLE JODY B. HICE OF GEORGIA, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Timothy H. Reitz, legislative assistant, the Honorable JODY B. HICE of Georgia, Member of Congress:

WASHINGTON, DC, AUGUST 5, 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 received a grand jury subpoena, issued by the United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia, for testimony and documents.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel regarding the subpoena, I will make the determinations required under rule VIII.

Sincerely,

TIMOTHY H. REITZ,
Legislative Assistant/Congressman Jody Hice.

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, August 6, 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 August 6, 2015 at 9:06 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 212.

That the Senate passed H. Con. Res. 72.

That the Senate passed S. 1523.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

Printed on recycled paper.

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, August 6, 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 August 6, 2015 at 9:28 a.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 720.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2559.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2131.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1531.

That the Senate passed S. 1707.

That the Senate passed S. 1826.

That the Senate passed S. 1596.

That the Senate passed S. 1362.

That the Senate passed S. 1576.

That the Senate passed S. 1347.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

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, August 7, 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 August 7, 2015 at 10:59 a.m.:

Appointments:

Commission on Care.

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

ROBERT F. REEVES,
Deputy Clerk.

DEPUTY SHERIFF DARREN GOFORTH—TEXAS LAWMAN

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Friday, in the blistering heat of Houston, Texas, 11,000 people, including the Governor, attended the event; many more stood outside. The ceremony was broadcast live on all four local TV stations. Helicopters flew overhead. Peace officers from the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom were there. The city and State gave their final tribute and respect for one of its fallen—Harris County Deputy Sheriff Darren Goforth.

Darren left behind a widow, Kathleen, and children: Ava, 12, and Ryan, 5.

Darren was assassinated the week before while he was putting gasoline in his patrol car, apparently targeted because he was a peace officer. He was shot in the back of the head 15 times. An individual was quickly captured, and he is charged with capital murder.

Darren Goforth was a happy guy. He loved his family. He loved his second career as a lawman and loved working on old cars.

Everyone liked Darren. Even a local thief posted on social media that Goforth was his favorite police officer.

Darren loved his kids and recently bought his son and himself Captain America t-shirts. Ryan, his son, wore his t-shirt at the funeral. Deputy Goforth was buried in his Captain America t-shirt underneath his uniform.

Peace officers like Goforth are a rare breed. They rush to emergencies and dangers while most flee from them. Their life is dedicated to serving and protecting others. They are willing to sacrifice everything for the rest of us. Darren Goforth was that type of peace officer.

Mr. Speaker, when the funeral was over and the bagpipers had played ''Amazing Grace'' and the buglers had played ''Taps,'' it started to rain, as if the angels above were shedding tears for a remarkable guy, Deputy Sheriff Darren Goforth.

And that is just the way it is.

AMERICA'S 122ND LABOR DAY

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

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, Monday marked the 122nd year that we have honored and celebrated the hard-working men and women of America on Labor Day.

It is also an occasion to reflect on the tremendous progress that the labor movement has made in improving the lives of working families.

From strengthening pay and working conditions to fighting for fair health care and retirement benefits, unions have and will always play a critical role in growing the American middle class.

However, we still have a long way to go. That is why I support raising the minimum wage, expanding the earned income tax credit, and fighting for fair trade agreements so that we can lift up the millions of working families in America still struggling to make ends meet.

Mr. Speaker, it is simple. Those willing to work should be able to find good jobs. Through their hard work, they should be able to improve their family's quality of life. That is the core of the American Dream.

This Labor Day, let's recommit ourselves to building a nation and an economy where that dream is within reach for every American.

GOLD KING MINE

(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, early last month the negligence of the Environmental Protection Agency caused the release of over 3 million gallons of wastewater at the Gold King Mine near Silverton, Colorado, causing arguably the biggest environmental disaster of this year.

While over the congressional August work period, I was able to visit the spill site and, with elected officials, was able to view it for myself. As you can see, there is still considerable effluent coming out of the mouth of that mine as of 2 weeks ago.

Mr. Speaker, I will just ask: Has anyone been fired? Has anyone been held accountable at the Environmental Protection Agency for this disaster? No, they have not.

What would have happened had a private company been responsible for a disaster of this order of magnitude? I shudder to think where those people in charge of that company would be today.

The EPA did not follow its own procedures. It did not have proper communications equipment at the site of the disaster. They had no satellite phone. They had no radio.

As a consequence, they did not notify local officials until a day later of what had occurred at the mine. They have also refused to answer questions about the potential health risks in the polluted water to humans and animals downriver.

The long-term effects of the EPA's neglect will be unknown, but I submit they will be significant for years to come.

FRANCIS BELLAMY

(Mr. COLLINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Francis Bellamy, one of the most influential individuals from Mount Morris, New York. Francis Bellamy is the author of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Today marks the 123rd anniversary of the Pledge of Allegiance, which was first published in a magazine called ''The Youth Companion'' on September 8, 1892. The Pledge was initially written as part of a campaign to put American flags in every school in the country.

In its original form, it read: ''I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.''

In 1923, the words, ''the Flag of the United States of America'' were added. In 1954, Congress added the words ''under God,'' creating the 31-word pledge we say every day.

Bellamy's words are recited millions of times every day and are ingrained in our society as an expression of national pride and patriotism.

CONGRESSIONAL LAND CONSERVATION CAUCUS

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

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the summer months provided us with an excellent opportunity to get outside and take advantage of the natural resources, great parks, and public lands in our communities.

In southeastern Pennsylvania, we are fortunate that we do not have to go much further than our own backyard to enjoy a wide variety of landscapes and public lands.

In an effort to prioritize the conservation of our public lands, waterways, natural resources, and public policies related to the same, I recently established the bipartisan Congressional Land Conservation Caucus with Representatives JOE PITTS, EARL BLUMENAUER, and MIKE THOMPSON of California. I appreciate their willingness to support this effort, and I urge my colleagues to join our caucus.

It is my hope this group of Members will focus on issues related to land conservation, the protection of natural resources, and the preservation of open space across the country.

I also want to thank Michael Rellahan and the Daily Local News for their in-depth observations on the past, present, and future of the Chester County government-led efforts to protect open space. It has been a remarkably successful program over the past 30 years.

And, indeed, another county in my district, Montgomery County, has followed in their lead, as have many other counties in Pennsylvania and across the country.

□ 1415

OPPOSE THE IRAN DEAL

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this much we know about the Iran deal.

It permits Iran to develop nuclear weapons in the future. It means $150 billion to Iran, some of which will be used to export terrorism, as President Obama has admitted. It allows Iran to buy weapons, such as intercontinental ballistic missiles. It gives Iran weeks, if not months, of advance notice of any weapons site inspections.

It includes secret side agreements; one prohibits other countries from inspecting a possible nuclear weapons development site.

It is being implemented even though a majority in the House and the Senate oppose it.

The Iran deal destabilizes the Middle East, jeopardizes America's security, and endangers the world.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I rise to give notice of my intention to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

Whereas Rule IX of the Rules of the House of Representatives states that a question of the privileges of the House "shall be, first, those affecting the rights of the House collectively, its safety, dignity, and the integrity of its proceedings; and second, those affecting the rights, reputation, and conduct of Members, Delegates, or the Resident Commissioner, individually, in their representative capacity only";

Whereas the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 (in this preamble referred to as the "Review Act") was passed by the Senate on May 7, 2015, by a vote of 98-1;

Whereas the House of Representatives passed the Review Act on May 14, 2015, by a vote of 400-25;

Whereas the Review Act was signed by President Barack Obama on May 22, 2015, becoming Public Law No. 114–17;

Whereas section 135(a)(1) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as enacted by section 2 of the Review Act) states, "Not later than 5 calendar days after reaching an agreement with Iran relating to the nuclear program of Iran, the President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees and leadership—(A) the agreement, as defined in subsection (h)(1), including all related materials and annexes";

Whereas section 135(h)(1) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as enacted by section 2 of the Review Act) states, "The term 'agreement' means an agreement related to the nuclear program of Iran that includes the United States, commits the United States to take action, or pursuant to which the United States commits or otherwise agrees to take action, regardless of the form it takes, whether a political commitment or otherwise, and regardless of whether it is legally binding or not, including any joint comprehensive plan of action entered into or made between Iran and any other parties, and any additional materials related thereto, including annexes, appendices, codicils, side agreements, implementing materials, documents, and guidance, technical or other understandings, and any related agreements, whether entered into or implemented prior to the agreement or to be entered into or implemented in the future";

Whereas on July 14, 2015, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (in this preamble referred to as the "IAEA") and the President of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran signed the "Roadmap for the Clarification of Past and Present Outstanding Issues regarding Iran's Nuclear Program", which refers to two "separate arrangements" between the IAEA and Iran;

Whereas the first of these separate arrangements seeks to clarify and resolve longstanding questions about the possible military dimensions of Iran's nuclear program, including those identified in the IAEA Director General's report to the Board of Governors, designated "GOV/2011/65";

Whereas section G(38) of that report states, "Since 2002, the [IAEA] has become increasingly concerned about the possible existence in Iran of undisclosed nuclear related activities involving military related organizations, including activities related to the development of a nuclear payload for a missile, about which the [IAEA] has regularly received new information";

Whereas the Roadmap describes the second of these separate arrangements as an effort to resolve outstanding issues regarding the military facility at Parchin;

Whereas in his November 29, 2012, report to the Board of Governors, the Director General of the IAEA stated, "As you will recall, the [IAEA] has information indicating that Iran constructed a large explosives containment vessel at the Parchin site in which to conduct hydrodynamic experiments. Despite repeated requests, Iran has still not granted the [IAEA] access to the Parchin site. Satellite imagery shows that extensive activities, including the removal and replacement of considerable quantities of earth, have taken place at this location. I am concerned that these activities will have seriously undermined the [IAEA's] ability to undertake effective verification. I reiterate my request that Iran, without further delay, provide access to that location and substantive answers to the [IAEA's] detailed questions regarding the Parchin site";

Whereas an August 20, 2015, report by the Associated Press includes draft text of the Parchin separate agreement, which details a process by which Iran will provide photographs, videos, soil samples, and other materials in lieu of giving the IAEA access to the Parchin site;

Whereas Dr. Olli Heinonen, a 27-year veteran of the IAEA and its former Deputy Director General and chief inspector, stated, "Much of the current concerns arise from the reported arrangements worked out between the IAEA and Iran in the side documents to address PMD [possible military dimension] issues. If the reporting is accurate, these procedures appear to be risky, departing significantly from well-established and proven safeguards practices. At a broader level, if verification standards have been diluted for Parchin (or elsewhere) and limits imposed, the ramification is significant as it will affect the IAEA's

ability to draw definitive conclusions with the requisite level of assurances and without undue hampering of the verification process'';

Whereas the self inspection and verification by Iran of its own nuclear weapons-related activities performed at the Parchin military facility are inadequate and incapable of demonstrating Iran's compliance with safeguards against nuclear weapons development, as established by the IAEA or the international nuclear agreement with Iran;

Whereas on July 14, 2015, the P5+1 (the United States, the United Kingdom, France, the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, and Germany) and Iran announced that the parties had agreed to a Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action;

Whereas section C(13) of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action requires Iran's parliament and president to implement the Additional Protocol to Iran's Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement with the IAEA;

Whereas section C(14) of the agreed Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action requires Iran to fully implement the ''Roadmap for Clarification of Past and Present Outstanding Issues regarding Iran's Nuclear Program'', which was agreed to with the IAEA;

Whereas the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action is necessarily predicated on and interdependent with the two side agreements between the IAEA and Iran, all of which are mutually reinforcing and indivisible;

Whereas State Department spokesman John Kirby issued a public statement on July 19, 2015, stating that ''today the State Department transmitted to Congress the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, its annexes, and related materials. These documents include the Unclassified Verification Assessment Report on the JCPOA and the Intelligence Community's Classified Annex to the Verification Assessment Report, as required under the law. Therefore, Day One of the 60-day review period begins tomorrow, Monday, July 20'';

Whereas section 135(c)(1)(E) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as enacted by section 2 of the Review Act) states, ''it is critically important that Congress have the opportunity, in an orderly and deliberative manner, to consider and, as appropriate, take action affecting the statutory sanctions regime imposed by Congress'', thereby providing the right to the House collectively, and the Members of the House individually in their representative capacities, to review the Iran nuclear agreement, as defined in section 135(h)(1) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, in order to determine what action, if any, to take;

Whereas section 135(h)(1) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as enacted by section 2 of the Review Act) specifically requires the President to provide Congress with the text of ''side agreements'' and ''related agreements'', including those agreements ''between Iran and any other parties'';

Whereas the State Department's transmission to Congress did not include the text or materials relating to the two side agreements between the IAEA and Iran and was therefore incomplete as a matter of law;

Whereas on July 21, 2015, Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman BOB CORKER and Ranking Member BEN CARDIN sent a bipartisan letter to the State Department requesting the actual text of the two separate agreements between the IAEA and Iran;

Whereas on July 22, 2015, Congressman MIKE POMPEO and Senator TOM COTTON, along with the Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, sent a letter to the President requesting the text of the two separate agreements between the IAEA and Iran;

Whereas on August 4, 2015, Congressman POMPEO sent a further letter to the President, co-signed by the House Majority Leader and 92 other Members of the House, requesting the President to provide the text of the two separate agreements between the IAEA and Iran;

Whereas contrary to the law and these requests, the President did not provide the text of the separate agreements to Congress or any of its Members;

Whereas on July 22, 2015, State Department spokesman John Kirby stated, ''There's no side deals. There's no secret deals between Iran and the IAEA that the P5+1 has not been briefed on in detail'';

Whereas in an August 5, 2015, letter to Members of Congress, Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs Julia Frifield contradicted this claim, saying, ''The Roadmap refers to two 'separate agreements' between the IAEA and Iran. Within the IAEA system, such arrangements related to safeguards procedures and inspection activities are confidential and are not released to other member states'';

Whereas on July 28, 2015, Secretary of State John Kerry told the House Foreign Affairs Committee, in responding to the statement that National Security Advisor Susan Rice has seen the actual text of the two side agreements, ''I don't believe Susan Rice, National Security Advisor, has seen it'';

Whereas responding further to whether he has seen the actual text, Secretary Kerry said, ''No, I haven't seen it, I've been briefed on it'';

Whereas on July 29, 2015, Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz stated, ''I, personally, have not seen those documents'';

Whereas on July 31, 2015, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest stated, ''Our negotiators were briefed on the contents of that agreement'' (a reference to the side agreements);

Whereas being briefed second- or third-hand, including by Obama Administration officials who themselves have not read the actual text of the side agreements, is akin to a game of telephone and is not the same thing as allowing Members of Congress to read the actual text of the agreements;

Whereas the congressional review period prescribed in section 135(b) of Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as enacted by section 2 of the Review Act) to review the Iran nuclear agreement begins only ''if an agreement, including all materials required to be transmitted to Congress pursuant to subsection (a)(1)'' is transmitted by the President to the Congress for review;

Whereas on July 14, 2015, President Obama stated, ''This deal is not built on trust. It is built on verification'' ;

Whereas it is impossible for the President, Congress, and the American people to consider and determine whether to support or oppose an Iran nuclear agreement without reviewing key inspection and verification details contained in the text of the two side agreements between the IAEA and Iran;

Whereas the determination by the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives, acting as an Officer of the House, that the President has transmitted to Congress the agreement and related materials as required by law, and therefore to begin counting the elapsing of the congressional review period beginning on July 20, 2015, deprives the House collectively and the Members of the House individually in their representative capacities, of the right to the review the Iran nuclear agreement;

Whereas the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for the legislative day of July 27, 2015, is incorrect, listing under the heading ''Executive Communications'' the following entry: ''A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a letter and attachments satisfying all requirements of Sec. 135(a) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended by the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 (Pub. L. 114–17), as received July 19, 2015; jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, the Judiciary, Oversight and Government Reform, and Ways and Means'';

Whereas the House of Representatives is scheduled to vote on a resolution of disapproval of the Iran nuclear agreement as soon as September 9, 2015, a procedure provided for under section 135(e)(4) of the of Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as enacted by section 2 of the Review Act);

Whereas such a vote is injurious to the integrity of the proceedings of the House as it violates the process provided under section 135 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as enacted by section 2 of the Review Act), which is contingent upon both the President's transmittal of the Iran nuclear agreement and all related documents, including side agreements, and the observance of the congressional review period provided in such section 135;

Whereas in her August 5, 2015, letter to Members of Congress, Assistant Secretary of State Frifield inaccurately

stated, ''The United States does not have a right to demand these [side agreement] documents from the IAEA'';

Whereas Dr. Heinonen, the former Deputy Director General and chief inspector of the IAEA stated, ''According to the IAEA rules and practices, such documents could be made available to the members of the IAEA Board'';

Whereas Dr. Heinonen further stated, ''The issue of confidentiality is an important matter for the IAEA. However, it should not be used as a blanket to stop legitimate questions, particularly regarding verification methods at Parchin. Historically, the IAEA has not viewed such issues as confidential. The IAEA and its member states have disclosed much more detailed facility-specific approaches at regular safeguards symposia. Additionally, in 2007 the IAEA Iran Work Plan addressing outstanding issues, accumulated over several years, was made available to all IAEA member states, and the Board also received a 2012 document from Iran related to very specific PMD [possible military dimensions] questions, which happened while the IAEA was negotiating with Iran for greater clarity and access'';

Whereas part I, section 5 of IAEA Information Circular 153 provides that ''specific information relating to such implementation [of measures to safeguard nuclear materials] in the State may be given to the Board of Governors and to such Agency staff members as require such knowledge'';

Whereas Article VI of the Statute of the IAEA authorizes the Board of Governors of the IAEA to direct the work of the IAEA, including in safeguarding nuclear materials and ensuring the peaceful ends of a participating member state's nuclear program;

Whereas Rule 18 of the Rules of the Board of Governors of the IAEA, entitled ''Circulation of Documents of Particular Importance'', establishes procedures by which member states of the IAEA Board of Governors may access relevant documents related to their duties;

Whereas the United States serves on the Board of Governors of the IAEA and has both the need and the authority to access the actual text of the two side agreements between the IAEA and Iran;

Whereas on July 30, 2015, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest, speaking on behalf of the President of the United States, stated, ''I will acknowledge that I don't know exactly what the requirements are of the Iran Review Act, so I'm not sure exactly what that means [Congress is] asking for'';

Whereas on April 6, 2015, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest stated, ''[W]e do believe that Congress should play their rightful role in terms of ultimately deciding whether or not the sanctions that Congress passed into law should be removed'';

Whereas on April 7, 2015, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest further stated, ''[M]embers of Congress should consider the agreement and decide whether or not the President has achieved his stated objective of preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon, shutting down every pathway they have and making them cooperate with the most intrusive set of inspections that have ever been imposed on a country's nuclear program'';

Whereas the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, which was negotiated and agreed to by the Obama Administration, fails to accomplish those objectives;

Whereas any recognition by the House of Representatives of the transmittal by the President of an Iran nuclear agreement that does not include all of the materials required by law, including the text of the 2 side agreements agreed to between the IAEA and Iran, violates the rights of the Members of the House individually in their representative capacity, impeding their ability to make a fully informed decision on how to vote on behalf of their constituents, as conceived and provided for in the enactment of the Review Act;

Whereas Director of National Intelligence James Clapper has labeled Iran the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism;

Whereas the Web site WhiteHouse.gov states that Iran currently has a 2-3 month breakout time to build a nuclear bomb;

Whereas legislative action on an Iran nuclear agreement is one of the most important issues that will ever come before the House, as it directly affects the safety and security of the Members of the House and their constituents;

Whereas the taking of legislative action without reasonable consideration and knowledge damages the reputation and credibility of the House collectively and its Members individually in their representative capacities; and

Whereas the President's failure to follow a law that he signed is an affront to the dignity of the House and cannot be ignored: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) reaffirms its legal right to obtain all materials, including the full text of all side agreements, comprising the Iran nuclear agreement, as defined in section 135(h)(1) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as enacted by section 2 of the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 (in this section referred to as the ''Review Act''), which was signed into law by President Obama;

(2) directs the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives not to recognize, for purposes of determining the dates of the congressional review period prescribed in section 135(b) of Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as enacted by section 2 of the Review Act), any agreement and related documents submitted by the President that do not include the actual text of the two side agreements between the IAEA and Iran;

(3) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Officers of the House to correct Executive Communication numbered 2207, appearing on page 5522 in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the legislative day of July 27, 2015, to state the following: ''A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a letter and attachments which does not satisfy all requirements of Sec. 135(a) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended by the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 (Pub. L. 114–17), as received July 19, 2015; jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, the Judiciary, Oversight and Government Reform, and Ways and Means'';

(4) instructs the Speaker of the House of Representatives to dispatch without delay a notification to the President, on behalf of the whole House, entitled ''Failure to Follow the Law'' and stating that—

(A) the President's transmittal of that agreement to the House is incomplete as a matter of law;

(B) consequently, the congressional review period provided in section 135 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as enacted by section 2 of the Review Act) has not begun; and

(C) pursuant to section 135(b)(3) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (as so enacted), until the end of the congressional review period, ''the President may not waive, suspend, reduce, provide relief from, or otherwise limit the application of statutory sanctions with respect to Iran under any provision of law or refrain from applying any such sanctions pursuant to an agreement described in subsection (a)'';

(5) instructs the Speaker of the House of Representatives, on behalf of the whole House, to return the agreement and related materials provided in the President's transmission of July 19, 2015, in order that the President may provide a full and complete transmission of all materials required by law, including the text of side agreements; and

(6) instructs the Speaker to take such actions as may be necessary to provide an appropriate remedy to ensure that the integrity of the legislative process is protected and to report his actions and recommendations to the House.

□ 1438

And, Mr. Speaker, if you didn't catch it, I am happy to repeat it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from Illinois will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by Speaker pro tempore HARRIS on Thursday, August 6, 2015:

H.R. 212, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of algal toxins in drinking water, and for other purposes;

H.R. 1138, to establish certain wilderness areas in central Idaho and to authorize various land conveyances involving National Forest System land and Bureau of Land Management land in central Idaho, and for other purposes;

H.R. 1531, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide a pathway for temporary seasonal employees in Federal land management agencies to compete for vacant permanent positions under internal merit promotion procedures, and for other purposes;

H.R. 2131, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 83 Meeting Street in Charleston, South Carolina, as the ''J. Waties Waring Judicial Center'';

H.R. 2559, to designate the ''PFC Milton A. Lee Medal of Honor Memorial Highway'' in the State of Texas.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WALKER) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION ACT OF 2015

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1344) to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1344

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 cited as the ''Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act of 2015''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) Deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, toddlers, and young children require access to specialized early intervention providers and programs in order to help them meet their linguistic and cognitive potential.

(2) Families of deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, toddlers, and young children benefit from comprehensive early intervention programs that assist them in supporting their child's development in all domains.

(3) Best practices principles for early intervention for deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, toddlers, and young children have been identified in a range of areas including listening and spoken language and visual and signed language acquisition, family-to-family support, support from individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing, progress monitoring, and others.

(4) Effective hearing screening and early intervention programs must be in place to identify hearing levels in deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, toddlers, and young children so that they may access appropriate early intervention programs in a timely manner.

SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAM FOR EARLY DETECTION, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT REGARDING DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING NEWBORNS, INFANTS, AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Section 399M of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–1) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 399M. EARLY DETECTION, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT REGARDING DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING NEWBORNS, INFANTS, AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

''(a) HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, shall make awards of grants or cooperative agreements to develop statewide newborn, infant, and young childhood hearing screening, diagnosis, evaluation, and intervention programs and systems, and to assist in the recruitment, retention, education, and training of qualified personnel and health care providers for the following purposes:

''(1) To develop and monitor the efficacy of statewide programs and systems for hearing screening of newborns, infants, and young children, prompt evaluation and diagnosis of children referred from screening programs, and appropriate educational, audiological, and medical interventions for children confirmed to be deaf or hard-of-hearing, consistent with the following:

''(A) Early intervention includes referral to and delivery of information and services by organizations such as schools and agencies (including community, consumer, and parent-based agencies), pediatric medical homes, and other programs mandated by part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which offer programs specifically designed to meet the unique language and communication needs of deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children.

''(B) Information provided to parents must be accurate, comprehensive, and, where appropriate, evidence-based, allowing families to make important decisions for their child in a timely way, including decisions relating to all possible assistive hearing technologies (such as hearing aids, cochlear implants, and osseointegrated devices) and communication options (such as visual and sign language, listening and spoken language, or both).

''(C) Programs and systems under this paragraph shall offer mechanisms that foster family-to-family and deaf and hard-of-hearing consumer-to-family supports.

''(2) To develop efficient models (both educational and medical) to ensure that newborns, infants, and young children who are identified through hearing screening receive followup by qualified early intervention providers, qualified health care providers, or pediatric medical homes (including by encouraging State agencies to adopt such models).

''(3) To provide for a technical resource center in conjunction with the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration—

''(A) to provide technical support and education for States; and

''(B) to continue development and enhancement of State early hearing detection and intervention programs.

''(b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, DATA MANAGEMENT, AND APPLIED RESEARCH.—

''(1) CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION.—The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shall make awards of grants or cooperative agreements to State agencies or their designated entities for development, maintenance, and improvement of data tracking and surveillance systems on newborn, infant, and young childhood hearing screenings, audiologic evaluations, medical evaluations, and intervention services; to conduct applied research related to services and outcomes, and provide technical assistance related to newborn, infant, and young childhood hearing screening, evaluation, and intervention programs, and information systems; to ensure high-quality monitoring of hearing screening, evaluation, and intervention programs and systems for newborns, infants, and young children; and to coordinate developing standardized procedures for data management and assessing program and cost effectiveness. The awards under the preceding sentence may be used—

''(A) to provide technical assistance on data collection and management;

''(B) to study and report on the costs and effectiveness of newborn, infant, and young childhood hearing screening, evaluation, diagnosis, intervention programs, and systems;

''(C) to collect data and report on newborn, infant, and young childhood hearing screening, evaluation, diagnosis, and intervention programs and systems that can be used—

''(i) for applied research, program evaluation, and policy development; and

''(ii) to answer issues of importance to State and national policymakers;

''(D) to identify the causes and risk factors for congenital hearing loss;

''(E) to study the effectiveness of newborn, infant, and young childhood hearing screening, audiologic evaluations, medical evaluations, and intervention programs and systems by assessing the health, intellectual and social developmental, cognitive, and hearing status of these children at school age; and

''(F) to promote the integration, linkage, and interoperability of data regarding early hearing loss and multiple sources to increase information exchanges between clinical care and public health including the ability of States and territories to exchange and share data.

''(2) NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.—The Director of the National Institutes of Health, acting through the Director of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, shall, for purposes of this section, continue a program of research and development related to early hearing detection and

intervention, including development of technologies and clinical studies of screening methods, efficacy of interventions, and related research.

''(c) COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out programs under this section, the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Director of the National Institutes of Health shall collaborate and consult with—

''(A) other Federal agencies;

''(B) State and local agencies, including those responsible for early intervention services pursuant to title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) (Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment Program); title XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.) (State Children's Health Insurance Program); title V of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 701 et seq.) (Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Program); and part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.);

''(C) consumer groups of and that serve individuals who are deaf and hard-of-hearing and their families;

''(D) appropriate national medical and other health and education specialty organizations;

''(E) persons who are deaf and hard-of-hearing and their families;

''(F) other qualified professional personnel who are proficient in deaf or hard-of-hearing children's language and who possess the specialized knowledge, skills, and attributes needed to serve deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, toddlers, children, and their families;

''(G) third-party payers and managed-care organizations; and

''(H) related commercial industries.

''(2) POLICY DEVELOPMENT.—The Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Director of the National Institutes of Health shall coordinate and collaborate on recommendations for policy development at the Federal and State levels and with the private sector, including consumer, medical, and other health and education professional-based organizations, with respect to newborn, infant, and young childhood hearing screening, evaluation, diagnosis, and intervention programs and systems.

''(3) STATE EARLY DETECTION, DIAGNOSIS, AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND SYSTEMS; DATA COLLECTION.—The Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shall coordinate and collaborate in assisting States—

''(A) to establish newborn, infant, and young childhood hearing screening, evaluation, diagnosis, and intervention programs and systems under subsection (a); and

''(B) to develop a data collection system under subsection (b).

''(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION; RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to preempt or prohibit any State law, including State laws which do not require the screening for hearing loss of newborns, infants, or young children of parents who object to the screening on the grounds that such screening conflicts with the parents' religious beliefs.

''(e) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

''(1) The term 'audiologic', when used in connection with evaluation, refers to procedures—

''(A) to assess the status of the auditory system;

''(B) to establish the site of the auditory disorder, the type and degree of hearing loss, and the potential effects of hearing loss on communication; and

''(C) to identify appropriate treatment and referral options, including—

''(i) linkage to State coordinating agencies under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.) or other appropriate agencies;

''(ii) medical evaluation;

''(iii) hearing aid/sensory aid assessment;

''(iv) audiologic rehabilitation treatment; and

''(v) referral to national and local consumer, self-help, parent, and education organizations, and other family-centered services.

''(2) The term 'early intervention' refers to—

''(A) providing appropriate services for the child who is deaf or hard of hearing, including nonmedical services; and

''(B) ensuring the family of the child is—

''(i) provided comprehensive, consumer-oriented information about the full range of family support, training, information services, and language and communication options; and

''(ii) given the opportunity to consider and obtain the full range of such appropriate services, educational and program placements, and other options for their child from highly qualified providers.

''(3) The term 'medical evaluation' refers to key components performed by a physician, including history, examination, and medical decisionmaking focused on symptomatic and related body systems for the purpose of diagnosing the etiology of hearing loss and related physical conditions, and for identifying appropriate treatment and referral options.

''(4) The term 'medical intervention' refers to the process by which a physician provides medical diagnosis and direction for medical or surgical treatment options for hearing loss or related medical disorders.

''(5) The term 'newborn, infant, and young childhood hearing screening' refers to objective physiologic procedures to detect possible hearing loss and to identify newborns, infants, and young children who require further audiologic evaluations and medical evaluations.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(1) STATEWIDE NEWBORN, INFANT, AND YOUNG CHILDHOOD HEARING SCREENING, EVALUATION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND SYSTEMS.—For the purpose of carrying out subsection (a), there is authorized to be appropriated to the Health Resources and Services Administration $17,800,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020.

''(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, DATA MANAGEMENT, AND APPLIED RESEARCH; CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION.—For the purpose of carrying out subsection (b)(1), there is authorized to be appropriated to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention $10,800,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020.

''(3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, DATA MANAGEMENT, AND APPLIED RESEARCH; NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DISORDERS.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out subsection (b)(2). Such subsection shall be carried out using funds which are otherwise authorized (under section 402A or other provisions of law) to be appropriated for such purpose.''.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

I am pleased that, today, the House is considering H.R. 1344, the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act of 2015. This bipartisan bill sets a strong precedent for working together on the many big issues before Congress this month.

This bill, which I introduced along with Congresswoman LOIS CAPPS, reauthorizes the program for the early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of deaf and hard of hearing newborns, infants, and young children.

H.R. 1344 encourages hearing tests and intervention for newborn babies. Through early detection, these children and their families can be made aware of a child's hearing loss and given access to specialized early intervention providers and programs in order to help children meet their potential. This reauthorization increases the focus on loss to followup. So those children whose hearing loss is identified don't just stop with identification; they may go on to receive intervention, treatment, or an introduction to deaf services.

This program has proven success. In 2000, only 40 percent of newborns were screened for hearing loss. That number rose to just over 86 percent in 2011, and, today, the CDC reports that, roughly, 97 percent of all infant children are screened for hearing loss.

In closing, I want to thank my colleague, Congresswoman CAPPS, for her leadership over the years on this important bipartisan issue. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1344 so we can continue these vital services for newborn babies and young children.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1344, the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act. This important legislation is led by Representatives LOIS CAPPS and BRETT GUTHRIE, both members of our committee.

Beginning in 2000, Congress took steps to facilitate the development of newborn and infant screening and intervention programs. This bill reauthorizes and makes further improvements to the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program, which supports detection and treatment for hearing-impaired newborns and young children.

The early identification of a child's hearing loss increases the likelihood that intervention and treatment services can successfully prevent or limit developmental delays. Research shows that it can significantly improve quality of life and education outcomes for children with hearing impairments. The vast majority of deaf children are born to parents who do not have impaired hearing and who, therefore, may not be able to identify their children's conditions early on. The outreach services provided for by the program reauthorized in this bill may help ensure

that children and their parents receive appropriate screenings and followup.

I want to thank Representatives CAPPS and GUTHRIE for their leadership on this issue. I thank Chairman UPTON, Ranking Member PALLONE, and Chairman PITTS for their work to advance this important legislation. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1344, the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS), my colleague and a cosponsor of the bill.

Mrs. CAPPS. I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1344, the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act, which I was so pleased to coauthor with my colleague from Kentucky, Congressman BRETT GUTHRIE.

Hearing loss in newborns is considered an invisible disability. Almost 3 out of every 1,000 children in the United States are born deaf or hard of hearing, and even more children lose their hearing later on during childhood. When hearing loss is left undetected, it can impede speech, language, and cognitive development; but we know that, when hearing loss is caught early, children have much better outcomes. In fact, early intervention can help children overcome hearing issues and get them ready to learn on par with their peers.

That is exactly what the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act does, pronounced ''Eddie.'' As it is commonly called, EHDI has helped families in all 50 States and the District of Columbia identify children in need of care early when interventions are most effective.

By all accounts, this program has worked. Since the implementation of the EHDI program 15 years ago, we have seen a tremendous increase in the number of newborns who are being screened for hearing loss. Back in 2000, when we first set up the EHDI program, only 44 percent of newborns in the country were being screened for hearing loss. Now we are screening newborns at a rate of over 96 percent. This is a remarkable achievement, but our work is not done.

While it is important that all babies are screened for hearing loss, it is just as important that those babies who do not pass this screening receive a diagnostic evaluation and be connected to early intervention programs. Unfortunately, according to the Centers for Disease Control, 36 percent of newborns who fail their initial hearing screenings are not receiving appropriate followup care. This reauthorization effort will focus on those children, helping to bridge the gap between screening and intervention.

My background is as a school nurse for over 20 years, and I have worked with so many students who were lagging behind their classmates due to undiagnosed or untreated hearing loss.

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. I yield the gentlewoman an additional 30 seconds.

Mrs. CAPPS. These children did not need to suffer. We can and must help them succeed through stronger investments in followup and interventions, such as sign language training, hearing aids, and speech-language development. Early identification and intervention are both keys to a child's well-being.

Our legislation would ensure that these programs are there for the children who need them. A vote for this bill is a vote to keep this program strong. I urge my colleagues to support our bipartisan bill.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge the support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I thank my friend from California (Mrs. CAPPS) so much for our working together to move this bipartisan bill forward. I thank our subcommittee ranking member, Mr. GREEN, and our chairman, Chairman PITTS.

I was involved in this effort in Kentucky when I was in the State Senate. I have seen the difference that it makes, and I am glad to be involved in this on a national level. Knowing that 97 percent of our babies are screened so they can get intervention and treatment very early in their lives makes a big difference. I am proud to be a part of this, and I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 1344.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 1344, the ''Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act of 2015'' introduced by my colleagues Representatives CAPPS and GUTHRIE.

H.R. 1344, would reauthorize the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program. Prior to the creation of this program, less than 50 percent of all newborns were regularly screened for hearing loss. I'm proud to say that thanks to this program about 97 percent of newborns now receive a hearing screening. Through this program, children gain early access to interventions and treatments that are critical in minimizing a hearing-impaired child's risk of developmental delays, especially communication, social skills and cognition. H.R. 1344 would ensure that we continue to support this valuable public health program that has a proven track record of success.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1344, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL ALL SCHEDULES PRESCRIPTION ELECTRONIC REPORTING REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2015

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1725) to amend and reauthorize the controlled substance monitoring program under section 399O of the Public Health Service Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1725

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 ''National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Reauthorization Act of 2015''.

SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO PURPOSE.

Paragraph (1) of section 2 of the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–60) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) foster the establishment of State-administered controlled substance monitoring systems in order to ensure that—

''(A) health care providers have access to the accurate, timely prescription history information that they may use as a tool for the early identification of patients at risk for addiction in order to initiate appropriate medical interventions and avert the tragic personal, family, and community consequences of untreated addiction; and

''(B) appropriate law enforcement, regulatory, and State professional licensing authorities have access to prescription history information for the purposes of investigating drug diversion and prescribing and dispensing practices of errant prescribers or pharmacists; and''.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE MONITORING PROGRAM.

Section 399O of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–3) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''or'';

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) to maintain and operate an existing State-controlled substance monitoring program.''; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting ''by the Secretary'' after ''Grants awarded'';

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

''(b) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall maintain and, as appropriate, supplement or revise (after publishing proposed additions and revisions in the Federal Register and receiving public comments thereon) minimum requirements for criteria to be used by States for purposes of clauses (ii), (v), (vi), and (vii) of subsection (c)(1)(A).'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''(a)(1)(B)'' and inserting ''(a)(1)(B) or (a)(1)(C)'';

(ii) in clause (i), by striking ''program to be improved'' and inserting ''program to be improved or maintained'';

(iii) by redesignating clauses (iii) and (iv) as clauses (iv) and (v), respectively;

(iv) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

''(iii) a plan to apply the latest advances in health information technology in order to incorporate prescription drug monitoring

program data directly into the workflow of prescribers and dispensers to ensure timely access to patients' controlled prescription drug history;'';

(v) in clause (iv), as redesignated, by inserting before the semicolon at the end ''and at least one health information technology system such as an electronic health records system, a health information exchange, or an e-prescribing system''; and

(vi) in clause (v), as redesignated, by striking ''public health'' and inserting ''public health or public safety'';

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking ''If a State that submits'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If a State that submits'';

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''and include timelines for full implementation of such interoperability. The State shall also describe the manner in which it will achieve interoperability between its monitoring program and health information technology systems, as allowable under State law, and include timelines for implementation of such interoperability.''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) MONITORING OF EFFORTS.—The Secretary shall monitor State efforts to achieve interoperability, as described in subparagraph (A).''; and

(C) in paragraph (5)—

(i) by striking ''implement or improve'' and inserting ''establish, improve, or maintain''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following: ''The Secretary shall redistribute any funds that are so returned among the remaining grantees under this section in accordance with the formula described in subsection (a)(2)(B).'';

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''In implementing or improving'' and all that follows through ''(a)(1)(B)'' and inserting ''In establishing, improving, or maintaining a controlled substance monitoring program under this section, a State shall comply, or with respect to a State that applies for a grant under subparagraph (B) or (C) of subsection (a)(1)''; and

(ii) by striking ''public health'' and inserting ''public health or public safety''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) The State shall report to the Secretary on—

''(A) as appropriate, interoperability with the controlled substance monitoring programs of Federal departments and agencies;

''(B) as appropriate, interoperability with health information technology systems such as electronic health records systems, health information exchanges, and e-prescribing systems; and

''(C) whether or not the State provides automatic, real-time or daily information about a patient when a practitioner (or the designee of a practitioner, where permitted) requests information about such patient.'';

(5) in subsections (e), (f)(1), and (g), by striking ''implementing or improving'' each place it appears and inserting ''establishing, improving, or maintaining'';

(6) in subsection (f)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''misuse of a schedule II, III, or IV substance'' and inserting ''misuse of a controlled substance included in schedule II, III, or IV of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substance Act''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting ''a State substance abuse agency,'' after ''a State health department,''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) EVALUATION AND REPORTING.—Subject to subsection (g), a State receiving a grant under subsection (a) shall provide the Secretary with aggregate data and other information determined by the Secretary to be necessary to enable the Secretary—

''(A) to evaluate the success of the State's program in achieving its purposes; or

''(B) to prepare and submit the report to Congress required by subsection (l)(2).

''(4) RESEARCH BY OTHER ENTITIES.—A department, program, or administration receiving nonidentifiable information under paragraph (1)(D) may make such information available to other entities for research purposes.'';

(7) by redesignating subsections (h) through (n) as subsections (j) through (p), respectively;

(8) in subsections (c)(1)(A)(iv) and (d)(4), by striking ''subsection (h)'' each place it appears and inserting ''subsection (j)'';

(9) by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

''(h) EDUCATION AND ACCESS TO THE MONITORING SYSTEM.—A State receiving a grant under subsection (a) shall take steps to—

''(1) facilitate prescriber and dispenser use of the State's controlled substance monitoring system;

''(2) educate prescribers and dispensers on the benefits of the system both to them and society; and

''(3) facilitate linkage to the State substance abuse agency and substance abuse disorder services.

''(i) CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with the Attorney General of the United States and other relevant Federal officials to—

''(1) ensure maximum coordination of controlled substance monitoring programs and related activities; and

''(2) minimize duplicative efforts and funding.'';

(10) in subsection (l)(2)(A), as redesignated by paragraph (7)—

(A) in clause (ii), by inserting ''; established or strengthened initiatives to ensure linkages to substance use disorder services;'' before ''or affected patient access''; and

(B) in clause (iii), by inserting ''and between controlled substance monitoring programs and health information technology systems'' before '', including an assessment'';

(11) by striking subsection (m) (relating to preference), as redesignated by paragraph (7);

(12) by redesignating subsections (n) through (p), as redesignated by paragraph (7), as subsections (m) through (o), respectively;

(13) in subsection (m)(1), as redesignated by paragraph (12), by striking ''establishment, implementation, or improvement'' and inserting ''establishment, improvement, or maintenance'';

(14) in subsection (n), as redesignated by paragraph (12)—

(A) in paragraph (5)—

(i) by striking ''means the ability'' and inserting the following: ''means—

''(A) the ability'';

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) sharing of State controlled substance monitoring program information with a health information technology system such as an electronic health records system, a health information exchange, or an e-prescribing system.'';

(B) in paragraph (7), by striking ''pharmacy'' and inserting ''pharmacist''; and

(C) in paragraph (8), by striking ''and the District of Columbia'' and inserting '', the District of Columbia, and any commonwealth or territory of the United States''; and

(15) by amending subsection (o), as redesignated by paragraph (12), to read as follows:

''(o) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years from 2016 through 2020.''.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 1725, the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Reauthorization Act of 2015, introduced by my colleagues Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BUCSHON, and Mr. PALLONE.

Prescription drug abuse is an epidemic in this country, and, sadly, Kentucky is impacted by high rates of prescription drug abuse. Every year, there are 15,000 overdose deaths from prescription pain relievers. For every overdose death, there are an estimated 10 addiction treatment admissions and 32 emergency department visits. One important tool we have as a nation to combat this epidemic is Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs. They prevent doctor shopping and help physicians make more informed clinical decisions.

Reauthorizing NASPER would provide grant support to States to establish Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs. Healthcare providers can access a patient's prescription history through the PDMP to help them identify patients at risk for addiction or those who are abusing prescription drugs. NASPER also helps identify best practices for new PDMPs and ways to improve existing monitoring programs.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1725, the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Reauthorization Act. This important legislation is sponsored by Ranking Member PALLONE, Representatives JOE KENNEDY and ED WHITFIELD, and Congressman LARRY BUCSHON.

The reauthorization of NASPER is urgently needed to ensure that physicians have patient-specific information through Prescription Drug Monitoring

Programs, PDMPs, at the point of care. As its name suggests, PDMPs help physicians and other providers make appropriate prescribing decisions while ensuring that patients with legitimate pain management needs have access to necessary care. We are in the middle of an epidemic of prescription drug opioid misuse and overdose. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2013, more than 16,000 Americans died from an opioid-related overdose.

PDMPs are an integral part of our Nation's effort to combat the ongoing opioid and prescription drug epidemic. They allow for the early identification of at-risk patients and timely intervention to prevent prescription drug abuse. States have recognized that PDMPs are a vital tool to address this public health crisis as demonstrated by their universal adoption amongst the States.

H.R. 1725 reauthorizes grants to States to enhance their PDMPs, and it makes further improvements to the programs. Funding for PDMPs is needed to help States utilize this effective tool, to incentivize information sharing across State lines, and to further the implementation of best practices.

I want to thank Ranking Member PALLONE and Representatives KENNEDY, WHITFIELD, and BUCSHON for their leadership. I also want to thank my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee for their commitment to addressing our Nation's opioid epidemic. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1725.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD), who has worked tirelessly on these issues in the Energy and Commerce Committee and back home to try to address the prescription drug problem in our State.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1725, the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Reauthorization Act, as we call it, NASPER.

I introduced this legislation earlier this year with my colleagues, Congressman LARRY BUCSHON of Indiana, FRANK PALLONE of New Jersey, and JOE KENNEDY of Massachusetts.

I want to thank Chairman UPTON, Ranking Member PALLONE, as well as Subcommittee Chair PITTS, Ranking Member GREEN, and Congressman GUTHRIE for helping move this bill through the committee and subcommittee.

It has already been stated, the importance of this legislation to reauthorize NASPER. Prescription drug overdose death is reaching an epidemic proportion. Tragically, it has increased in America by fivefold since 1980, and drug overdose now kills more Americans than automobile accidents.

In my home State of Kentucky, more than 1,000 individuals die each year from prescription drug overdose, which is the third highest rate in the country.

Ten years ago NASPER was signed into law to assist States in combating prescription drug abuse through the creation and improvement of prescription drug-monitoring programs, which experts agree are one of the most promising clinical tools to address this epidemic.

So today we come to the floor to reauthorize this important legislation, and I hope that we can continue our efforts to obtain adequate funding from the Appropriations Committee for NASPER.

While there is no silver bullet to solve the problem, we do have an opportunity to make a difference by advancing this reauthorization act. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting that effort.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON), a colleague, friend, neighbor—our districts are joined on the Ohio River—who is a physician who understands these issues.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as an original coauthor of this legislation, H.R. 1725. The reauthorization of NASPER would allow SAMHSA to provide grants to States for the establishment, implementation, and improvement of prescription drug-monitoring programs, or PDMPs, offering timely access to accurate prescription information for healthcare providers.

As a physician, I understand this is critical to a provider's ability to screen and treat patients at risk for addiction.

The NASPER program also promotes greater information sharing among States by requiring grantees to facilitate these monitoring programs with at least one bordering State while simultaneously protecting against unauthorized access to patient records.

This reauthorization language would also encourage States to explore ways to incorporate access to their PDMPs into provider workflow systems, such as electronic health records and e-prescribing. Given the growing problem of prescription drug abuse, this is a commonsense measure to protect the public.

I want to thank Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. KENNEDY, and Ranking Member PALLONE for their work on this legislation.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this important bill.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I appreciate Mr. WHITFIELD, Dr. BUCSHON, certainly Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. PALLONE for bringing this forward. It is important. It is important to my State, and it is important to our neighboring States and citizens throughout this country.

I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 1725.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 1725, the "National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting (NASPER) Reauthorization Act," which helps States establish and maintain prescription drug monitoring programs in order to combat prescription drug abuse, a public health crisis affecting communities across the country. I have been a long-time champion of this bill with my colleague Representative WHITFIELD and I am pleased that Representatives KENNEDY and BUCSHON joined our efforts this Congress to reauthorize the NASPER program.

Prescription drug monitoring programs help prescribers, pharmacists, and law enforcement track and prevent the misuse of prescription drugs. Forty nine states currently have laws authorizing these programs and they are playing a critical role in our efforts to combat the opioid crisis. This bill, however, once passed into law, will need funding and investment by appropriators in order to be effective. I urge Members to ensure that investment is met.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1725, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROTECTING OUR INFANTS ACT OF 2015

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1462) to combat the rise of prenatal opioid abuse and neonatal abstinence syndrome.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1462

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 "Protecting Our Infants Act of 2015".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds as follows:

(1) Opioid prescription rates have risen dramatically over the past several years. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in some States, there are as many as 96 to 143 prescriptions for opioids per 100 adults per year.

(2) In recent years, there has been a steady rise in the number of overdose deaths involving heroin. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the death rate for heroin overdose doubled from 2010 to 2012.

(3) At the same time, there has been an increase in cases of neonatal abstinence syndrome (referred to in this section as "NAS"). In the United States, the incidence of NAS has risen from 1.20 per 1,000 hospital births in 2000 to 3.39 per 1,000 hospital births in 2009.

(4) NAS refers to medical issues associated with drug withdrawal in newborns due to exposure to opioids or other drugs in utero.

(5) The average cost of treatment in a hospital for NAS increased from $39,400 in 2000 to $53,400 in 2009. Most of these costs are born by the Medicaid program.

(6) Preventing opioid abuse among pregnant women and women of childbearing age is crucial.

(7) Medically appropriate opioid use in pregnancy is not uncommon, and opioids are often the safest and most appropriate treatment for moderate to severe pain for pregnant women.

(8) Addressing NAS effectively requires a focus on women of childbearing age, pregnant women, and infants from preconception through early childhood.

(9) NAS can result from the use of prescription drugs as prescribed for medical reasons, from the abuse of prescription drugs, or from the use of illegal opioids like heroin.

(10) For pregnant women who are abusing opioids, it is most appropriate to treat and manage maternal substance use in a non-punitive manner.

(11) According to a report of the Government Accountability Office (referred to in this section as the ''GAO report''), more research is needed to optimize the identification and treatment of babies with NAS and to better understand long-term impacts on children.

(12) According to the GAO report, the Department of Health and Human Services does not have a focal point to lead planning and coordinating efforts to address prenatal opioid use and NAS across the department.

(13) According to the GAO report, ''given the increasing use of heroin and abuse of opioids prescribed for pain management, as well as the increased rate of NAS in the United States, it is important to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of planning and coordination of Federal efforts on prenatal opioid use and NAS''.

SEC. 3. DEVELOPING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREVENTING AND TREATING PRENATAL OPIOID ABUSE AND NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this Act as the ''Secretary''), acting through the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (referred to in this section as the ''Director''), shall conduct a study and develop recommendations for preventing and treating prenatal opioid abuse and neonatal abstinence syndrome, soliciting input from nongovernmental entities, including organizations representing patients, health care providers, hospitals, other treatment facilities, and other entities, as appropriate.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall publish on the Internet Web site of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality a report on the study and recommendations under subsection (a). Such report shall address each of the issues described in paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (c).

(c) CONTENTS.—The study described in subsection (a) and the report under subsection (b) shall include—

(1) a comprehensive assessment of existing research with respect to the prevention, identification, treatment, and long-term outcomes of neonatal abstinence syndrome, including the identification and treatment of pregnant women or women who may become pregnant who use opioids or other drugs;

(2) an evaluation of—

(A) the causes of and risk factors for opioid use disorders among women of reproductive age, including pregnant women;

(B) the barriers to identifying and treating opioid use disorders among women of reproductive age, including pregnant and postpartum women and women with young children;

(C) current practices in the health care system to respond to and treat pregnant women with opioid use disorders and infants born with neonatal abstinence syndrome;

(D) medically indicated use of opioids during pregnancy;

(E) access to treatment for opioid use disorders in pregnant and postpartum women; and

(F) access to treatment for infants with neonatal abstinence syndrome; and

(3) recommendations on—

(A) preventing, identifying, and treating neonatal abstinence syndrome in infants;

(B) treating pregnant women who are dependent on opioids; and

(C) preventing opioid dependence among women of reproductive age, including pregnant women, who may be at risk of developing opioid dependence.

SEC. 4. IMPROVING PREVENTION AND TREATMENT FOR PRENATAL OPIOID ABUSE AND NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME.

(a) REVIEW OF PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall lead a review of planning and coordination within the Department of Health and Human Services related to prenatal opioid use and neonatal abstinence syndrome.

(b) STRATEGY TO CLOSE GAPS IN RESEARCH AND PROGRAMMING.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall develop a strategy to address research and program gaps, including such gaps identified in findings made by reports of the Government Accountability Office. Such strategy shall address—

(1) gaps in research, including with respect to—

(A) the most appropriate treatment of pregnant women with opioid use disorders;

(B) the most appropriate treatment and management of infants with neonatal abstinence syndrome; and

(C) the long-term effects of prenatal opioid exposure on children; and

(2) gaps in programs, including—

(A) the availability of treatment programs for pregnant and postpartum women and for newborns with neonatal abstinence syndrome; and

(B) guidance and coordination in Federal efforts to address prenatal opioid use or neonatal abstinence syndrome.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the findings of the review described in subsection (a) and the strategy developed under subsection (b).

SEC. 5. IMPROVING DATA ON AND PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TO NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME.

(a) DATA AND SURVEILLANCE.—The Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shall, as appropriate—

(1) provide technical assistance to States to improve the availability and quality of data collection and surveillance activities regarding neonatal abstinence syndrome, including—

(A) the incidence and prevalence of neonatal abstinence syndrome;

(B) the identification of causes for neonatal abstinence syndrome, including new and emerging trends; and

(C) the demographics and other relevant information associated with neonatal abstinence syndrome;

(2) collect available surveillance data described in paragraph (1) from States, as applicable; and

(3) make surveillance data collected pursuant to paragraph (2) publically available on an appropriate Internet Web site.

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE.—The Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shall encourage increased utilization of effective public health measures to reduce neonatal abstinence syndrome.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 1462, the Protecting Our Infants Act of 2015, introduced by my colleagues, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts and Mr. STIVERS.

Over the past several years, opioid addiction has risen dramatically in the United States, reaching epidemic proportions. The death rate for heroin overdose doubled in just 2 years, from 2010 to 2012.

One of the issues that has arisen as a result of this epidemic is neonatal abstinence syndrome, known as NAS.

These are infants born addicted to opioids and suffer medical issues associated with drug withdrawal. Symptoms can last for weeks, keeping otherwise healthy infants confined to the hospital at the start of their lives.

NAS can result from the use of prescription drugs or from the use of illegal opioids. Sadly, over the past 15 years, a prevalence of NAS has tripled in the United States. This is a rapidly growing problem that needs to be addressed for the safety of our mothers and children.

H.R. 1462 would address the increasing problem of prenatal opioid abuse and neonatal abstinence syndrome. Preventing opioid abuse among pregnant women and women of childbearing age is crucial in addressing NAS.

The Government Accountability Office has identified that more research is needed in this area to help treat babies born with NAS and mothers addicted to opioids.

This legislation would help fill this research gap by studying issues and developing recommendations for preventing and treating prenatal opioid abuse and neonatal abstinence syndrome.

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 1462, the Protecting Our Infants Act, led by Representatives KATHERINE CLARK and STEVE STIVERS.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has found drug overdose to be the leading cause of injury death in the United States.

According to a recent study by the New England Journal of Medicine, from 2004 to 2013, the incidence rate of neonatal abstinence syndrome, NAS, has quadrupled.

NAS refers to medical complications in newborns associated with drug withdrawal due to exposure to opioids and other drugs during pregnancy.

Babies born with NAS often require weeks of hospitalization and can suffer from seizures and other severe complications.

There is an urgent need for further research to facilitate the identification and treatment of infants with NAS and determine long-term health impacts.

The GAO and other experts identified specific research gaps related to best practices for treating pregnant women with opioid use disorders, the long-term effects of prenatal drug exposure, and best practices in the screening, diagnosis, and treatment of NAS.

The Protecting Our Infants Act takes proactive steps to help reduce the number of newborns born exposed to opioids and other drugs and to improve their care if they are exposed.

It will facilitate the development of recommendations for treatment and coordinate a national strategy to close the known gaps in research and coordination. It will also help States improve data collection and surveillance activities.

I want to thank Representatives CLARK of Massachusetts and STIVERS for their leadership. I also want to thank Chairman UPTON, Ranking Member PALLONE, Chairman PITTS, and my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee for advancing this important legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1462. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. JENKINS).

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, every day in hospitals across the Third Congressional District of West Virginia and the country babies begin their lives going through drug withdrawal because they were exposed during pregnancy. As you have heard, it is the diagnosis known as neonatal abstinence syndrome, or NAS.

No baby—no baby—deserves to start his or her life in withdrawal from heroin or other opioids. But, sadly, the rate of babies born with NAS, again, as you have heard, has skyrocketed nationally.

Doctors, nurses, and caregivers are providing innovative care for newborns with NAS, but there are still gaps in research and our understanding of how best to care for our most vulnerable.

The Protecting Our Infants Act makes significant strides in addressing this nationwide gap and developing these strategies, and I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill.

West Virginia has been at the forefront of this epidemic, with NAS rates much higher than the national average.

Our nurses and doctors are tirelessly working to care for newborns with NAS, and having additional resources and research will only further their efforts in providing the best possible care.

I have met with caregivers throughout my district to discuss their approaches to treating NAS, and I know this legislation will help in their efforts to treat these babies.

While we must continue to guarantee that newborns receive the absolute best care, we must also address the issue of addiction in pregnant and postnatal women.

This legislation will help identify and develop treatment methods for expectant mothers with opioid addictions, leading to healthier outcomes for mother and baby alike.

NAS is a nationwide crisis, one that impacts urban, rural, and suburban areas. Nearly every district in America has been touched by heroin and opioid addiction. We must address the impact this addiction has on our most vulnerable in society, our newborn babies.

I commend Congresswoman CLARK for her efforts on this important legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK), the cosponsor of the bill.

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding.

Our Nation is experiencing a deadly opiate epidemic, an epidemic that knows no boundaries and destroys lives, families, and communities.

Today 58 babies—one baby every 25 minutes—will be born suffering from the same pain adults describe as the worst pain of their lives. It is the pain of drug withdrawal.

Neonatal abstinence syndrome, or NAS for short, occurs when babies are born dependent on opioids, and it is one of the chief causes of the significant surge of newborns in neonatal intensive care units across the Nation.

Over the last decade, the number of infants born dependent on powerful drugs has grown nearly fivefold. In States like Massachusetts, NAS is occurring at a rate three times the national average.

NAS births are five times more costly than healthy ones. Costs have risen to more than $1.5 billion a year, 80 percent of which are paid for by Medicaid.

Because of this skyrocketing rise of NAS cases and costs, doctors are desperately trying to find the most effective method of diagnosis and treatment.

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There is little coordination of data and best practices and protocols among States, healthcare systems, and practitioners; and no medications have been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for treating these babies.

The Protecting Our Infants Act is the first Federal bill to take proactive steps in addressing the rise of NAS. With broad bipartisan support in both Chambers, this is an opportunity for Congress to make a difference for babies suffering from opioid exposure and the families struggling with addiction.

This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to develop the protocols for treating and preventing NAS. The Protecting Our Infants Act helps babies suffering from opioid withdrawal by making sure they get the best care available.

This act will ensure that every hospital has access to the best practices and that States have the public health data they need to address this crisis. This is good for families, good for our healthcare providers, and good for our Nation's bottom line.

I want to thank my colleagues in the House and, in particular, Congressman STEVE STIVERS for his partnership in this bill. I am grateful for his deep commitment to addressing this problem and crafting a solution. I am also grateful to Senators MCCONNELL and CASEY for sponsoring this legislation in the Senate.

Today, we have a chance to help the youngest of those suffering from the opioid crisis.

I urge my colleagues to pass the bipartisan Protecting Our Infants Act.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STIVERS), my friend.

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support a bill that my colleague from Massachusetts, Representative KATHERINE CLARK, and I introduced, H.R. 1462, the Protect Our Infants Act. I want to thank Representative CLARK for her leadership, her hard work, and her commitment to protecting America's children.

This bill has the support of 95 bipartisan cosponsors. It is a targeted effort to address a national epidemic of babies being born addicted to drugs.

Recent data has shown that this issue, called neonatal abstinence syndrome, is sadly on the rise throughout the country. A baby is born with neonatal abstinence syndrome every 25 minutes, and symptoms can last for months and lead to weeks of hospitalization and have a lifelong impact.

A report by the Journal of the American Medical Association showed that the number of newborns diagnosed with NAS tripled from 2000 to 2009. In my home State of Ohio, the rate of neonatal abstinence syndrome grew over 600 percent between 2004 and 2011.

It has taken a heavy toll on Ohio's healthcare system and Ohio's families. Treating newborns with NAS was associated with over $70 million in charges and approximately 19,000 hospital stays, and that was back in 2011. It has been on the rise ever since.

This issue is especially devastating to our families and especially devastating to the youngest among us, the

babies who are born addicted to drugs. I recently heard from a grandmother to three babies who were born with NAS. She was pleading for help for her innocent grandchildren, and she wanted to make sure we did something about this terrible disease.

I am proud to say that the response in my district has been strong to our bill. There is a healthcare system called Adena Regional Medical Center in Chillicothe, Ohio, and they actually have an incredible program which was piloted with a bunch of OB/GYNs, and they started with just 15 pregnant women who were addicted to drugs, and they have served those women. Now, they are on their second class to try to get those women off of drugs before they deliver.

I am happy to report that, because of the support of the Adena Health System, none of the women in that group delivered a baby with NAS. Due to the success of the pilot, there is a permanent program that is starting now, and it already has a wait list, so I am really excited to say that there are people out there showing real leadership.

Last week, I hosted my fourth annual opiate roundtable in my district to bring together a lot of issues, and we talked about this bill and how important it was, so I am so proud that it is on the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support the Protecting Our Infants Act, H.R. 1462, to help our Nation's most innocent citizens. Again, I want to thank KATHERINE CLARK for her incredible leadership on this bill and her commitment.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and in closing, I encourage our colleagues to support this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, during the hearing in the Committee on Energy and Commerce, one of the physicians testifying, a neonatologist, turned out to practice with my first cousin, so I got to do research further into what is moving forward in this bill.

I learned even more from personal stories about how important it is and how critical this is and how sad it is for children to be born addicted and how the opportunity is for us to help.

I certainly appreciate my friend from Massachusetts, Ms. CLARK, and my friend from Ohio, Mr. STIVERS. I would encourage all my colleagues to vote for H.R. 1462, Protecting Our Infants Act of 2015.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 1462 the "Protecting Our Infants Act of 2015." This legislation would address the urgent need for a comprehensive strategy for one of the harmful outcome of our nation's opioid epidemic. Neonatal abstinence syndrome, or NAS, occurs in newborns who were exposed to opioids, including pain killers, while in their mother's womb. NAS is associated with negative health outcomes like preterm births and low birthweight.

I'm saddened to say that the opioid epidemic has resulted in a steep increase in the occurrence of NAS over the past decade. H.R. 1462 would require HHS to develop recommendations for the treatment and prevention of prenatal opiate abuse and neonatal abstinence syndrome. It would also require the collection of data to better monitor the problem.

I want to thank Representative KATHERINE CLARK for her leadership on this issue and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this necessary legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1462.

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.

STEM CELL THERAPEUTIC AND RESEARCH REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2015

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2820) to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2820

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 "Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015".

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE STEM CELL THERAPEUTIC AND RESEARCH ACT OF 2005.

(a) CORD BLOOD INVENTORY.—Section 2 of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 274k note) is amended in subsection (h)—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking "$23,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2014 and"; and

(B) by inserting before the period at the end the following: "and $23,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020"; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking "2011 through 2015" and inserting "2015 through 2020".

(b) NATIONAL PROGRAM.—Section 379B of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274m) is amended by striking "2011 through 2014" and inserting "2016 through 2020".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials into the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2820, the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015, introduced by my colleagues CHRIS SMITH and DORIS MATSUI.

Bone marrow transplantation has been used for more than 50 years to treat blood-related diseases, such as leukemia, different anemias, and lymphoma. It is a rich source of blood stem cells. In more recent years, breakthroughs have been made using blood stem cells from umbilical cord blood in the treatment of those various blood-related diseases and conditions.

It can be very difficult to find a bone marrow transplant match, and in some cases, cord blood can be used instead. Bone marrow and cord blood donation are critical to ensure those in need of transplant can find a match. The need for this lifesaving transplantation has risen 25 percent since 2005.

H.R. 2820 reauthorizes the National Marrow Donor Program and creates a national network of public cord blood banks. The legislation also provides healthcare professionals the ability to search for bone marrow and umbilical cord blood units for transplantation.

H.R. 2820 also bolsters patient and advocacy services; provides for public and professional education; and collects, analyzes, and reports data on transplant outcomes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2820, the Stem Cell Therapeutic Research Reauthorization Act. This important legislation is championed by Representatives DORIS MATSUI and CHRIS SMITH.

According to the Health Resources and Services Administration, nearly 20,000 patients in the United States need a bone marrow or cord blood transplant each year. Stem cells from both cord blood and bone marrow are used to treat nearly 80 lifesaving diseases, including cancers, blood diseases, and immune disorders.

H.R. 2820 provides Federal support for cord blood donation, the continuation of the national bone marrow registry, and critical medical research. This legislation reauthorizes the C. W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program, which includes the National Marrow Donor Program.

The program helps patients in need of lifesaving transplants find matching bone marrow donors or cord blood units. It also includes a stem cell therapeutic outcomes database, which facilitates research to better understand the matching process. This legislation will give hope of access to patients and their families in need of a curative transplant.

I want to thank Representatives MATSUI and SMITH for their leadership

on this issue. I also want to thank Chairman UPTON, Ranking Member PALLONE, Chairman PITTS, and my colleagues on the Committee on Energy and Commerce for advancing this important legislation. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2820.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), my good friend.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank my good friend Mr. GUTHRIE for yielding and for his support on this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, Maalik was diagnosed with Hurler syndrome at 15 months old, a rare and life-threatening metabolic disorder. He had a curved spine, and he could not walk.

After receiving an umbilical cord blood transplant facilitated through the Carolinas Cord Blood Bank, Maalik is running around and is expected to have a normal lifespan. His mother, Krystal, said: ''My son is extremely happy now. He is energetic and more independent. The transplant saved his life.''

In like manner, bone marrow donations provide lifesaving transplants for a myriad of diseases. Clara was only 4 months old when she was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. John had registered with the National Marrow Donor Program Be The Match as a bone marrow donor when Clara was only 17 days old. It turned out it was a perfect match for Clara. John's donation saved Clara's life. She is now thriving at 2 years of age.

Mr. Speaker, not only has God in His wisdom and goodness created a placenta and an umbilical cord to nurture and protect the precious life of an unborn child, but now, we find He has left a great gift behind. Immediately after birth, something very special is left behind, cord blood that is teeming with lifesaving stem cells.

Breathtaking scientific breakthroughs have turned medical waste—postbirth placentas and umbilical cord blood—into medical miracles, treating more than 80 diseases, including leukemia, lymphoma, and sickle cell anemia.

As a matter of fact, Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg of Duke University and president of the Cord Blood Association told Chairman PITTS' subcommittee on June 25 that sickle cell anemia can be cured with cord blood transplantation and that it has become one of the most optimal donor sources for patients with sickle cell disease.

H.R. 2820, under consideration by the House today, reauthorizes through 2020 the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, a law I sponsored a decade ago, joined by Artur Davis of Alabama, legislation that cleared the Senate with the incomparable help of Senator ORRIN HATCH.

That law built upon the excellent work of our distinguished late colleague Bill Young of Florida to facilitate bone marrow transplants and created a brand-new national umbilical cord blood donation and transplantation program.

Special thanks, Mr. Speaker, to both Chairmen UPTON and PITTS for their outstanding leadership and help on this bill, as well as the strong support by Ranking Members PALLONE and my good friend and colleague Mr. GREEN.

I am deeply grateful to our original sponsors, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. JOLLY, and Mr. FATTAH, for their contributions and special thanks to Adrianna Simonelli, Katie Novaria, and Megan McCrum.

Today, Mr. Speaker, under the National Cord Blood Inventory program, contracts are awarded to cord blood banks to collect cord blood units donated after their mothers give birth. These units are then made available through the C. W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program, also called the Be The Match Registry.

The program provides a single point of access, enabling those in need of lifesaving transplants to search for a match via an integrated nationwide network of bone marrow and cord blood stem cells.

Americans willing to volunteer are at the heart of the success of this program. In reauthorizing it, we are grateful for the adult donors willing to donate bone marrow or peripheral blood stem cells, as well as mothers who donate their baby's cord blood to public cord blood banks.

There are 13 public banks contracted through the NCBI, including the New Jersey Cord Blood Bank in my home State, which collects cord blood from five participating hospitals.

□ 1645

Mr. Speaker, it ought to be noted as well that, in addition to treating more than 80 diseases, cord blood units from the NCBI banks are also available for research on future therapies.

Indeed, Dr. Kurtzberg pointed out that, ''in addition to use in patients with malignant and genetic diseases, cord blood is showing enormous potential for use in cellular therapies and other regenerative medicine. Cord blood derived vaccines against viruses and certain types of cancers are currently under development and in early phase clinical trials. Cells, manufactured from cord blood units are being developed to boost recovery of the immune system. Cells regulating autoimmunity are also in clinical trials. These approaches, which often utilize cord blood banked in family banks, may help patients with type 1 diabetes, as well as other diseases,'' she testified just a few months ago.

She also pointed out that ''over the past 6 years, we have initiated trials of the patient's own cord blood in babies with birth asphyxia, cerebral palsy, hearing loss''; and she is doing some incredible work on an issue that I have worked on for over 20 years, and that is the issue and the disability known as autism.

Dr. Kurtzberg finally said, ''We've learned that when a donor cells are infused into one's body, they go to the brain and help heal the brain. When a child has a brain injury around birth, we can use their own cord blood cells to correct the damage that's occurred.''

Dr. Jeffrey Chell, of Be the Match—he is the CEO for it—noted that for many diseases, including blood cancers and sickle cell disease, cellular therapy is the best hope for a cure.

Last year, Mr. Speaker, I visited Celgene Corporation of Summit, New Jersey, to learn of their extraordinary efforts to use cord blood to heal diabetic foot ulcers, and they now have turned amniotic membrane, an old placenta, into wound management that has now advanced—it is on the market—past stage 3 clinical trials.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. I yield the gentleman another 30 seconds.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. H.R. 2820 authorizes $265 million over 5 years and will ensure that thousands of present-day and future patients benefit from this exciting field of regenerative medicine.

We have only just begun. This legislation furthers that work. And again, I thank my colleagues for this bipartisan support.

Mr. Speaker, Maalik was diagnosed with Hurler Syndrome at 15 months old—a rare and life-threatening metabolic disorder. He had a curved spine and could not walk. After receiving an umbilical cord blood transplant facilitated through the Carolina Blood Bank, Maalik is running around and expected to have a normal lifespan. His mother Krystal told the Herald Sun newspaper in North Carolina, ''My son is extremely happy now . . . He's energetic, and more independent. The transplant saved his life.''

In like manner, bone marrow donations provide lifesaving transplants to treat diseases like blood cancer or inherited metabolic or immune system disorders. Clara was only 4 months old when she was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. John had registered with the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) Be the Match as a bone marrow donor when Clara was only 17 days old. It turned out he was a perfect match for Clara. John's donation saved Clara's life, she is now a thriving 2 year old.

Valentina was 10 months old and only 13 pounds—and diagnosed with severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID). Her doctor treated her with chemotherapy followed by a cord blood transplant. 5 months after the transplant Valentina weighed 21 pounds and doctors credited her strengthened immune system from the stem cells in cord blood.

Jennifer, 45, was suffering from acute myeloid leukemia but unable to find a matched bone-marrow transplant. Because of the high rate of tissue type diversity among racial and ethnic minorities it can be difficult to find a matched bone marrow transplant, but umbilical cord blood can be successfully used for treatment with a less perfect match of tissue type. After undergoing chemotherapy and radiation she received a cord blood transplant, and is now living cancer free.

Not only has God in His wisdom and goodness created a placenta and umbilical cord to nurture and protect the precious life of an unborn child, but now we know that another gift awaits us immediately after birth. Something very special is left behind—cord blood that is teeming with lifesaving stem cells.

Breathtaking scientific breakthroughs have turned medical waste—post birth placentas and umbilical cord blood—into medical miracles treating more than 80 diseases including leukemia, lymphoma and sickle cell anemia.

As a matter of fact, Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg of Duke University and President of the Cord Blood Association told Chairman PITTS' Health Subcommittee on June 25 that sickle cell anemia can be ''cured'' with cord blood transplantation and that ''it has become one of the optimal donor sources for patients with sickle cell disease'' because it doesn't have to be perfectly matched.

H.R. 2820 under consideration by the House today reauthorizes through 2020 the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005 a law that I sponsored a decade ago joined by Artur Davis of Alabama; legislation that cleared the Senate with the incomparable help of Senator ORRIN HATCH. That law built upon the excellent work of our distinguished late colleague Bill Young of Florida to facilitate bone marrow transplants and created a brand new national umbilical cord blood donation and transplantation program.

Special thanks to both Chairmen UPTON and PITTS for their outstanding leadership and help on this bill, as well as the strong support by Ranking Members PALLONE and GREEN. I am deeply grateful to original cosponsors Ms. MATSUI, Mr. JOLLY and Mr. FATTAH for their important contributions. And special thanks to Katie Novaria, Adrianna Simonelli, and Megan McCrum.

Today, Mr. Speaker, under the National Cord Blood Inventory Program (NCBI), contracts are awarded to cord blood banks to collect cord blood units donated after mothers give birth. These units are then made available through the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program also called the Be the Match Registry. The Program provides a single point of access, enabling those in need of lifesaving transplants to search for a match via an integrated nationwide network of bone marrow donors and cord blood stem cells. The Program's Bone Marrow and Cord Blood Coordinating Centers makes information about bone marrow and cord blood transplant available to donors and patients, and the Office of Patient Advocacy helps support patients and families dealing with a life-threatening diagnosis. And the Stem Cell Therapeutic Outcomes Database tracks results.

Americans willing to volunteer are the heart of the success of this program. In reauthorizing it we are grateful for the adult donors willing to donate bone marrow or peripheral blood stem cells, as well as mothers who donate their babies' cord blood through public cord blood banks.

There are 13 public banks contracted through NCBI, including the New Jersey Cord Blood Bank in my home state, which collects cord blood from 5 participating hospitals.

According to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), every year 18,000 people in the U.S. are diagnosed with illnesses for which blood stem cell transplantation from a matched donor is their best treatment option. Of this number, only about 30% have a sibling who can be the ideal matched donor, so about 12,600 people annually depend on the programs made available by this law to find an unrelated adult marrow donor or cord blood unit for treatment.

Cord blood transplants have accounted for about one half of the growth in stem cell transplants since NCBI was established in 2005. More NCBI units have been released for transplantation with each successive year since the program's inception.

In addition to currently treating more than 80 diseases, cord blood units from NCBI banks are also made available for research on future therapies. In groundbreaking research, Dr. Kurtzberg of Duke University also testified last June that ''in addition to use in patients with malignant and genetic diseases, cord blood is showing enormous potential for use in cellular therapies and regenerative medicine. Cord blood derived vaccines against viruses and certain types of cancers are currently under development and in early phase clinical trials. Cells manufactured from cord blood units are being developed to boost recovery of the immune system. Cells regulating autoimmunity (Regulatory T cells) are also in clinical trials. These approaches, which often utilize cord blood banked in family banks, may help patients with Type 1 Diabetes, as well as other diseases.''

Dr. Kurtzberg further testified that she and others are developing uses for cord blood to treat acquired brain disorders. ''Over the past six years'' she said ''we have initiated trials of autologous (the patient's own) cord blood in babies with birth asphyxia, cerebral palsy, hearing loss and autism . . .''

Dr. Kurtzberg has also said ''We've learned that when donor cells are infused into one's body, they go to the brain and help heal the brain. When a child has a brain injury around birth, we can use their own cord blood cells to correct the damage that's occurred.''

Dr. Jeffrey W. Chell, CEO of NMDP/Be the Match noted that for many diseases including blood cancers and sickle cell disease, cellular therapy is the best hope for a cure. He told Chairman PITTS' subcommittee that the patient population ''rising the most quickly is the elderly population . . . growing by double digits every year, and the reason for that is the medical conditions for which transplant is often the only cure tend to occur in older populations for diseases like acute myeloid leukemia, myelodysplastic syndrome, myelofibrosis and others.''

Last year, Mr. Speaker, I visited Celgene Corporation of Summit, New Jersey to learn of their extraordinary efforts to use cord blood to heal diabetic foot ulcers and how they've turned amniotic membrane—an old placenta—into wound management that has now advanced past stage 3 clinical trials to the approval and regulatory filings stage.

H.R. 2820 authorizes $265 million over five years and will ensure that thousands of present-day and future patients benefit from the exciting field of regenerative medicine.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close with a quick story.

There is a good friend of mine. His name is Philip Schardein, and I am great friends with his family. He went off to play golf in college—great athlete. All of a sudden, he came down with leukemia, and I remember that there were some issues at first about his sister being able to donate bone marrow.

So my town, Bowling Green, Kentucky, organized a bone marrow drive to see if anybody could match Philip Schardein. I have probably never been more proud to call myself a resident of the hometown of Bowling Green than that day. I remember going three times, and it was so overwhelmed with volunteers trying to have their bone marrow, the blood type, to see if they matched, that it just overwhelmed the system.

I remember finally getting through late in the afternoon, and people waited all day to see if they could match and help Philip Schardein. And God bless, for whatever reason his sister couldn't donate, it turned out that she could donate, and he is a healthy person now with family and children, and everything is going well.

But just about a year after that, I was in Holiday World with my family. I was having a day with them. My cell phone rang, and it turned out I had matched, because of going to get my bone marrow tested, or my blood tested, that I matched someone. The lady got on the phone, and she told me what it takes to be a donor and, Will you be willing to move forward? I said, Of course.

I remember the reason I said I was at Holiday World was because I remember standing there going, here I am with my family having fun, laughing and having a great afternoon, and there is some family somewhere that is anonymous, not having the same experience, probably trying to figure out if their loved one is going to live or survive or what is going to be the prognosis.

So I went through the process, and I remember going through, having my blood taken and several of the steps. Just getting close to the actual time to do the bone marrow transplant, for whatever reason, we got notified that it wasn't going forward. It could do that for many reasons. One, hopefully, is the anonymous person was cured or the prognosis was better, or maybe a sibling or something matched like it did for Philip Schardein.

But I've often wondered about the life on the other end, because they don't tell you for reason of anonymity, and it is just something that has always weighed on my mind. Even sitting here and getting ready to close, I was thinking about who was on the other end, and I hope that they have a good story, as well as Philip Schardein.

But what I want to stress is how important it is that families in need and worry and wondering what is going to happen with their loved ones, and the loved ones themselves, and this is something we can do. It was a little thing that I was able to do, that we all were able to do in my community, and

people across this country can do to try to help people live long and fruitful lives.

Our prayers were answered with Philip Schardein, and this is an opportunity for us to come together, in a bipartisan way, as all the bills were.

I want to close with this. We have been through four bills in the last hour, and they are dealing with touching families, and every one of them has been bipartisan. We have been able to come together and find where we agree and work together, that we can work for infants, for families suffering with leukemia and other blood disorders, for infants with opioid addiction, for parents who have children with early hearing detection, and that is where we have been able to come together and work together.

I appreciate the effort of Ranking Member GREEN in bringing us all together, and our subcommittee chairman, Mr. PITTS.

I look forward to voting for this bill, and I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 2820. I appreciate my friend, Mr. SMITH, for bringing it forward.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 820, the "Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act," would continue critical federal support for the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program. This program includes the Be the Match registry for bone marrow and umbilical cord blood transplantation which continues to provide hope to people in need of a lifesaving transplants.

Each year thousands of patients in need of life saving transplants are unable to find a match within their family and therefore require a nonrelative donor. That is why the Be the Match Registry and its nearly 12.5 million registered bone marrow donors and collection of more than 209,000 cord blood units is so important. The Program also supports the collection and use of transplantation data to advance medical research.

I'd like to thank Representative DORIS MATSUI for her leadership in this area and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2820 to ensure that the lifesaving Be the Match registry continues.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2820.

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.

E-WARRANTY ACT OF 2015

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1359) to allow manufacturers to meet warranty and labeling requirements for consumer products by displaying the terms of warranties on Internet websites, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1359

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 ''E-Warranty Act of 2015''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Many manufacturers and consumers prefer to have the option to provide or receive warranty information online.

(2) Modernizing warranty notification rules is necessary to allow the United States to continue to compete globally in manufacturing, trade, and the development of consumer products connected to the Internet.

(3) Allowing an electronic warranty option would expand consumer access to relevant consumer information in an environmentally friendly way, and would provide additional flexibility to manufacturers to meet their labeling and warranty requirements.

SEC. 3. ELECTRONIC DISPLAY OF TERMS OF WRITTEN WARRANTY FOR CONSUMER PRODUCTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 102(b) of the Magnuson-Moss Warranty—Federal Trade Commission Improvement Act (15 U.S.C. 2302(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(4)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the rules prescribed under this subsection shall allow for the satisfaction of all requirements concerning the availability of terms of a written warranty on a consumer product under this subsection by—

''(i) making available such terms in an accessible digital format on the Internet website of the manufacturer of the consumer product in a clear and conspicuous manner; and

''(ii) providing to the consumer (or prospective consumer) information with respect to how to obtain and review such terms by indicating on the product or product packaging or in the product manual—

''(I) the Internet website of the manufacturer where such terms can be obtained and reviewed; and

''(II) the phone number of the manufacturer, the postal mailing address of the manufacturer, or another reasonable non-Internet based means of contacting the manufacturer to obtain and review such terms.

''(B) With respect to any requirement that the terms of any written warranty for a consumer product be made available to the consumer (or prospective consumer) prior to sale of the product, in a case in which a consumer product is offered for sale in a retail location, by catalog, or through door-to-door sales, subparagraph (A) shall only apply if the seller makes available, through electronic or other means, at the location of the sale to the consumer purchasing the consumer product the terms of the warranty for the consumer product before the purchase.''.

(b) REVISION OF RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Trade Commission shall revise the rules prescribed under such section to comply with the requirements of paragraph (4) of such section, as added by subsection (a) of this section.

(2) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE REQUIREMENT FOR ORAL PRESENTATION.—In revising rules under paragraph (1), the Federal Trade Commission may waive the requirement of section 109(a) of such Act (15 U.S.C. 2309(a)) to give interested persons an opportunity for oral presentation if the Commission determines that giving interested persons such opportunity would interfere with the ability of the Commission to revise rules under paragraph (1) in a timely manner.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) and the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials into the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the E-Warranty Act of 2015 modernizes current warranty requirements by allowing manufacturers to post product warranty information online.

I certainly want to thank Senator FISCHER and Congressman MULLIN for crafting bipartisan legislation opening a path for manufacturers to conduct their business more efficiently in the digital age.

This legislation will give consumers better access to warranty information, while retaining flexibility for sellers and reducing costs for manufacturers. The Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously forwarded the companion bill, H.R. 3154, to the House floor in July after consideration by the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade.

The subcommittee has been studying how the use of the Internet and other advanced technologies is generating great advances for consumers and creating jobs. Simple things like this will create savings across multiple industries.

We will continue to look for ways to roll back outdated regulations that slow down our e-commerce, economy and hurt jobs. This legislation does just that by bringing warranty regulations into the 21st century. I urge my colleagues to vote for S. 1359.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1359, the E-Warranty Act of 2015. I am pleased the House is considering this bipartisan, bicameral legislation. S. 1359 is identical to H.R. 3154, the E-Warranty Act of 2015, which I was very, very happy to introduce with my good friend, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN).

This commonsense legislation will bring product warranties into the 21st century by allowing warranty information to be posted online. This solution makes sense for both manufacturers and consumers, as many of which prefer the option of providing or receiving warranty information in electronic rather than paper form.

Not only will this bill reduce waste, it will make it easier for consumers to

find warranty information quickly and easily, without worrying that it will be lost or discarded.

I thank the committee for bringing this bill forward, and I urge support for this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN), the author of the House-sponsored legislation.

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Chairman BURGESS and the committee for allowing this bill to come to the floor. This is one of those commonsense bills that brings a regulation that was put in place nearly 40 years ago and brings it to today's technology.

This bill has passed the Senate by unanimous consent and is identical to H.R. 3154 that Congressman LOEBSACK and I introduced and which passed the committee by voice vote. This bipartisan E-Warranty Act of 2015 gives manufacturers the option of fulfilling their warranty notice requirements by posting the information on the Web site.

Our current Federal regulation, as I stated earlier, was developed nearly 40 years ago. The world has changed since then, and, like many regulations, this has become outdated. Warranty requirements ensure consumers get important information when they purchase a product, and we need to make sure the methods for delivering this information keep pace with innovation.

I urge all Members to vote ''yes'' on this commonsense bill.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, it appears that I have no further speakers, so I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I would just simply add that I encourage all Members to vote in favor of the legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1359, the E-Warranty Act. And I want to thank Mr. LOEBSACK and Mr. MULLIN for their contributions to the bill.

The bill directs the Federal Trade Commission to amend its current rules on warranty notice to allow the pre-sale notice requirements to be fulfilled by making warranty information available online. While I support this commonsense proposal, I would like to highlight one point that the bill rightly acknowledges—there are many consumers and small business owners without Internet access.

This bill requires that contact information of the product manufacturers be made available so consumers may obtain warranty information by non-electronic means. To ensure that consumers and small business owners without Internet access are not disadvantaged, this Committee expects the FTC to require that consumers be provided with a toll-free phone number and warrantors respond to non-Internet requests for free and in a timely manner.

Moreover, I am confident that when the FTC changes its rules pursuant to this bill, it will maintain the protections that currently exist for consumers and small business owners who do not have Internet access, including requiring manufacturers to ensure sellers can fulfill their obligations under the bill and the rules.

This bill will help modernize the rules regarding pre-sale warranty notice by allowing warranty information to be made available online. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1359.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. BURGESS. 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.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 57 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1832

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. WALORSKI) at 6 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.

E-WARRANTY ACT OF 2015

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on the motion to suspend the rules previously postponed.

The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1359), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 388, nays 2, not voting 43, as follows:

[Roll No. 490]

YEAS—388

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Ashford
Babin
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Boustany
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clawson (FL)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Dold
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers (NC)
Emmer (MN)
Engel
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gibson
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graham
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grothman
Guinta
Guthrie
Hahn
Hardy
Harper
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Hice, Jody B.
Hill
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Honda
Hoyer
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Hurt (VA)
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jordan
Joyce
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Knight
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lee
Levin
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn
Marchant
Massie
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neugebauer
Newhouse
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nugent
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (NC)
Price, Tom
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rokita
Rooney (FL)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Russell
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Stutzman
Swalwell (CA)
Takai
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton

Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Visclosky
Wagner
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Young (IN)
Zeldin
Zinke

NAYS—2

Benishek
Jones

NOT VOTING—43

Aguilar
Blum
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bost
Brady (PA)
Carter (TX)
Clarke (NY)
Cramer
DeFazio
DeSantis
Dingell
Duckworth
Forbes
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanna
Harris
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Huffman
Hultgren
Kelly (IL)
Kildee
Kirkpatrick
Loudermilk
Lummis
Maloney, Sean
Marino
McCollum
Mulvaney
Poliquin
Quigley
Rangel
Rohrabacher
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Shimkus
Tiberi
Torres
Velázquez
Walberg
Watson Coleman

□ 1857

Mr. GARAMENDI changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes on Tuesday, September 8, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 490 in support of the E-Warranty Act of 2015.

Mr. TIBERI. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 490 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass S. 1359), I was unavoidably detained and did not cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted, "yea" on this vote.

Mr. HULTGREN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 490, I was unavoidably detained (delayed flight—weather). Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 490, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure be discharged from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 70, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 70

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

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR D.C. SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN.

On October 16, 2015, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may jointly designate, the 30th annual District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run (in this resolution referred to as the ''event'') may be run through the Capitol Grounds to carry the Special Olympics torch to honor local Special Olympics athletes.

SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITY OF CAPITOL POLICE BOARD.

The Capitol Police Board shall take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the event.

SEC. 3. CONDITIONS RELATING TO PHYSICAL PREPARATIONS.

The Architect of the Capitol may prescribe conditions for physical preparations for the event.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the event.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1900

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS CONGRESSIONAL FLAG PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure be discharged from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 73, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 73

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

SECTION 1. USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS CONGRESSIONAL FLAG PRESENTATION CEREMONY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Congressional Fire Services Institute and the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (in this resolution referred to jointly as the ''sponsor'') shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, the 2nd Annual Fallen Firefighters Congressional Flag Presentation Ceremony (in this resolution referred to as the ''event''), on the Capitol Grounds in order to honor the firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2014.

(b) DATE OF EVENT.—The event shall be held on September 30, 2015, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate.

SEC. 2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board, the event shall be—

(1) free of admission charge and open to the public; and

(2) arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsor shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

SEC. 3. EVENT PREPARATIONS.

Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, the sponsor is authorized to erect upon the Capitol Grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as may be required for the event.

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board are authorized to make such additional arrangements as may be required to carry out the event.

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, with respect to the event.

(b) USE OF FIRE EQUIPMENT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Capitol Police Board may allow the sponsor, as part of the event, to use traditional, handheld fire equipment, such as axes and Pulaski tools, and any other fire equipment that the Board determines can be used in a safe manner and will not cause damage to the Capitol Grounds or harm to any individual.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR AN EVENT TO COMMEMORATE THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MILLION MAN MARCH

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure be discharged from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 74, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 74

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

SECTION 1. USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR EVENT TO COMMEMORATE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF MILLION MAN MARCH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Million Man March, Inc. 2015 (in this resolution referred to as the ''sponsor'') shall be permitted to sponsor a public event on the Capitol Grounds to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Million Man March (in this resolution referred to as the ''event'').

(b) DATE OF EVENT.—The event shall be held on October 10, 2015, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate.

SEC. 2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board, the event shall be—

(1) free of admission charge and open to the public; and

(2) arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsor shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

SEC. 3. EVENT PREPARATIONS.

Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, the sponsor is authorized to erect upon the Capitol Grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment, as may be required for the event.

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board are authorized to make any such additional arrangements that may be required to carry out the event.

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the event.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3412

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I be removed as a cosponsor from H.R. 3412.

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

There was no objection.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER FOR ALISON PARKER AND ADAM WARD

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

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I would ask that members of the Virginia congregation join me here in the well.

Madam Speaker, colleagues, along with my fellow members of the delegation from the Commonwealth of Virginia, I rise today with a heavy heart.

On the morning of August 26, we were shaken by a tragic incident during which WDBJ7 journalists Alison Parker and Adam Ward were killed in an act of senseless, heartbreaking violence. Vicki Gardner, head of the Smith Mountain Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce, was seriously injured in the shooting. She has recently been discharged from the hospital and continues her recovery.

Alison Parker was 24 years old. She graduated from Martinsville High School, attended Patrick Henry Community College, and went on to James Madison University's School of Media Arts and Design. After she graduated, Alison joined the news team at WCTI 12 in North Carolina before, last year, landing a job reporting for the Mornin' Show at WDBJ in Roanoke, where she worked on the news team with Adam. It is a TV station that broadcasts into her hometown and into Adam's hometown.

Adam Ward was 27. He grew up in Botetourt, but was described as ''truly a Salem Spartan, born and bred.'' He started attending school at Andrew Lewis Middle School in the seventh grade, later playing football for Salem High. Adam fulfilled another dream by attending Virginia Tech and becoming a proud member of the Hokie Nation.

Alison and Adam were cheerful, hardworking, exuberant, and much-loved members of the WDBJ family who are and will continue to be missed.

Our community is grieving and coping. We are asking for comfort and healing. We are reflecting on Alison's and Adam's lives while also praying for Vicki's ongoing recovery.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my colleagues from the Commonwealth, and our community in a moment of silent prayer.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN HONOR OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE LOUIS STOKES

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to an historic, distinguished former Member of this Chamber—Louis Stokes of Cleveland, Ohio.

Congressman Stokes passed away on August 18, at the age of 90, with his loving wife of 55 years, Jeanette, by his side.

On behalf of the people of Ohio and the Ohio delegation, I would like to express our deep sadness and enduring gratitude for the life of Louis Stokes.

Growing up in Cleveland in public housing, with his brother, Carl, and their widowed mother, life was hard, but Lou triumphed over hardship to become a passionate voice for the less fortunate. He gave his life to public service, serving 3 years in the Army before using the benefits he earned under the GI Bill to attend college and law school; and, I might say, he served in a segregated Army. He worked closely with the NAACP and argued the landmark stop and frisk case, Terry v. Ohio, before the U.S. Supreme Court.

In his 15 terms in Congress, he served as an ever-present voice for people of color and vulnerable communities across this country, playing a role to help found the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971. He was a foundational figure. His leadership was also historic, as he was the first African American Member of Congress ever elected to represent Ohio. Lou's resume in the House included stints as chairman of the select committee that investigated the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr., from 1976 to 1978; as chairman of the House Ethics Committee; as a member of the House select committee that investigated the Iran-Contra affair; and as the first Black person to chair the Intelligence Committee and serve on the influential House Appropriations Committee and chair its Subcommittee on Veterans, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies.

A month before his passing, Lou gave an interview to the Cleveland Plain Dealer. He said: ''I was a very blessed guy . . . I've been blessed with the opportunity to participate in history, to rise to opportunities I never envisioned . . . and to provide for people opportunities that, in many cases, they would have never had.''

We stand here today in the footsteps of this historic champion. It is we who are blessed to have worked alongside Congressman Stokes; and our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Jeanette; his beautiful daughters Angela, Shelley, and Lori; son, Chuck; and seven grandchildren. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of them during this difficult time of loss.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Ohio delegation, I ask that the House observe a moment of silence in memory of the legendary, transformative life of former Congressman Louis Stokes, and I thank you all.

IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL

(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. Madam Speaker, this week, we will debate and vote on one of the most consequential national security and foreign policy issues that we have faced in quite some time—the Iran nuclear agreement.

This deal allows Iran to continue to enrich uranium and to keep in place nearly every key aspect of its nuclear program. It also provides an economic lifeline to the Iranian regime, with billions of dollars in sanctions relief, which will fund Iran's support for terror and its other acts of belligerence in the region.

This deal also lifts the arms embargo on Iran, lifts sanctions on its ballistic missile program, and lifts certain sanctions on the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps and its leader, like Qasem Soleimani.

This is not a partisan or a political statement—this is the grim reality of the situation. This deal, as it has been presented to Congress and to the American people, will not prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear weapons state. As such, it is incumbent upon us to reject this weak and dangerous Iran nuclear agreement this week.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE LOU STOKES

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

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to just take a minute to join with Congresswoman KAPTUR, with Congresswoman MARCIA FUDGE, and with Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY in honoring the life of Louis Stokes.

We attended his funeral a few weeks back, and I just want to say there were so many great stories that came about through his passing—from his family and from his grandkids, who gave beautiful eulogies, stories of their grandfather.

This is just to say, when I first got to the United States Congress as a young Congressman of 29 years old, it was Congressman Stokes who sat in my office, who gave me counsel, who was always there and was always in a good mood, who was always joking and playing around and having a good time; but he took his job very seriously and took being a Member of Congress very seriously.

The striking and remarkable thing about him was, no matter how high up the ladder he moved, he always had time. Whether it was for a young boy or girl in Cleveland or a new Congressman from Youngstown, he had time. He shared his advice, and he shared his counsel. He was such a remarkable man.

When you think of the word ''gentleman,'' that was Congressman Lou Stokes. He was a gentle man and, I think, embodied the kind of character we want our young men in Ohio to look up to and aspire to be.

I wanted to take a minute here on the House floor to thank him for all he did for me and all he did for Ohio and all he did for this country. He was a great man, and he will be missed. Our hearts and our prayers go out to him and his family.

VOTE FOR NEW AMERICAN LEADERSHIP AND WORLD PEACE

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, this week, the House will vote against the nuclear arms race in the Middle East.

The House will vote against Mr. Putin's getting new missiles for Iran to hit Europe—even America—with a nuclear bomb.

The House will vote against giving Iran $50 billion to hand to ISIS, Hamas, Hezbollah, and al Qaeda.

The House will vote for American Christians held in jails in Iran. The House will vote for the survival of our greatest ally, Israel.

World peace needs American leadership. The world has had 7 years of America's leading from behind.

I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for new American leadership and world peace. Vote to disapprove of President Obama's deal with Iran.

ALL LIVES MATTER

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, in the past year, our Nation has witnessed an unspeakable tragedy—a rivalry of law enforcement officers and the communities they work so hard to protect.

From riots in Ferguson and Baltimore to, most recently, the individual targeting and murdering of police officers, our Nation is at a crossroads.

We find ourselves asking:

When will the rule of law and those who enforce that law, once again, be respected?

How many more violent protests and threatening chants will those who bravely wear the badge have to put up with?

How much more taunting under the guise of a misleading slogan be tolerated before community organizers, prominent African American leaders, and Democrats at the city, State, and national levels say enough is enough?

When will we hear in unison: ''It is not okay to kill police officers''?

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I are here this evening to honor those in uniform who have fallen, but we are also here to call for an end to this violence. We are here to call for the restoration of law and order. We are here to call for the protection of the men and women who put their lives on the line every single day—the ones who chose a profession to help make their neighborhoods safer.

These are not just police officers. They are mothers; they are fathers; they are husbands and wives; they are sons and daughters. Mr. Speaker, their lives matter, too, and all lives matter.

In God we trust.

□ 1915

IRANIAN NUCLEAR DEAL

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, a poll of my constituents in Pennsylvania's Eighth District, one of the true swing districts in this House, shows that they disapprove of the administration's nuclear deal with Iran by a 2 to 1 margin.

These returns are in line with recent national polls showing Americans, as a whole, overwhelmingly disapprove of the agreement by a similar count, and they have every right to.

What we have learned about this deal is that it does not go far enough to achieve its ultimate goal, to prevent Iran from getting a nuclear weapon. In fact, it would allow just that when it sunsets.

In the meantime, ''anytime, anywhere'' inspections of Iranian nuclear sites were neutralized to provide up to 24 days' notice prior to any inspection.

In addition, this deal precipitates a nuclear arms race in the Middle East, a reality we are already seeing, as nations like Egypt, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia have already begun building up their nuclear infrastructure in response.

The hundreds of billions of dollars in sanctions relief provided by this deal will no doubt be used to further fund Tehran's state sponsorship of terror.

A nation that has a nine-figure line item in the budget to support terrorism, like attacks that devastated our Nation on September 11, 2001, is hard to trust.

Unfortunately, what we have is a bad deal, one that makes an already volatile, unstable Middle East less safe, clears the way for a nuclear Iran, and gravely endangers allies like Israel.

I urge my colleagues to disapprove it.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING LAWS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Madam Speaker, one of the issues that I have been most passionate about is stopping the horrific crime of sex trafficking and protecting young victims.

Earlier this year Congress took action and passed a package of bipartisan bills, including one that I authored aimed at combatting this crime. I said at the time that this legislation would save lives.

Madam Speaker, in the short time since these laws have gone into effect, we are already seeing results. Recently, a provision in the legislation that allowed local law enforcement to coordinate their efforts with the U.S. Marshals Service was used to help find a kidnapped Tennessee teenager. The 14-year-old girl was rescued in Virginia, and her abductor, a known sex offender, was taken into custody.

Madam Speaker, ending human trafficking requires vigilance and a bipartisan commitment to ensure that children are safe from those wishing to exploit them. The actions we have taken to combat this awful crime are making a difference and saving lives.

HONORING ERNIE PELLOW

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to honor the accomplishments of Ernie Pellow, a man who dedicated his life and career to his community of Franklin and to its region's housing industry.

Mr. Pellow was recently awarded the Pennsylvania Builders Association's

Distinguished Achievement Award, which has only been given to a handful of that organization's members over the past two decades.

Madam Speaker, Ernie's accomplishments are extensive. He is the founder of Builder Services, Incorporated, and the creator of the Home Builders Show in Venango County.

He has also received numerous awards, including Builder of the Year in 1996 and the Executive Office Service Award from the Pennsylvania State Senate.

Perhaps more importantly than all of this, Madam Speaker, Ernie Pellow served his Nation bravely and, since then, has participated in more than 1,000 Honor Guard events.

Now, I am one of the many elected officials who have relied on Ernie's advice and support in the area of home construction. I congratulate him on this award and his continued service to his community.

HONORING FIRST RESPONDERS

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, as you know so well, one of the top issues that people in our districts are discussing is national security. The reason for that is because they are seeing the issues of national security, domestic security, played out on their streets.

I want to stand with my colleagues who are going to do a Special Order in just a few minutes to honor the work that our first responders, that our men and women in uniform, are doing every single day to keep our community safe.

A police officer is tasked with not just enforcing the law, which they do, they are also tasked with protecting the community.

Often they find themselves with the duty to protect the community from itself, whether that is to stop the motorist who is driving recklessly in a school zone or having to thrust themselves into the middle of a domestic dispute and to restore order.

I will tell you, so many times, as I talked to first responders as I was in my district in the month of August, they said there is no such thing as a routine stop any longer. They know they face danger. We thank them.

CELEBRATING H. CANYON'S SUCCESS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, this August, the H. Canyon facility at the U.S. Department of Energy's Savannah River Site near Aiken, South Carolina, celebrated 60 years of service.

H. Canyon is America's only hardened nuclear chemical separations plant still operating, and its dedicated staff play a vital role in our Nation's history and in the future.

During the cold war, H. Canyon was vital for victory, promoting national defense by peace through strength. Today it continues to process nuclear materials safely and securely and delivers fuels to the Tennessee Valley Authority.

H. Canyon is also a pioneer for the future, developing plutonium-powered batteries for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for deep space exploration. We saw the results of this incredible technology this summer with the historic, close-range photographs of the most remote planet, Pluto.

I am grateful to the Savannah River Nuclear Solutions and the 800 employees for operating this remarkable facility. I am also grateful for SRNS President and CEO Carol Johnson, site manager Jack Craig, and the support of the partnering contractors: Fluor, Newport News Nuclear, and Honeywell.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions, never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

IRANIAN NUCLEAR DEAL

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, one of the most important votes we will maybe ever do in this House will happen probably later this week. I am talking about the Iran deal.

Indeed, the original premise of the Iran nuclear deal was that Iran would be a nuclear-free, nonmilitary nuclear zone. That has already been conceded to in the deal we will be voting on here soon in the House and, I guess, over in the Senate as well.

This is going to greatly affect the security of our allies like our good, solid ally, Israel, as well as others we do trading with in the Middle East.

And if you don't think it affects U.S. homeland, then why does the deal include provisions not only after 5 years for being able to trade arms on the open market for Iran, but for them to have intercontinental ballistic missiles within 8 years? What do you do with ICBMs? I will guarantee it isn't delivering forget-me-not bouquets to the United States.

Our security is on the line in this deal. Seventy-three percent of Americans don't even believe that we can strike a deal with Iran and have them keep their word.

The Associated Press—and this is the real kicker—reported here recently that Iran would be self-inspecting, self-reporting on the deal. We can put no faith that they will uphold this deal and that they will adhere to any of the provisions in it.

We need to vote ''no'' on this.

HONORING FALLEN POLICE OFFICERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MCSALLY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, last Friday, August 28, 2015, a deputy sheriff that protects my neighborhood in Houston, Texas, Harris County Deputy Sheriff Darren Goforth, was ambushed and brutally murdered at a gas station that my family and I use regularly and that I drive past every day.

I knew this good man. He was well known to my neighbors and me as a model citizen and as a model officer.

You could not ask for a kinder, gentler, better law enforcement officer than Darren Goforth. He was murdered in cold blood, assassinated by someone whose motives are not completely clear yet.

In this atmosphere and this movement of extremist people calling on individuals to attack law enforcement, I wanted to call this Special Order. I want to thank my good friend, Judge TED POE, for organizing this Special Order today.

We reserved this hour so that the Members of the House can come down here today and express our love and admiration and appreciation for every man and woman who wears the blue and defends our peace, our liberty, our property, and our safety on the streets of America.

Deputy Goforth was a 10-year veteran of the Harris County Sheriffs Department. He was a loving husband and a father of two precious children, ages 5 and 12. He was murdered for one reason: Because he wore the uniform. Because he wore the blue to protect us all, to preserve our liberty, to protect our homes and our property, he was murdered in cold blood.

I went to many of the prayer vigils in the neighborhood. I went to a prayer vigil at the gas station where he was murdered, and I went to a service last Friday. Our minister, Dr. Ed Young of Second Baptist Church, conducted the service. It was overwhelming emotionally.

It was overwhelming and, also, encouraging to see the tremendous outpouring of support from the people of Houston, from the people of Texas, from people all over America, who showed up to express their love and admiration and support for the men and

women in law enforcement who protect us every single day. It was an outpouring of support like I don't think the people of Houston have seen for a long, long time.

Dr. Young's service was particularly compelling as he pointed out that the only prayer that Jesus taught us in the brief time he was here with us on Earth was the Lord's Prayer.

Dr. Young pointed out that the Lord's Prayer concludes, as we all know, with ''deliver us from evil.'' In that ''deliver us from evil,'' as Dr. Young pointed out, the word ''deliver'' actually means ''shield'' in Greek.

Dr. Young pointed out that the temple priests in Christ's time all wore blue as a symbol of the protection that they afforded to the temple-goers from evil and that Christ's robe was blue and it was appropriate that the men and women who protect us every day wear blue and we need to remember that they are there to shield us from evil.

There is no other job in America that you can go to work and might not come home because of the threat that you face when you are willing to step in front of a bullet or take that risk on yourself in defense of your neighbors and your friends.

As Dr. Young pointed out in that service, the good thing to come from this is that the people of Texas, the people of Houston, really, the people of America—and that is demonstrated by my colleagues being here with us today on the floor—have all stepped forward to let the law enforcement community know that we are there for them, we love them, we are praying for them, and that we have got their back.

In fact, one of the members of Second Baptist told Dr. Young and his staff that, shortly after this terrible murder of Deputy Goforth, he spotted a law enforcement officer filling his gas tank at a neighborhood gas station. As the officer was looking over his shoulder nervously, the member of Second Baptist walked up to the officer and said, ''Don't worry, Officer. I have got your back.''

□ 1930

A concealed carry permit holder—and as so many of our constituents and neighbors in Texas are concealed carry permit holders—law enforcement knows that a concealed carry permit holder is their best friend.

The message that I want to make sure that every law enforcement officer in the country hears tonight from myself and my colleagues and from the people of Texas and America, for every law enforcement officer out there: We love you. We are proud of you. We are praying for you and your family, and most of all, we got your back.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP), my good friend and colleague.

HONORING MICHAEL BYRON TABB, SR.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman and all of my colleagues for coming tonight in support of law enforcement.

The Good Book tells us that greater love hath no man but that he lay down his life for his friends. That is what our law enforcement, our first responders, our public safety personnel do for us each and every day, 24/7, all across this country. For that, we are so grateful.

They are Black; they are White; they are young; they are seasoned; they are male, and they are female. In my community in Columbus, Georgia, we have had all of them to give their last full measure of devotion in defense of our communities, to keep us safe at night, so I commend my colleagues for that.

I thank my colleague so much for allowing me to invade this Special Order to give a special tribute to one of my constituents who passed away during our break.

It is with a heavy heart, Madam Speaker, and in solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a respected community leader, an outstanding citizen, Michael Byron Tabb, Sr.

Sadly, Mike passed away on Monday, August 17, 2015, and funeral services were held Saturday, August 22, at 11 a.m. at the Milford Baptist Church in Leary, Georgia.

Mike Tabb was born in Albany, Georgia, and graduated from Baker County High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education and minored in biology at Valdosta State College, now Valdosta State University.

He was a teacher and a coach from 1967 until 1974 and a farmer from 1974 to 1986. He then served as the managing editor for the Camilla Enterprise from 1987 until 1993 and wrote the column ''Plantation Pete.''

From 1993 to 2012, Mike worked at the Camilla Housing Authority as grant and public relations coordinator and program coordinator. Following his retirement, he continued to work part time with Community Ventures, a nonprofit corporation that serves the community in various ways, including building homes.

He was instrumental in obtaining grants totaling nearly $15 million and contracts with the department of human resources to match welfare clients with employment opportunities. He helped organize youth development activities in 20 counties and acquired funding to construct housing for low-to-moderate-income citizens.

He was widely known by everybody as a driving force in the community. He served as chairman of the Baker Commission, chairman of the Mitchell County Children and Youth Collaborative, chairman of the board of directors of the Mitchell-Baker Association for Retarded Citizens, chairman of the Baker County Historical Society, and chairman of the Advisory Committee for South Georgia Judicial Circuit Indigent Defense Program.

He was also a member of the Mitchell County Children and Youth Family Connection Corporate Board, Baker County Family Connection, Mitchell County Hospital Authority, and the Southwest Georgia Workforce Investment Board.

He was instrumental in forming the first volunteer Baker County EMS and was an avid historian, playing a critical role in the publishing of the Baker County history book and cemetery book.

He was a resolute steward of Christ's message, and he taught Sunday school for over 35 years at Milford Baptist Church. His faith and spirituality always reminded those around him of the power of love and fellowship through Christ and the church.

Mike has accomplished much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the love and support of his wife, Karin; his children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, my wife, Vivian, and I, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, salute Mike Byron Tabb for his dedicated service to his community.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to Mike's family, friends, and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

I thank my colleague for yielding to me. It was very special. I, again, commend him for standing up and expressing our appreciation for America's law enforcement, the men and women who protect us day in and day out.

Mr. CULBERSON. Thank you, SANFORD. I know the State of Georgia loves and admires law enforcement as much as we do.

I am privileged to yield to my neighbor and colleague from Texas, Judge TED POE.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, peace officers are really the last strand of wire in defense between the fox and the chickens. They are the ones that stand between the lawful and the lawless. They protect us from outlaws. Sometimes, they do so without much appreciation from the public.

Friday, about 11,000 people or more gathered for the funeral of Deputy Darren Goforth at the Second Baptist Church in Houston, Texas. Many hundreds of others couldn't get in to any of the service. It was televised live on all four networks. Helicopters flew over during the service. It was hot, and people stood and gave appreciation to this man.

He was married to Kathleen. They had two children, Ava and Ryan. Ava is 5, and Ryan is 12. He had been a Harris County deputy sheriff for 10 years. I guess every member of the sheriff's department was at that funeral.

There were police officers from all over the United States there. There were some from Canada and the United Kingdom. I talked to a police officer

from Connecticut who was in Houston for this funeral. He was stunned in a way of appreciation for the people and other peace officers that came for this man's funeral.

It affected the whole community and still does to a great degree for a lot of reasons. In my other life, I was a prosecutor and a judge at the criminal courts building in Houston. I prosecuted people who killed peace officers, and I tried cases where peace officers had been killed when I was a judge. It is a grim thing that happens when a peace officer is murdered in the line of duty.

As my colleague, Mr. CULBERSON, pointed out, Darren Goforth was getting gasoline at a local gas station he stopped at regularly and was filling up his patrol car 2 weeks ago. An assassin came up from behind him and shot him in the back of the head.

He kept shooting. He finally emptied his clip, and 15 times, Deputy Goforth was shot in the back of the head. The assassin fled but was later captured, and a man is charged with capital murder.

There seems to be an environment in America that police officers are being targeted. We will leave that for a different discussion. These are real people. They do what most of us would never do. They go out and protect and serve us. Police officers have been referred to as the thin blue line.

As mentioned earlier, blue is a traditional color that peace officers wear. They also wear a badge or a star, a star in Texas for deputy sheriffs and Texas Rangers, a badge for local police officers. They place that over their heart, symbolic of the shield that protects us from the lawless.

They do that all over the country. That is why the badge or the star is placed in that location. The badge, the star, it really represents everything that is good and right about law and order and America.

When a person, a peace officer is murdered, it affects all of us. It was encouraging to me and I think other peace officers to see the community support for Darren Goforth; his wife, Kathleen; Ava; and Ryan.

A lot of stories were told about this wonderful person. Being a police officer was his second career. He loved working on cars. He wanted to make them run, old cars—muscle cars, as we called them in my day.

He had recently bought his son, Ryan, a Captain America T-shirt, and he bought himself one. They didn't have time to wear it, but at the funeral, Ryan, his son, under his suit, wore his Captain America T-shirt. Deputy Goforth was buried in his, underneath his uniform. He was a marvelous individual, a brave and good guy.

The community not only attended the funeral and watched it on TV. As the processional left the church, led by I don't know how many police officers on motorcycles and then you had the Patriot Guard motorcycle riders and other motorcycle groups at the end of the parade going through the Houston area to the cemetery, people stood on the side of the road, put their hand over their heart.

A lot of money has been raised for Darren Goforth's family. At the location where he was murdered, a Chevron station, people are still putting up flowers and tributes.

As my colleague said, apparently, on more than one occasion, peace officers have been filling up their patrol cars—and in Houston, patrol officers, Houston officers and county officers, travel alone; there is not two in a car—but while they have been filling up their patrol cars, apparently, on more than one occasion, some citizen has stopped, come up to the officer, and said, ''I got your back,'' and that was really the message.

In our area, in the Houston area, we are saddened by what happened to this individual, but I think it is true that the community, like that Connecticut officer said, like no other place, is very supportive of peace officers, their families, and what they do and that we do have their back. The community supports them.

We mourn with the family; we mourn with all peace officers who have lost a brother peace officer, but we are also resolved and resilient that, in the future, we are going to have their back because respecting and upholding the rule of law is what these men and women do, and we should support them in that effort.

And that is just the way it is.

Mr. CULBERSON. Dr. Young looked at that young family and said: I want you to know that your father, your husband, did not die in vain because he has steeled the resolve of this Nation to stand behind every man and woman in uniform that defends our liberty and our safety on the streets of America.

I am proud to yield to my colleague from Texas, Dr. BABIN.

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas not only for yielding, but for getting this Special Order together on such a special issue.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Harris County Deputy Sheriff Darren Goforth and all of America's law enforcement officers. On Friday, August 28, Deputy Goforth was ambushed and murdered while refueling his patrol car in Houston, Texas.

I am proud to represent a portion of the city. Deputy Goforth was a committed 10-year veteran of the police force, a proud husband, and the father of two.

Tragically, his life was cut short for one simple reason: his uniform. It is hard to express my outrage and my contempt for those who have incited this war of hatred and violence toward our Nation's law enforcement officers.

Police officers take an oath to protect and to serve, and it is time they receive the same level of commitment and protection in return.

□ 1945

In August alone, we have lost five other police officers. In 2015, we have seen 24 law enforcement officers gunned down. These brave men and women put their lives on the line every single day for our communities and for the safety of our families. They deserve our support and our respect, and it is a travesty that this situation has gotten to this point.

This is not an issue of whose life matters most. This is a matter of right and of wrong. And what we have seen in recent weeks is absolutely wrong, and it must end now.

Our community and elected leaders, starting with the President of the United States, must stand up for what is right and denounce the hatred being directed at our law enforcement personnel in this country.

I, personally, could not be more thankful and proud of the men and women who police our communities. Last week, I was honored to join in a community celebration of the men and women in blue of Tyler County, Texas, my home—and all over America, as a matter of fact.

We also gathered together in Jasper County, Texas, on Saturday to honor and rally support for America's first responders; and this week, much of my staff, while I am up here serving in Congress, will be attending an event recognizing the law enforcement personnel of Hardin County, Texas.

Our law enforcement officers have a very difficult job, and it is a shame that the violent rhetoric of a very few are putting their lives at greater risk.

During this difficult time, I, along with an overwhelming majority of Americans, stand in strong solidarity with our law enforcement officers and offer them and their families our unwavering commitment, attention, and support.

Mr. CULBERSON. Thank you, Dr. BABIN.

Madam Speaker, I yield to my colleague from California (Mr. VALADAO) to speak on behalf of his constituents and the people of California of their love and respect for our law enforcement officers.

Mr. VALADAO. I thank my colleague from Texas for hosting this and allowing me the opportunity to speak.

Madam Speaker, my background is, as many of you know and I spoke of many times, I am a farmer from California. One of the things that I have had the opportunity of—and sometimes not always the best opportunity, but I have had a lot of opportunities—is to deal with law enforcement; metal thieves, different folks breaking into houses and doing different types of things.

I remember one specific night where we had a person trespassing, and I showed up and it was dark, 10, 11 at night. I drove up in the middle of the field, had no idea if there was someone behind me, someone coming up behind me or on the side of me. It was just a

really scary feeling to think that I just drove up on this situation. How many people are out here? What are their intentions?

Now, obviously, I called 911, and when the police showed up, they run into these situations on a daily basis.

But the fear that I felt, knowing that there were people out there close to me who could have been there for a really, really bad reason, looking to do someone harm, is something that I just couldn't imagine doing on a daily basis.

My wife and I are friends with some law enforcement folks in my district, people I grew up with, as my wife did as well. When you look back—and we have had dinners with these folks—and you talk to their spouse or you talk to their kids, you know that their husbands, their wives go into these situations on a daily basis. They have to run out there, jump into a situation where they know there is someone out there that could have a gun, could have a weapon, could look to do these people harm. They are the ones that we always call for backup. They are the ones that we always call when there is a desperate situation. And these people are the ones that are being threatened now, today.

There are so many people out there that put so much into their work. But when you look at what our law enforcement does for us, every time we dial 911, every time we call for help, every time that we have got a situation that is out of our control, they are the people that step in, without any fear for their own lives, and step up and do what we need them to do.

To see what has happened, especially now in Texas and other parts of the country, where these people are being ambushed, where our protectors, those who keep our families safe, are being attacked from behind, is just something that is unimaginable.

The fact that we have got a group of Members here today, and I know so many more, stepping up and supporting those who do so much for us is something I am thrilled to be a part of, and it is an honor.

So, again, I want to thank all of those who put on the badge and step up to protect us, each and every one of us all throughout the country. So again, thank you for what you do.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for allowing me this opportunity.

Mr. CULBERSON. Thank you, DAVID.

I think it is so important for each and every one of us, if we get an opportunity, we run across a law enforcement officer, just walk up and tell them how much we love them and appreciate them and that we have got their back.

I am delighted to yield to my colleague from northeastern Louisiana (Mr. ABRAHAM) to express the feeling of his constituents about law enforcement.

Mr. ABRAHAM. Thank you, Congressman, for having this Special Order on such a somber occasion.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my support and utmost respect for law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line to protect our communities, as well as to applaud these men and women who take part in their selfless actions every day.

We sleep safely at night because we know the men and women who wear the badges are on the streets looking out for us. They look out for our families. They look out for our communities, for our country, and words cannot convey how grateful we are to them.

This year, there have been too many reminders that too many of our officers are paying the ultimate sacrifice in the name of service. They risk everything to protect us, and they deserve our utmost respect.

Unfortunately, my State of Louisiana has lost nine officers in the line of duty this year, one of the most in the Nation, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. This is a statistic I am not proud of, and I will continue to do all in my power to ensure that all officers in the Nation are safe.

I want to thank those men and women who have sacrificed for Louisiana and for the Nation.

We must always remember that the vast majority of law enforcement officers serve because they want to make their community and their country better places, and for that we are very grateful.

We must always remember that these officers step out each day in the face of uncertainty. They never know what situation they will encounter and when a routine traffic stop could turn very tragic.

Thank you, officers, for putting your lives on the line for our safety. Thank you for answering the call to serve and to protect Louisiana and the country.

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to yield to a colleague from northeast Texas, Congressman JOHN RATCLIFFE.

Mr. RATCLIFFE. I thank my friend and colleague from Texas for holding this Special Order and for yielding.

Madam Speaker, ''to protect and serve,'' those words are much more than just a slogan on the side of police cars across this country. It is a promise, a promise that our men and women in blue fulfill on a daily basis while they serve to uphold the pillars of law and order that our society depends on. Without their work, without their sacrifice, our communities would be lawless, and our families, our friends, our neighbors, our loved ones would all be in constant jeopardy.

Thousands of police officers go to work each day knowing the danger, knowing that they may have to pay the ultimate sacrifice to provide us with security. Officers like Deputy Goforth of Texas have been targeted for execution and have paid the ultimate price simply because they choose to protect our communities.

The recent wave of violence against our peace officers simply because they wear a uniform is outrageous. It is appalling, and it must end.

Madam Speaker, I will continue to stand with our law enforcement, and I want to personally thank the men and women in law enforcement in the Fourth Congressional District of Texas that I am privileged to represent.

I want to thank those Texas peace officers who have reached out to me personally to express their concerns on this issue, like Mike Sullivan in Farmersville, Otis Henry in Sherman, Terry Garrett in Heath, Harold Eavenson in Rockwall, Jay Burch in Denison, and Daniel Shiner in Texarkana.

Thanks to you all. Thanks to all the men and women who serve in law enforcement and serve our communities. You are appreciated. We are grateful.

Mr. CULBERSON. Thank you, JOHN.

Madam Speaker, we are here from every corner of the United States to tell our men and women in uniform who risk their lives every day to protect us and the safety of our families and our homes how much we appreciate them and love them and we are praying for them and we have got their back.

It is a privilege to yield to my good friend and colleague from Minnesota, Congressman TOM EMMER.

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and having this Special Order tonight. It is important that we allow time to acknowledge the brave men and women who serve as police officers throughout our country.

During the August district work period, I had the opportunity to participate in an event to memorialize and honor a fallen officer from Minnesota, Officer Tommy Decker. Tommy was an amazing individual who dedicated his life to serving the Cold Spring community in central Minnesota.

On Thursday, November 29, 2012, while conducting a welfare check, Tommy was ambushed and taken from this world far too soon. At the young age of 31, Tommy had already given 10 years of his life to serve his community.

My predecessor, Michele Bachmann, worked tirelessly to ensure that Tommy received the recognition he so greatly deserved, and 2 weeks ago we dedicated the Cold Spring Post Office in the name of Officer Tommy Decker, a man who gave his life to the Cold Spring community.

I was privileged to participate in the ceremony on behalf of Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District and to continue the great work that Michele began. We now have this lasting reminder of Tommy, his service, and his great heroism to his community.

We try to thank our military veterans and the servicemen and -women in uniform as much as possible for their work and sacrifice to protect our freedoms and keep us safe. We should do the same for our men and women in police uniforms.

Police are courageous and selfless servants in our communities. They patrol our streets to keep us safe. Perhaps now more than ever, they not only deserve but need our acknowledgement, support, and encouragement.

Every day, police officers across this country go to work not knowing what they are going to encounter, all the while knowing that, regardless, it is their duty to, quite literally, serve and protect.

Tommy and all of the men and women who proudly wear their police uniforms are looked up to by many, and we all owe them so much.

Thank you to all of our police officers across the United States. We pray for your safe return home tonight and every night.

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, it is important that the law enforcement community know that, while we are waiting to hear from the President of the United States, the Members of Congress are stepping forward tonight from every corner of the country to express our love and support for our law enforcement community.

I am privileged at this time to yield to my colleague from California's 25th District, Congressman STEVE KNIGHT.

Mr. KNIGHT. Madam Speaker, I appreciate Mr. CULBERSON putting this together and allowing us time to talk about our heroes on the street.

During your shift as a police officer or as a sheriff's deputy, you go into roll call or you go into briefing and start your day with info or assignments. You check out your equipment. You go over and you get in your car. You go to the gas pumps and you fill up the gas. And you might talk to some of the other officers or the other deputies about what is happening on the street or what happened the night before, and you start your day.

Your day might start off with talking to your partner and trying to find out a little bit more about them if you don't know them, because that happens on a day-to-day basis—new officers are put in with officers every day—just trying to find out what your thoughts are, what your tactics are, what your training is, and how you feel like you are going to feel out these situations. This is the start of a police officer's day.

For 18 years I was a Los Angeles police officer, and I served on the front lines in a police car for 17 of those 18 years. So, as they say, I was out pushing the sled around for 12 hours a day, snooping and pooping, looking for bad guys, and protecting and serving. On the side of my car, that is exactly what it said, ''to protect and to serve.'' That is what a police officer does.

It is not like the shows that you see on TV. Some of it is boring time, some of it is high adrenalin, but all of it is service to the community. Every second, every minute of your shift is service to the community.

So if we are out there enforcing the law, making a traffic stop, making an arrest, or just, as 1–Adam-12 used to do, go and respond to a ''see the man,'' ''see the woman,'' and help and just serve, that is a day-to-day.

I didn't know Deputy Goforth, but I feel like he was a brother in arms because he was. He was someone who went out and served his community, served them with honor, served them with integrity. And I am sure that the community is better for his years of service.

□ 2000

I am sure over the next decade or generations that they won't forget Deputy Goforth's commitment to the community. There will be a memorial. There will be a yearly service. People will talk about what he meant to the community.

I was in the 990 class in LAPD. The very first female officer who died in the line of duty for LAPD was in the 590 class. Our class was taken out of its normal duty of going and learning how to be a professional law enforcement officer, and we went to the service for that officer.

Tina Kerbrat was the very first female officer who died in LAPD, and it was very similar to Deputy Goforth. It was basically a shooting, an assassination.

This will always stay with you when you go to a law enforcement officer's funeral. You will never forget it. You will see the thousands of people.

Just like many of the Members said today, the thousands of people that came from other departments all over the country, all over the world, come to pay their respects to the law enforcement professional who did everything that they could to protect their community.

My squadron leader in my academy class died in Afghanistan. He was a law enforcement officer with LAPD who was a SWAT officer. He did his duty, went to Afghanistan to fight for our ideals and for our morals with the United States Marine Corps. He died in Afghanistan doing the same thing that he would do on a 24-hour-a-day basis, protecting what we believe here in America.

I am honored to be able to stand and talk about our heroes on the street, talk about the people who protect our community on a day-to-day basis, put their lives on the line so that we can live the life that we choose.

Mr. CULBERSON. STEVE, thank you for your service to the people of Los Angeles and California.

I think, as Congressman KNIGHT said, it is so important to remember that these young men and women are serving their community. They do it out of the goodness of their heart and the love for their neighbors, to help their fellow man to try to make their communities a better place.

God bless you. Thank you for your service.

I am proud to have with us tonight the congressman from the Ninth District of North Carolina (Mr. PITTENGER) to express the feelings of the people of North Carolina that he represents about law enforcement.

Mr. PITTENGER. Thank you. I am so grateful that the gentleman from Texas took the leadership in honoring and paying tribute to those who defend and protect us in our own communities.

Madam Speaker, tonight I can think of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Officers Harlan Proctor, Ashley Brown, and Scott Evett who, in the aftermath of a horrific domestic violence homicide and arson earlier this year, used their own time and their own money to purchase clothes and toys for the children left behind. They never expected to get any type of recognition.

Madam Speaker, I think of my friend Detective Shane Page, who volunteered for the Violent Criminal Apprehension Team, who was shot and seriously wounded while attempting to arrest a dangerous suspect who was hiding out in a quiet neighborhood.

Earlier this year I met Cornelius Police Lieutenant James Quattlebaum at Carolinas Medical Center. He had just been shot earlier that day while responding to a domestic disturbance.

And Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Lieutenant Nate King was conducting routine police business last year when a frantic mother drove up and placed a lifeless baby in his arms. The 6-month-old baby was choking to death. But thanks to Lieutenant King's lifesaving efforts, the little girl made a full recovery.

Every day thousands of brave superheroes go to work to serve and protect our children, our homes, and our communities. The pay is low. The hours are long. They are often screamed at. They are hit. They are spit upon and even bitten. Yet, they show back up for work each and every day. Would we?

Madam Speaker, we should encourage greater dialogue between our local police departments and the community, and we should encourage the best possible training. We should demand accountability because no one is above the law.

However, we should also teach our children to have a healthy respect for law enforcement and work hard to recognize the bravery and everyday good deeds of America's law enforcement. We expect them to be at their best when we are at our worst.

Thank you to America's law enforcement, who are truly committed to both serve and to protect.

Mr. CULBERSON. ROBERT, thank you very much.

We are still waiting, Mr. President, for you to step up and tell America how proud you are of our law enforcement men and women and to hear you condemn, Mr. President, this violent, dangerous rhetoric that is encouraging mentally unbalanced people to attack our law enforcement officers, as Deputy Sheriff Goforth was murdered in Houston, Texas.

We are still waiting, Mr. President. But while we wait, Members of Congress are standing here on the floor tonight to tell America how proud we are of our men and women in uniform.

I am proud to yield to my colleague and friend from Texas (Mr. OLSON).

Mr. OLSON. I thank my fellow Texan from the Seventh Congressional District of Texas, Mr. CULBERSON.

My friends, America has a problem. I have lived here for 52 years and I have never heard the word ''assassination'' in the same sentence as ''police officer'' or ''sheriff's deputy'' as I have in the past 6 months.

Harris County Deputy Sheriff Darren Goforth was assassinated a few weeks ago doing his job. As my colleagues mentioned, he was in uniform, pumping gas at a service station in his sheriff's cruiser in a very nice neighborhood in Houston, Texas, and gunned down in cold blood, assassinated.

The shooter shot and shot and shot and shot and shot and shot and shot and shot until Deputy Goforth dropped dead protecting us.

He left behind a wife, Kathleen, and two young kids who won't have a father walk them down the aisle when they get married.

I want to go up there to the site of the assassination and pray with fellow Texans. I took this picture yesterday at the Chevron gas station.

As you can see, there are flowers everywhere and notes and stuffed animals, little stuffed teddy bears. This was replayed over and over and over. That was just one day.

And right on the sidewalk are all sorts of colored chalk with messages for Deputy Sheriff Goforth. ''Darren Goforth, we love you,'' ''Thank you,'' ''Rest in peace.''

I felt rejuvenated about America at that moment, but it got better.

I am coming home to Sugar Land, Texas. That is my neighborhood. It is at Alcorn Oaks Drive and Oakland Drive in my hometown.

These are six amazing young Texans with a lemonade stand for police. It says ''Blue lives matter.'' These kids get it. They get it. They get it. We should love and praise our officers and thank them, thank them, thank them for their sacrifice.

I have to mention, too, my friend, I bought a glass of lemonade there, the most expensive one I have ever purchased, close to $20.

In closing, these men and women protect us every single day from people who want to hurt us and hurt our families. They deserve our love, support, and admiration, and to know that we always have their backs.

Mr. CULBERSON. Thank you, PETE.

It is a privilege to yield to my colleague representing the people of central Indiana, the Congresswoman from the Fifth District, Congresswoman SUSAN BROOKS.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. I want to thank the gentleman from Texas for holding this very important Special Order tonight because now, more than ever, it is more important than ever that we recognize and thank our Nation's law enforcement officers. These are the loyal and selfless men and women all across America who wake up each and every day and serve our community.

Madam Speaker, police officers are an integral part of our communities and our neighborhoods, working every day and at all hours to keep us safe. From downtown city blocks to small town squares, from country roads to busy highways, our Nation's law enforcement officers are always there, always ready to serve.

As we have heard, they are fathers and brothers, mothers and sisters, husbands, wives, sons, and daughters. Some are friends. Some are neighbors. Some are the strangers that we see every day.

But we often don't even see them. They are on our morning commutes. They are on our trips to the grocery store. They are all around us.

They are fellow citizens who have answered the call to serve and protect and, in some cases, pay the ultimate sacrifice for the safety and welfare of those in their communities. They protect their families and loved ones, and they protect the lives of complete strangers day in and day out.

You may not know, but throughout U.S. history, over 20,000 law enforcement officers have made the ultimate sacrifice. Last year four Hoosiers lost their lives while upholding their vow to serve and protect.

And, unfortunately, as we have seen, this has been an incredibly deadly August. Violence against police officers has skyrocketed recently, with six officers being mercilessly gunned down by individuals who neither respect law and order nor the value of human life. These officers' sacrifices as well as that of their families do not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

In fact, this August the family of Jake Laird, an officer who was gunned down in August of 2004—and we have to think about the families—held another golf outing in order to raise money for more protective vests for law enforcement and more personal safety equipment for firefighters.

These families—and I have seen them. I have witnessed them firsthand. They are remarkable families. They display courage in the face of adversity, compassion in the face of hardship, and an undying commitment to serve the communities in which they live. We must thank them, the families and the officers.

So today I salute the men and women in uniform who every day head out to the streets. They cover their beats. They patrol their precincts. They take up again without fail the call to serve and protect.

We must be thankful for their service and send our thoughts and prayers to their loved ones because, without hesitation, we must renew our appreciation for and our steadfast commitment to the heroic men and women who are part of that thin blue line. Please thank a police officer.

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 12 minutes remaining.

Mr. CULBERSON. At this time, it is my privilege to yield to my colleague and good friend representing the people of North Carolina, Ms. FOXX.

Ms. FOXX. I want to thank my colleague from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON) for organizing and conducting this Special Order tonight to honor our law enforcement personnel.

I do my best every time I see someone in law enforcement to say thank you. I go out of my way to say thank you.

I point out to them, whether they are local, State, or national people in law enforcement, that we owe to them and to our military people the ability that we have to move around this country and do the things that we do every day because of their willingness to serve and to put their lives on the line every single day of their lives.

We have seen, unfortunately, in the past few weeks a spate of senseless killings of our wonderful law enforcement people. And I think it is wonderful, again, that my colleagues are here tonight to say thank you.

I want to encourage them, also—and I know many do—to say thank you to our law enforcement people every day as they go about protecting us, our families. I want to thank their families, also, for the sacrifices they make.

Thank you, Congressman CULBERSON, for your efforts.

□ 2015

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege now to yield to the gentleman from northern California (Mr. LAMALFA), representing the First District.

Mr. LAMALFA. Thank you to my colleague, Mr. CULBERSON. It is really, really good and proper that you are having this time here tonight, and I am glad to be able to join you with that.

Madam Speaker, it is amazing to me that we even have to have this conversation. It is always a good conversation to have to honor our officers that put their lives on the line in so many aspects of our lives, whether it is highway patrol or sheriff or city police, park rangers, fish and game. All of them out there have some level of risk in order to maintain what it is we want in a free society for our security.

What is so tragic about what is happening lately is it is coming down to a racial issue, so much that the sides are becoming much sharper and sharper as to what America is or what Americans are about. We need to get together on this. The enforcement of the law, the upholding of the law, the protection of families, of homes, this cuts across all lines.

Indeed, I just saw a bit on the news a few minutes ago here where a gentleman in Florida—his name is George Cooper, as I recall; he happens to be Black. He came to the defense of an officer who happens to be White who was being beaten in some type of an altercation there where he was trying to do his job.

There are examples where, as the gentleman said in the interview, it isn't a race thing, it doesn't matter who is White or who is Black in this thing, it is about upholding the law and about having safe neighborhoods for all of us for Americans to be able to thrive.

It is tragic that so much is going on trying to pit Americans against each other. Yes, we have problems; we have issues that need to be resolved within how some may enforce the law, but we have protocols for that. We need to make sure that they are followed and they are prosecuted, but it doesn't make the whole aura of law enforcement somehow wrong.

Indeed, the effects we are seeing with cities now where cops are backing off, crime rates are going up, murders are going up in some of these cities here dramatically—I heard in one of the cities that it is 96 percent.

This is not what we want. It is not good for the families, for the moms that have to watch their kids go out the door and wonder if they are going to come back because there isn't that law enforcement.

I want to share with you a piece, though, that I think really encapsulates this, by a great American, Paul Harvey, from some years ago: What are Policemen Made Of?

> A policemen is a composite of what all men are, mingling of a saint and sinner, dust and deity.
>
> Gulled statistics wave the fan over the stinkers, underscore instances of dishonesty and brutality because they are ''new.'' What they really mean is that they are exceptional, unusual, not commonplace.
>
> Buried under the frost is the fact: Less than one-half of 1 percent of policemen misfit the uniform. That's a better average than you'd find among clergy.
>
> What is a policeman made of? He, among all men, is once the most needed and the most unwanted. He's a strangely nameless creature who is ''sir'' to his face and ''pig'' or ''fuzz'' to his back.
>
> He must be such a diplomat that he can settle differences between individuals so that each will think he won.
>
> But . . . if the policeman is neat, he's conceited; if he's careless, he's a bum. If he's pleasant, he's flirting; if not, he's a grouch.
>
> He must make an instant decision which would require months for a lawyer to make.
>
> But . . . if he hurries, he's careless; if he's deliberate, he's lazy. He must be first to an accident and infallible with his diagnosis. He must be able to start breathing, stop bleeding, tie splints, and, above all, be sure the victim goes home without a limp. Or expect to be sued.
>
> The police officer must know every gun, draw on the run, and hit where it doesn't hurt. He must be able to whip two men twice his size and half his age without damaging his uniform and without being ''brutal.'' If you hit him, he's a coward. If he hits you, he's a bully.
>
> A policeman must know everything—and not tell. He must know where all the sin is and not partake.
>
> A policeman must, from a single strand of hair, be able to describe the crime, the weapon and the criminal—and tell you where the criminal is hiding.
>
> But . . . if he catches the criminal, he's lucky; if he doesn't, he's a dunce. If he gets promoted, he has political pull; if he doesn't, he's a dullard. The policeman must chase a bum lead to a dead-end, stake out 10 nights to tag one witness who saw it happen—but refused to remember.
>
> The policeman must be a minister, a social worker, a diplomat, a tough guy, and a gentleman.
>
> And, of course, he'd have to be genius...for he will have to feed his family on a policeman's salary.

This is just a sample of what officers go through across this country where they, giving of themselves in service many times, especially in this present environment, feel like they are somehow made wrong for having done so.

We are here to uphold that tonight and tell them: You are doing it right. We support you and appreciate the thin blue line.

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 5 minutes remaining.

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I think that Congressman LAMALFA expressed it very well. Police officers are expected to do their job perfectly every time and in so many ways that we cannot even imagine the work that they do to help keep us safe, the work that they do to improve our communities, the sacrifices that they make on a personal level.

They are counselors; they are mentors; they are enforcers, and above all, they are preservers and protectors of our liberty because, without law enforcement, there is no liberty. That responsibility is vested in one person in our Constitution. Only the President of the United States is charged by our Founders in the Constitution with faithfully taking care that the law be faithfully executed.

We are still waiting, Mr. President. We are still waiting for you to step up, as we are here tonight, to say how proud you are of our men and women in blue, who protect us every night and every day and must do their job perfectly, as DOUG LAMALFA just told us, every man and woman who wears the uniform, who would step in front of a bullet for each and every one of us.

We are still waiting, Mr. President, for you to condemn the vital rhetoric that tell the men and women across this Nation, who defend us every day on the streets of America, how proud you are, Mr. President. We need you to step up and tell them, tell us all, how proud you are of their sacrifice, of their service, of their dedication, to tell all the widows and the children of Darren Goforth and all the other officers who have lost their lives that their father's loss, their mother's loss, their sacrifice was not in vain.

As Dr. Ed Young told us all last Friday at 11 a.m., the sacrifice that Darren Goforth made galvanized the people of Houston, the people of Texas. We see it across the Nation from California to Missouri to Indiana, to the East Coast. The people of America stand behind our law enforcement officers.

We are proud of you. We love you. We respect you. We recognize what a sacrifice you have made for not enough money to protect us. We know all that you do. We understand the burden that you and your family carry.

As Kathleen Goforth said in her statement of her late husband:

> There are no words for this. Darren was an incredibly intricate blend of toughness and gentility. He was always loyal, fiercely so. Darren was ethical. The right thing to do is what guided his internal compass.

She said:

> Darren was good. If people want to know what kind of man he was, this is it. Darren was who you wanted for a friend, a colleague, and a neighbor. However, it was I who was blessed so richly, that I had the privilege of calling him my husband and my best friend.

We are immensely proud of every man and woman who wears the uniform, and we will not forget the sacrifice of Darren Goforth or all the other men and women who preserve our liberty and protect our lives and put their lives on the line for us every day. We are immensely proud of you.

If the President of the United States won't say it, we will here in this House, that we stand behind you, we are proud of you, we pray for you every day, and we have got your back.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BUCK). Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair and not to a perceived viewing audience.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 64, DISAPPROVAL OF AGREEMENT RELATING TO NUCLEAR PROGRAM OF IRAN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Ms. FOXX (during the special order of Mr. CULBERSON) from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114–256) on the resolution (H. Res. 408) providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 64) disapproving of the agreement transmitted to Congress by the President on July 19, 2015, relating to the nuclear program of Iran; and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank our Republican colleagues for reminding us that this Nation is dependent upon those men and

women that serve as police officers, as deputy sheriffs, and in other positions.

Certainly, the deaths that we have seen and the murders that we have seen in recent days are a tragedy, and they cannot go without our notice. I appreciate it.

I don't, however, think it is the President's fault, so let us move on here.

I want to talk about something that is coming up here in the next couple of days, an extremely important issue for all of us. While violence in America and violence against police officers are important issues, this issue is also extremely important.

The Congress of the United States is going to take up the issue of the Iran deal, the nuclear deal between the P5+1—China, Russia, Germany, France, United Kingdom, and the United States—negotiated over the course of 2-plus years an agreement with Iran that would block Iran's ability to create a nuclear weapon.

Prior to this agreement, the Iranian Government, in secret, was rapidly moving towards the development of a nuclear weapon. They had created an infrastructure that included the various centrifuges to concentrate the uranium into low-enriched uranium and then on into highly enriched uranium, which is the uranium that is necessary for a nuclear weapon.

They are also in the process of building a heavy water reactor that would be capable of producing plutonium, the other route to a nuclear weapon. This was done in secret over many years, dating back probably 15, maybe even 20 years.

For the last 10 years, the United States has placed sanctions on Iran to try to convince them that they should not be developing a nuclear weapon, that there would be significant economic sanctions and other sanctions imposed on the country.

Those sanctions did not go successfully. The Congress of the United States added sanctions. I, together with many of my colleagues here, I think almost unanimously on the floor of the House voted to impose those ever harsher sanctions, but it didn't work until the P5+1 got together.

Secretary Clinton at that time, 3 years ago, 4 years ago, worked with those countries, persuading them to sit down at the table together with the United States to see if it was possible to negotiate an agreement with Iran that would prevent Iran from ever having a nuclear weapon. This spring, the agreements began to come together, and in June, July, the agreements were culminated.

I want to talk tonight about those agreements and what they mean to the United States, to the Middle East, and to the world. The very short way of saying this is that this agreement is the most recent and the most significant nonnuclear proliferation agreement in the last decade, maybe even longer.

Iran was very, very close to a nuclear weapon, so much so that it was believed that they could have a nuclear weapon very soon. Perhaps in 3 to 5 months, they could have material for perhaps nine weapons and be able to perfect those weapons into a bomb that could be delivered through their missile systems or through some mechanism.

Where are we today? We are going to vote. As I understand, I think there is a rule that just came across the desk a few moments ago that would put us in line to vote up or down on the Iranian agreement, and I understand that that vote will be taking place on Friday of this week—a very, very significant moment in the history of nuclear proliferation or nonproliferation.

Let's take a look at where we are. First, the agreement came about as a result of six nations, the largest economies in the world, sitting down and negotiating with Iran.

What did those countries think about the deal that they signed onto?

□ 2030

This isn't just the United States. This deal was signed onto by the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Russia, China, and the United States.

So, if the United States Congress—the House and the Senate—were to trash this agreement, what do those countries think?

We don't have to guess what they think. They actually have said, categorically, their position on the deal, and their position is clear. We signed onto it, they said. We agreed to this deal, and here is what we think if the United States Congress negates this deal.

Let's start with the French. Frederic Dore, the French Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission, said this in meetings with the United States Senate—and I understand that we will be meeting with the representatives of these countries later this week.

The position of the French is: World powers have secured the best deal possible with Iran.

The best deal possible.

All right. How about Germany?

The German Government's position is—as stated by Philipp Ackermann, the Acting German Ambassador to the United States, before the U.S. Senate and, again, in the Foreign Policy magazine, on August 6, 2015—the prospect of the rejection of a deal makes us nervous. It would be a nightmare for every European country if this deal is rejected.

Then there is the United Kingdom, again, in the Foreign Policy magazine, on August 6, in words similar to this, or, perhaps, these exact words were said to the U.S. Senate a couple of weeks ago:

If Congress rejects this good deal and the U.S. is forced to walk away, Iran will be left with an unconstrained nuclear program with far weaker monitoring arrangements than the current international consensus on sanctions, and the current international consensus on sanctions would unravel, and international unity and pressure on Iran would be seriously undermined.

The P5+1 all signed onto the agreement, and all but the United States has said categorically: Therefore, the agreement. They are not looking to renegotiate, only the United States. So it is up to us, the Members of Congress, to decide whether to stay with the agreement that was negotiated by the United States Government and five other countries and confirmed by the European Union and the United Nations.

So where do we go?

Let's assume for a moment that the Senate and the House reject the deal. Will these countries come back to the negotiating table?

The information we have from the meeting with the United States Senators—and all of these countries were there—was, no, they are not going to go back to the negotiating table. I think I said ''all of these countries.'' I don't think China and Russia were at that meeting. Yet the word is that they are not going to go back to the negotiating table, so we would have to negotiate by ourselves. Keep in mind that we attempted to do that for many, many years without any success. It was only when all of these countries got together that the sanctions really hit Iran in such a way that they decided to come to the table and to make the agreement which is now before the Congress.

Let's go about that deal. What is it? This is basically what it is here.

The deal blocks for at least 15 years—and, quite possibly, indefinitely into the future—Iran's ability to develop a nuclear weapon.

I am going to come back to this timeline, but I want to go here first.

So no deal. Without a deal. If the United States Congress this week and next week vote to do away with the deal, then where are we?

Iran has sufficient low enriched uranium and the ability to further enrich that uranium to highly enriched uranium—in other words, weapons grade uranium—for approximately nine nuclear bombs. The number of centrifuges that they presently have are some 19,000 centrifuges, and that would be used to complete the enrichment process. Then the time to produce a bomb's worth of material—highly enriched uranium—is a couple of months, 2 or 3 months.

Presumably, under the present situation, with no deal, Iran would be able to move forward, as they have been in the past, for the full development of nuclear weapons within a matter of months. That is not a good situation.

However, with a deal, where are we?

Iran's low enriched uranium and what amount of highly enriched uranium they have would be significantly reduced to an amount that would be insufficient to make even one nuclear

weapon, and there would be verification procedures to assure that they would not be able to make any additional nuclear weapons. The number of centrifuges that they would be able to have are old, antiquated, and would be some 6,000-plus, and all four pathways to a nuclear bomb are blocked. That is the choice we have. That is the choice we have.

Now, what does this mean over time?

Over time, for a long time—25 years or more—the implementation of additional protocols, commitments to reprocess plutonium, and the nonproliferation treaty obligations remain in place indefinitely into the future—way beyond 25 years. So, as for the nonproliferation treaty, they have upped it once more. They have agreed to it again. Now, granted, they weren't paying attention to it in the past, but now we have verification procedures.

Secondly, there would be continuous surveillance of uranium mines and mills so that we know what they are doing. Are they mining uranium? What are they doing with it? What are their mills doing? That would continue for 25 years.

There would be continued surveillance of centrifuge production for 20 years. Now, you don't make highly enriched uranium in procedures other than centrifuges unless you go to some very, very advanced procedures, which we do not believe Iran can do, and those procedures that are currently available to Iran and would be into the future are monitored for 20 years.

The low enriched stockpile, which is several thousand kilograms, would be reduced and capped at 300 kilograms, and there would be no further enrichment for new highly enriched uranium beyond a very, very small amount for research purposes; and the heavy water reactor that could produce plutonium within a matter of a couple of years would be, basically, decommissioned and be unable to produce plutonium, and that would go for the next 15 years. In the short period of time, 10 years to 15 years, these other procedures that prevent the operation of the centrifuges would be in place.

This is how you block the path to nuclear weapons. All of these procedures are in place. Scientists, physicists, generals, and others have all looked at this and have all come to the conclusion that, hey, this works. This will block Iran from developing a nuclear weapon for a minimum of 15 years, probably 20 years, and assuming that we are able to hold them to the agreement, 25 years and beyond. That is the nonproliferation treaty.

Now, all of this, of course, is dependent upon verification. We don't trust Iran. We don't need to trust Iran. In fact, we should go into this not trusting Iran. Therefore, do we have sufficient verification procedures in place to hold Iran to the deal?

The answer is yes.

The International Atomic Energy Agency, the IAEA, is and has been for decades the United Nations' watchdog for the nonproliferation treaty. They have been in Iran in the past. They have observed cheating. They have observed obfuscation. However, under the new agreement, the doors are open to all of the facilities that are known to be involved in the nuclear production and the nuclear bomb activities. There is an additional procedure that, within 24 days, should there be an indication of a site that is not now known to be involved in nuclear activity, the IAEA, the International Atomic Energy Agency, would be able to observe what is going on at that site. As for the other sites—the secret sites of the past—we would have the IAEA observing, monitoring, and verifying that the agreement is being held to its standard.

We also have other methods of knowing what is going on in Iran. Nuclear material leaves a radiation signature. We have the capability of reading those signatures and understanding in detail what is going on at any particular site—past, present, and into the future.

The verifications that are in this treaty are built upon the fact that we do not trust Iran, and, therefore, these verification procedures are the most robust, comprehensive, and extensive in any proliferation treaty with Russia or anybody else. So that is in place.

Now, what if they do cheat?

If they do cheat and if they do not honor the agreement, we will know. That is what the verification is all about. It is agreed by the P5+1—that is the United Kingdom, which is Britain; France; Germany; Russia; China; the U.N.; and the European Union—that should there be a breach of the procedures in this deal that the sanctions—the toughest of them—would automatically snap back into place and would continue to apply the kind of economic-social pressure on Iran that brought them to the negotiating table in the first place.

Can we trust these countries to snap back?

I believe we can. It is an agreement that they have made not just with the United States but with each other.

Now, if they don't, we still have our own sanctions, which are tough, which provide us with an ability to put a lot of pressure on Iran, even though not as much as the other countries together with us could do; but, nonetheless, those sanctions are always available to us now and on into the future should Iran renege in any way on this deal.

There are a couple of other things about this that we need to consider.

There is a lot of talk that this deal would free a vast amount of money that Iran has had sequestered—having been known to get their hands on a vast amount of money. The numbers bandied about are $150 billion. It has been said by the Treasury Department and by the Secretary of State that the amount is actually closer to $100 billion. That is a lot of money. There is great fear—and, I think, appropriately—that Iran would use that money to advance, enhance, and increase its support of terrorism around the world—specifically in the Middle East—and against Israel.

□ 2045

I suppose that is a possibility. But when an analysis is done of that money, about $40 billion of that $100 billion is owed to other countries and other entities outside of Iran.

So as soon as that sanction is removed and that money is available, then $40 billion of the $100 billion is not available to Iran. It is in some other country's hand.

The remaining money presumably could be used for support of terrorist activities. However, we should keep in mind that Iran has been heavily hit by the existing sanctions, so much so that their economy is in terrible condition.

Their infrastructure, specifically in the oil arena, is woefully old, inadequate, and not capable of significant production. So they are going to need to invest a lot of money in that and in other infrastructure.

How much money would be available for terrorism? Far more than we would want. And, therefore, we need to be certain that our support for those countries that are fighting the terrorist activity in the Middle East and beyond have the full support of the United States Government, people, and our Treasury.

It is going to cost us some money, but this is something we are going to have to do. We must make certain that Israel has whatever it needs to counter whatever terrorist threats there may be and whatever threats there may be in the more conventional military sense.

Already we are preparing to ship to Israel our most advanced fighters, the F–35, which is just now coming off our production lines, and there will be a lot of other equipment made available.

Certainly, with regard to intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, we will continue to work with Israel very closely as we have for many, many years, in fact, decades. All of that is there.

We also need to be aware that the other Gulf state countries and other countries in the area that have been subject to Iranian attacks and trouble need our support.

We should also be willing, as we have in the past and as we are committed to now, to provide them with the support that they need to push back not only on terrorism, but on overt Iranian military activity.

So here we are. Deal? No deal? No deal. Is there a better deal? Highly unlikely that the P5+1 will ever come back together again to negotiate a better deal.

So we would probably almost certainly have to do it by ourselves. We have already proved in the past, before the P5+1 went into existence, that we were not successful alone negotiating a deal with Iran.

The sanctions by our country alone were insufficient. But, as a global community, we were sufficient. And that is where the P5+1 comes in. Listen carefully to what those countries are saying about a renegotiation, ''not likely.''

So where are we? I believe we have to support this deal that was put together by these six major countries, supported by the European Union and the United Nations. This is the path that would block all paths to a nuclear weapon that Iran might be able to pursue for at least the next 15 years and beyond.

I ask my colleagues to look hard at this. Unfortunately, a lot of the newspapers are portraying this as a partisan fight. I don't believe it is. I know that many of my colleagues on the Democratic side and certainly what appears to be most Republicans, if not all, are opposed to the deal. I am certain many of them have their own reasons for that opposition.

But I think, when you take a comprehensive look at this deal, when you look at all of the elements, that is, what happens if there is no deal and Iran can immediately restart its nuclear weapons program, you go, ''Whoa. That is not a good thing.''

On the other hand, if this deal holds, then Iran will be prevented from having a nuclear weapon for at least 15 years, quite probably 20 years.

Should they continue to honor the nonproliferation treaty, then it would go on indefinitely. That is a good thing. And, therefore, I support this negotiated deal and I ask my colleagues to do the same.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I have completed my time on the floor.

I notice that two of my colleagues are here to speak to the passing of one of our Members of this House who served here for many, many years.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE LOUIS STOKES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend deepest thanks to Congressman GARAMENDI for sharing his time with us and, also, to Congresswoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, who has been waiting almost an hour to share her memories of a very great American.

We are here this evening, Mr. Speaker, and we rise to honor the illustrious career of a dear friend and stellar colleague, the late Congressman Louis Stokes from Cleveland, Ohio.

Our hearts are heavy, but immensely grateful for his path-breaking life and legendary generous service. As the first African American Member of Congress elected to serve from Ohio, he wrote new history for America, for Ohio, every day of his life.

Rising from the public housing projects of Cleveland, he and his brother Carl became revered as they built a more inclusive and representative America. What courage and passion that required.

A proud, personable, and gracious man whose fashion and manner exuded dignity, it was actually never his aspiration to be a politician. He opted instead to serve the local neighborhoods of Cleveland, where he grew up, after returning from 3 years of service in the U.S. Army during World War II.

After using his GI benefits to go to college, Lou served in the Veterans Administration and the Treasury Department before attending law school. He loved the law. He loved being a lawyer, and he loved writing laws here.

His enlightened leadership moved America forward socially, economically, and legally. In Congress, his gentlemanly demeanor and sharp intellect allowed him to chair, again, as the first African American, the Appropriations subcommittee on Veterans, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies.

As a much newer, younger Member of Congress, I had the great privilege of serving under him as he chaired that important committee.

He also chaired the House Select Committee on Assassinations and served on the House Select Committee to investigate covert arms transactions with Iran. His agile legal mind was evident in the investigations he conducted.

The people of Cleveland and Ohio have been blessed throughout his life and hold abiding gratitude for his extraordinary accomplishments and generous spirit. I can still hear his laugh.

I am privileged, actually, to have served with Congressman Stokes for almost a quarter century and hold lasting memories of his deep love for his wife, for his mother, for his brother, for his children, and his grandchildren.

He had indefatigable and inspired efforts to gain respect and equal justice in the law for all of our citizens. And he saw progress, great progress, in his lifetime that we have so far to go.

I witnessed his perseverance in building America's communities forward and his dedication to meeting our Nation's obligations to veterans, to advance space science, and to catapult Cleveland's health and human services to the top rung of national assets.

I have so many memories of Congressman Stokes. I can remember one time in a subcommittee he had the head of Arlington Cemetery come up, and he had these big volumes that he brought with him of who were the veterans who were interred there.

And Congressman Stokes pointed out to the entire committee, ''Go down and read the roster.'' And the roster said, ''No name,'' ''No name,'' ''No name,'' ''No name.'' And Congressman Stokes informed us that, in fact, those were Africa Americans who had died in service to our country, but they were buried with no name at Arlington. And he made sure that that area was especially recognized, and he was writing history for America for the first time.

I thought, wow, this isn't 1870. This was in the 1980s and 1990s. He was a great teacher.

I shall sorely miss his dogged determination, easy smile, keen and measured counsel, and persevering nature.

The last time we were together was at a Fair Housing meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, just a few months ago. Looking back on his generous attendance at age 90 and looking in really great shape, I think it was his way—he hadn't told anyone yet what was ailing him, but I think it was his way of saying good-bye.

What a gracious gentleman he was. What a gifted leader has lived among us.

I am going to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a special story that was in the Cleveland Plain Dealer entitled, ''Lou Stokes—The Congressman, Leading Lawyer, and Towering Political Presence Has Died,'' written by Brent Larkin, Tom Diemer, and Sabrina Eaton of the Northeast Ohio Media Group.

Though I won't read the entire article into the record tonight, let me just read a few sentences:

''We have been blessed as a family with a legacy we can always be proud of,'' Lou Stokes said. ''Together with Carl''—his brother—''we made a name that stood for something. What greater honor could have come to two brothers who grew up in poverty here in Cleveland?''

And he tells a story about his mother. He would always get tears in his eyes when he would talk of his mother. She had become ill at one point, and he went to visit her.

And he said, ''I took her hands to give her some comfort and, when I felt those hard, cold hands from scrubbing floors in order to give me an education, I began to understand what her life was about, what her life meant.'' And that piercing memory Lou carried with him every day of his life.

''Beginning in junior high school, Stokes took jobs delivering the Cleveland News, shining shoes, and working in a small factory that made canned whipped cream.''

When he was 16, a man named Isadore Apisdorf hired him to perform odd jobs at his Army-Navy surplus store on lower Prospect Avenue. Seeing something in the youngster, Apisdorf ignored the risk to his business in those days and hired Stokes as a salesman.

When speaking of his early years, Stokes always remembered to mention the kindness demonstrated to him by a man ''who sort of acted like a father to me,'' Congressman Stokes said.

Stokes graduated from Central High School in 1943. And with World War II raging, he joined the Army and was assigned to a segregated unit that remained Stateside, mainly in the south.

Stokes recalled a layover his unit once had in Memphis where a group of

German prisoners of war in a train station restaurant were treated better than the Black soldiers.

Louis Stokes embodied so many memories and so much progress that he helped not just Cleveland, not just Ohio, but our country and people everywhere to persevere, no matter what the odds.

I shall miss him. What a gifted leader has lived among us. I know all of the people of Ohio join me, as do our colleagues, in saying: May the angels carry him to a deserved, peaceful rest close to the heart of God.

There are other Members that wish to speak this evening. I just feel very honored to be here. I can still see Lou in the cloakroom in the back with his good friend, Bill Clay, and some of the guys. We weren't included, as women, in those conversations, but we respected them.

And he was always cordial. He always sort of stood halfway turned so he could say hello to those Members going by. He had a special gracious manner about him.

[From Cleveland.com, Aug. 19, 2015]

LOU STOKES—THE CONGRESSMAN, LEADING LAWYER AND TOWERING POLITICAL PRESENCE HAS DIED

(By Brent Larkin)

CLEVELAND, OH.—Louis Stokes, whose iconic career in public life assures him a place as one of the most revered, respected and powerful figures in Cleveland history, died Tuesday night.

He was 90.

The older brother of former Mayor Carl B. Stokes had an aggressive form of cancer, diagnosed in late June.

A proud, personable and gracious man whose dress and manner exuded dignity, Stokes never wanted to be a politician, aspiring instead to become Cleveland's leading black lawyer.

But the reluctant officeholder who came to Congress in 1969 left it 30 years later as a towering political figure both in Washington and at home.

Mayor Frank Jackson was one of dozens to publicly mourn the death of his longtime friend.

''Congressman Louis Stokes' long career in public life was a model of how to serve with dignity, integrity and honor,'' Jackson said. ''His service paved the way for many who would follow in both public and private careers. I know full well that, but for him, I would have never had the opportunity to become mayor.''

For more than three decades, Stokes, his brother, former Council President George Forbes, and former Cleveland School Board President Arnold Pinkney dominated every aspect of black political life in the city.

Now, only Forbes survives.

''The four of us had parallel careers in public life,'' Forbes said. ''It was not unusual for some of the things we did or said to be questioned. But not Lou Stokes. If he said it, or did it, it was like a pronouncement from Sinai. It was the gospel. It was the last word. No one disagreed with him.''

Stokes' resume in the House included stints as chairman of the select committee that from 1976 to 1978 investigated the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr., chairman of the House Ethics Committee, a member of the House select committee that investigated the Iran-Contra affair, and the first black to chair the Intelligence Committee and serve on the influential House Appropriations Committee.

In Cleveland, Stokes' political muscle was the 21st Congressional District Caucus, a political organization founded by his late brother that became so powerful, its ability to influence election outcomes sometimes surpassed that of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party.

When Stokes and the caucus urged Democrats in his district to vote against a sitting Democratic president in the Ohio presidential primary in 1980, they did just that, supporting Massachusetts Sen. Edward Kennedy over President Jimmy Carter by a margin of nearly 2–1.

Stokes never lost an election. Nor did he forget where he came from.

And he never strayed from his commitment to expand political and economic opportunities for minorities.

In an interview at his home just a month before his death and days after he learned of his terminal illness, Stokes emotionally reminisced on his storybook life.

''I was a very blessed guy,'' he began. ''I've been blessed with the opportunity to participate in history, to rise to opportunities I never envisioned . . . and to provide for people opportunities that, in many cases, they would have never had.

''We have been blessed as a family with a legacy we can always be proud of. Together with Carl, we made a name that stood for something.

''What greater honor could have come to two brothers who grew up in poverty here in Cleveland?''

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

Lou Stokes was born Feb. 23, 1925, the first of two children born to Charles and Louise Stokes. Carl was born a little more than two years later.

Their father died when Lou was three, and Louise Stokes took an $8–a-day job as a domestic worker at homes in the eastern suburbs. To help raise the young boys in their small apartment on East 69th Street, Louise's mother moved to Cleveland from Georgia.

Stokes spoke often and with great emotion of his mother, and her repeated lectures on the importance of an education.

''One night, she was lying in bed ill and I went into her room and sat with her,'' Stokes recalled during an interview last year at the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage.

''I took her hands to give her some comfort. And when I felt those hard, cold hands from scrubbing floors in order to give me an education, I began to understand what she meant.''

Beginning in junior high, Stokes took jobs delivering the Cleveland News, shining shoes and working in a small factory that made canned whip cream.

When Stokes was 16, Isadore Apisdorf hired him to perform odd jobs at his Army-Navy surplus store on lower Prospect Avenue. Seeing something in the youngster, Apisdorf ignored the risks to his business and hired Stokes as a salesman.

When speaking of his early years, Stokes always remembered to mention the kindness demonstrated to him by a man ''who sort of acted like a father to me.''

Stokes graduated from Central High School in 1943. With World War II raging, he joined the Army and was assigned to a segregated unit that remained stateside, mainly in the South. Stokes recalled a layover his unit once had in Memphis where a group of German prisoners of war in a train station restaurant were treated better than the black soldiers.

After the war, Stokes attended Western Reserve University on the G.I. Bill. He worked for a time for the Veterans Administration and Treasury Department before graduating from Cleveland State University's Cleveland Marshall College of Law in 1953.

Stokes opened up a small law office on St. Clair Avenue, and was later joined by his brother. Carl also became a lawyer and, in 1962, became the first black Democrat elected to the Ohio House.

Around this time, Stokes drew the attention of Norman Minor, considered one of the greatest lawyers in Ohio history and the greatest black lawyer Cleveland ever produced.

''I tried to be like Norman Minor in every way I could,'' Stokes recalled in 2014. ''Carl loved politics. I didn't have that love. I loved being a lawyer.''

MAKING HISTORY

On the night of Nov. 7, 1967, Stokes sat with Martin Luther King Jr. in the Rockefeller Building just west of Public Square, and experienced what he described as ''a pioneering political event for America''—Carl Stokes' election as the nation's first black, big-city mayor.

In 1965 and again two years later, King had made numerous trips to Cleveland aimed at registering blacks to vote. Carl Stokes lost the 1965 mayoral primary by about 1,700 votes. Two years later, he beat Republican Seth Taft by about 2,500 votes.

Lou Stokes said King was ''tremendously helpful'' to his brother in both those elections.

Less than a month after his brother's winning election, Stokes enjoyed his own first moment of fame, arguing a case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The case involved John Terry, a Cleveland man suspected of preparing to rob a Euclid Avenue store downtown in 1963. Terry and two others were stopped on the sidewalk by a Cleveland policeman, who frisked Terry and found a gun.

The landmark case of Terry v. Ohio upheld the arrest, but allowed police to stop and frisk suspects only when the officer has a ''reasonable suspicion'' the suspect is about to commit a crime, and may be armed and dangerous.

That same year, another landmark Supreme Court ruling known as ''one man, one vote'' led to Carl Stokes and Gov. James Rhodes collaborating in the creation of a new, majority-minority congressional district comprised of Cleveland's East Side and some eastern suburbs.

At his brother's urging, a reluctant Lou Stokes put his law career on hold and became a candidate. In the Democratic primary, Stokes beat 13 opponents, including George Forbes, Leo Jackson and George White.

In January 1969, Stokes entered Congress along with Shirley Chisholm of New York and William ''Bill'' Clay of Missouri. Their elections brought to nine the number of blacks in Congress.

Stokes immediately began to make his mark, becoming a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus a little more than a year after taking office.

Always served well by his personality, Stokes was a tall, hard-working man with a loud, infectious laugh. His gentle nature masked a steely commitment—and, at times, he was viewed as a bit too thin-skinned. Nevertheless, among his colleagues, Stokes was always considered one of the body's most popular members.

When Tip O'Neill became speaker of the U.S. House in 1977, Stokes' career took off. O'Neill's respect for Stokes earned him prestigious and powerful committee assignments, which often translated into federal spending on projects important to Cleveland.

''We had a very special relationship,'' Stokes said of O'Neill during his July 14 interview. ''He used to call me 'Louie, my pal.' He gave me some very tough assignments.''

In 1987, Stokes had a memorable back-and-forth with Oliver North during the Iran-Contra hearings, telling the Marine Corps lieutenant colonel, ''While I admire your love for America, I just hope you will never forget that others, too, love America just as much as you do—and . . . will die for America just as quickly as you will.''

THE POWER BROKER

Back in Cleveland, the 1971 decision by Carl Stokes to leave town for a television career in New York instead of seeking a third term as mayor created a significant power vacuum within the black political establishment.

Stokes moved decisively to fill that vacuum, and Democratic leaders awarded him a co-chairmanship of the county party. But Forbes and Arnold Pinkney were becoming powerful black political figures in their own right.

For the next 10 to 15 years, the inevitable tensions that arise with power-sharing led to public disagreements and some angry private moments—with Call and Post founder and publisher W.O. Walker often serving as a mediator.

Over time, those strains disappeared. And while Forbes would eventually cement a legacy as the most powerful City Council president in Cleveland history and Pinkney twice waged competitive campaigns for mayor and became a nationally recognized political consultant, there was never any doubt who owned the magic political name.

That name at times moved Stokes and the 21st Congressional District Caucus to part ways with the Democratic Party. And Stokes was not above using the caucus as a weapon to punish and defeat candidates he believed did not deserve black votes.

The caucus' influence was often most pronounced in down-the-ballot races for judge and other offices. But in the 1977 election for mayor, one of the most competitive and dramatic in the city's history, support from the Stokes brothers probably made the difference in Dennis Kucinich's victory over Democratic Party-backed Edward Feighan.

Tim Hagan served as Feighan's de facto campaign manager. Several months after the election, he would become chairman of the county's Democratic Party.

''If Congressman Stokes was with you, it gave you unquestioned credibility with the people he represented,'' said Hagan. ''It made the difference between winning or losing an election. Lou's endorsement was the most important endorsement a candidate sought.''

There were a few stumbles, but none major. And they did little or nothing to tarnish Stokes' relationship with his constituents. [In 1983, following a late-night session of Congress, he was convicted on a minor charge of driving under the influence and also of running a red light; Stokes said he was overly tired but sober, but decided not to appeal the jury verdict.] In the early 1990s, he had 551 overdrafts at the House Bank, most for small amounts.

In 1993, Stokes reached the height of his power in Congress, joining the prestigious ''College of Cardinals'' when he became chair of the Appropriations subcommittee for the Veterans Administration and Housing and Urban Development. It was a position that gave Stokes enormous say in how and where tens of billions in federal dollars were spent. The Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center on East 105th Street is one of several Cleveland buildings named in his honor.

But his enthusiasm for the job would soon wane. In 1994, Republicans took control of the House. Two years later, at age 71, Stokes had open heart surgery at the Cleveland Clinic and a tumor removed from his vocal cords.

When, in April 1996, Carl Stokes died of cancer, Stokes lost his best friend.

THE DENOUEMENT

By 1998, after 30 years in office, Stokes decided not to seek re-election.

On the day he announced his retirement, Plain Dealer columnist Elizabeth Auster wrote, ''Stokes brought more than money home from Washington. He also brought laughter and inspiration and pride. And sometimes those are harder to come by.''

Then-Cleveland Mayor Michael White said of Stokes, ''Someone will fill his seat, but I don't think anyone will ever fill his shoes.''

It was always a foregone conclusion Stokes' job would pass to Stephanie Tubbs Jones, county prosecutor at the time. When Tubbs Jones died unexpectedly in 2008, Marcia Fudge became only the third person to hold the seat.

In retirement, Stokes became senior counsel at the Cleveland-based law firm of what was then Squire Sanders & Dempsey. He served on several corporate boards, including Forest City Enterprises.

When asked in the July interview about the lack of civility in Washington today, Stokes said he was sometimes embarrassed to be a former member of Congress.

''I have members of Congress whom I see, on both sides of the aisle, and they tell me, 'Louie, you wouldn't want to be here now.' It's a waste of your time and intellect to be involved there now and see how difficult it is to concentrate on doing what's best for people—considering you were sent there to help people. That's gone now.''

Stokes retired from the law firm in 2012, and resigned from the Forest City board last year. In recent months, he spent time assisting his daughter, Cleveland Municipal Court Judge Angela Stokes, who is contesting disciplinary charges filed against her by the Ohio Supreme Court's Disciplinary Counsel.

Besides Angela, he is survived by his wife of 55 years, Jeanette (Jay); daughter Shelley Stokes-Hammond, retired public affairs director at Howard University; daughter Lori, a television news anchor in New York City; son Chuck, editorial and public affairs director at a Detroit television station; and seven grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I yield to EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, who I know was a very, very dear friend of Congressman Stokes. I thank her so much for joining us this evening.

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Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to join Congresswoman KAPTUR in sharing some sentiments.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in recognition of the late Congressman Louis Stokes, a dear friend and a tremendous patriot, who dedicated his life to serving our great Nation. He was dedicated to expanding political and economic opportunities for all Americans, and he was determined to transcend the culture of discrimination and injustice.

Louis Stokes rose from humble beginnings in the local housing projects of Cleveland, Ohio, to serve 30 years in the U.S. House of Representatives. He was first elected in 1968. Reluctant to enter the political arena, Stokes was persuaded to run for office by his younger brother, Carl B. Stokes, the first African American mayor of a major American city, elected in 1967.

Prior to serving in Congress, Mr. Stokes served as a civil rights lawyer. He was the first African American to represent the State of Ohio in Congress and was a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus. Throughout his tenure in the House, he chaired several congressional committees and was the first African American to win a seat on the House Committee on Appropriations.

During his long tenure in Congress, he headed and participated in several major House investigations. In March of 1977, he was appointed to lead the Select Committee on Assassinations, formed to conduct an investigation of the circumstances surrounding the deaths of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

He also served as the chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and became the first African American Member of Congress to head this committee.

He was the dean of the Ohio congressional delegation. His work in the area of health led to his appointment as a member of the Pepper Commission of comprehensive health care, and he was the founder and chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust. In 1981, he chaired the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

When Louis Stokes retired in 1998, he became the first African American in the history of the U.S. Congress to retire after 30 years of service. Following his service in Congress, he became a senior counsel at Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, LLP, a global law firm, and distinguished visiting professor at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University.

He also served as a vice chairman of the Pew Environmental Health Commission at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and was appointed by the former Health and Human Services Secretary, Donna Shalala, as chairman of the Advisory Committee on Minority Health.

As a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus, he engineered a vehicle that would foster collaboration and strategic alliances for generations. Because of his visionary leadership, we all benefit from an organization powerful enough to engage, empower, and excite generations of African American leaders who influence the political landscape, impact the outcome of elections, and serve as strong voices for those weakened by poverty, discrimination, and lack of opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored to have had the privilege of serving with this Congressman. I was inspired by his intelligence, preparation, dignity, generosity, and forward thinking.

He leaves behind a legacy that inspires not only those who served with him, but a generation of future leaders.

I am grateful for this vision that he had, his integrity, his grace, his friendship, and his mentorship.

Ms. KAPTUR. Thank you, Congresswoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, a long way from Cleveland, for your great service and for sharing your memories of our beloved friend, Congressman Louis Stokes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. KAPTUR. I know others want to enter material in the RECORD in memory of Congressman Stokes.

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

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

There was no objection.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I also wanted to mention that Congressman Stokes' beautiful wife, Jeanette, who was at his side through all his years of service; his daughters, Angela, Shelley, Lori; his son, Chuck; and seven grandchildren.

What an amazing family—the Stokes family has made many contributions to Ohio and to our country, but I think Jeanette and Congressman Stokes are proudest of the children and grandchildren that they have raised. They have represented the family well during this most difficult time.

HONORING SPEAKER JIM WRIGHT

Ms. KAPTUR. I would like to turn to a different subject, if I might, in the remaining time.

Mr. Speaker, several weeks ago, there was a Special Order that was given on Speaker Jim Wright, and I was unable, because of duties in Ohio, to join my remarks to those of his friends and colleagues here in the Congress. I rise tonight to honor him for the leader and master of the legislative process that Speaker Jim Wright of Fort Worth, Texas, was.

He approached life with an eager and courageous mission and a true democratic heart. He loved this House. He just loved it. He just basked in its glory and its power, and he had the keenness of intellect, the balance of knowledge, the intuition, the direction, and the wisdom that comes from the long years of experience that he had at the level of Fort Worth and then the State of Texas and then, obviously, federally.

He was a veteran of World War II and had been a pilot and received the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was truly—truly—a courageous hero for our country and chose to serve then in elected life.

What I will forever remember of him was his dignity and his strength. His personal ability to also forgive those who sought to harm him and move on was an amazing trait, and I think it revealed some of what he was able to bring as a negotiator and a statesman to the work here.

He was a passionate fighter for the people of our country, especially those of ordinary means who might not have their voices heard, and when he got into a topic that he loved, he was absolutely unstoppable.

He was a gifted orator. He spoke with all of his heart, and he elevated this House and the people who served in it. He loved Congress. He referred to it as a heady place to be, where Members of both political parties should cooperate to make America a world leader and to build and support a strong middle class.

His early life growing up during the Great Depression had a permanent imprint on him, and he never forgot the common person. His service in the Army during World War II instilled in him a life of service and a dedication to help those less fortunate, but also a passion for liberty.

His legislative achievements were legion. He helped create the Clean Water Act and the Interstate Highway System, and he helped guarantee benefits for returning veterans. I remember what a master he was. I believe he chaired the House Public Works Committee and rose from there.

I can still see him making the case, right at this podium here in the House, for a modern transportation bill, clinking dimes in a large glass bowl to say that we have to pay our way forward here. He understood what it took to build and maintain a great nation's prosperity. He was a terrific, terrific orator.

In foreign affairs, Speaker Wright had a contribution that one could describe as profound. He was a peacemaker. He visited the Middle East and facilitated the meeting that led to the accord between Israel and Egypt in 1977.

More than a decade later, he led a successful push for a compromise that would end the war between the Sandinista government and the Contras in Nicaragua. Over time, his approach would lead to the end of U.S. military financing and the start of democratically held elections there. How many Americans can say they have ever been involved in something of that magnitude?

In his farewell speech before Congress, Speaker Wright said: ''When vengeance becomes more desirable than vindication, harsh personal attacks on one another's motives, one another's character, drown out the quiet logic of serious debate on important issues, things that we ought to be involved ourselves in, surely that is unworthy of our institution, unworthy of our American political process. All of us in both parties must resolve to bring this period of mindless cannibalism to an end. There has been enough of it.''

Speaker Wright returned to Fort Worth where he donated his official papers to Texas Christian University's library and taught a TCU course called Congress and the Presidents for more than 20 years. His intention to keep the class small was simply impossible, as his enrollment grew at an increasing rate every year.

Speaker Wright always treated me graciously. Here I was from Ohio, a completely different part of the country, but I appreciate the fact that he assisted my efforts to seek a seat on the Committee on Appropriations—it took me over a decade to arrive there—since no one from our part of Ohio had ever served on it.

He saw the exclusion, and he helped me. I am so grateful to him forever for that and what I have been able to do to help the country in that position.

He and I shared many experiences and pursuits during our shared years in Congress, but one of my favorite memories is something we had in common, and that was a love of gardening and roses. He was especially fond of a gray-purplish variety of rose that he had raised to perfection. He just loved life.

Speaker Wright would often quote Horace Greeley in saying: ''Fame is a vapor; popularity an accident; riches take wings; those who cheer today may curse tomorrow; only one thing endures—character.''

Speaker Wright was certainly a man of great character and great talent and ability and great accomplishment.

We shall miss him greatly. May the hearts of his loved ones, his beloved wife, Betty; his four children; 15 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; and his sister Betty Lee Wright be warmed by the light of his memory and the legacy of liberty he bestowed upon us all and the great affection we shall always have for him in our hearts.

May God bless the Wright family.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, Louis Stokes rose from the local housing projects to serve 30 years in the U.S. House, becoming a potent symbol for his Cleveland-based majority-black district. Reluctant to enter the political arena, Stokes was persuaded to run for office by his prominent brother and by community members he had served for decades as a civil rights lawyer.

His accomplishments were substantive and of historic proportions. The first Black to represent Ohio, Stokes chaired several congressional committees (including the Permanent Select Intelligence Committee) and was the first African American to win a seat on the powerful House Appropriations Committee.

He used his success to try to increase opportunities for millions of African Americans, saying, ''I'm going to keep on denouncing the inequities of this system, but I'm going to work within it. To go outside the system would be to deny myself—to deny my own existence. I've beaten the system. I've proved it can be done—so have a lot of others.'' Stokes continued, ''But the problem is that a black man has to be extra special to win in this system. Why should you have to be a super black to get someplace? That's what's wrong in the society. The ordinary black man doesn't have the

same chance as the ordinary white man does.''

Louis Stokes was born on February 23, 1925, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Charles and Louise Cinthy (Stone) Stokes. His father worked in a laundromat and died when Louis was young. Stokes and his younger brother, Carl, were raised by their widowed mother, whose salary as a domestic was supplemented by welfare payments. Louis Stokes supplemented the family income by shining shoes around the Cleveland projects and clerking at an Army/Navy store. He attended Cleveland's public schools and served as a personnel specialist in the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1946. He returned home with an honorable discharge, taking jobs in the Veterans Administration and Treasury Department offices in Cleveland while attending college at night with the help of the GI Bill. He attended the Cleveland College of Western Reserve University from 1946 to 1948. Stokes eventually earned a J.D. from the Cleveland Marshall School of Law in 1953 and, with his brother, opened the law firm Stokes and Stokes. On August 21, 1960, Louis Stokes married Jeanette (Jay) Francis, and they raised four children: Shelly, Louis C., Angela, and Lorene.

He devoted himself to his law practice, where he became involved in a number of civil rights—related cases—often working pro bono on behalf of poor clients and activists. He was an active participant in civic affairs. Working on behalf of the Cleveland NAACP, Stokes helped challenge the Ohio legislature's redistricting in 1965 that followed the Supreme Court's ''one man, one vote'' decision.

The state legislature had fragmented the congressional districts that overlay Cleveland, diluting black voting strength. Stokes joined forces with Charles Lucas, a black Republican, to challenge that action. They lost their case in U.S. District Court, but based on Stokes's written appeal, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed with the brief in 1967. From that decision followed the creation of Ohio's first majority-black district. Later that year, in December 1967, Stokes made an oral argument before the U.S. Supreme Court in Terry v. Ohio, a precedent-setting case that defined the legality of police search and seizure procedures.

At his brother Carl's behest Louis Stokes made his first run for elective office in 1968. He sought to win the seat in the newly created congressional district that encompassed much of the east side of Cleveland. Stokes was hardly a typical newcomer to the political campaign. First, his brother, Mayor Stokes, put the services of his political network at Louis's disposal. Stokes won by a landslide. He won his subsequent 14 general elections by lopsided margins in the heavily Democratic district taking as much as 88 percent of the vote.

As a freshman Representative, Stokes received assignments on the Education and Labor Committee and the Internal Security Committee (formerly the House Un-American Activities Committee). He enthusiastically accepted the former assignment, believing Education and Labor would be a prime platform from which he could push the agenda for his urban district: job training, economic opportunity, and educational interests. But Stokes was less pleased with the Internal Security panel, which had lapsed into an increasingly irrelevant entity since its heyday investigating communists in the 1940s and 1950s. (House leaders disbanded it entirely in the mid-1970s.)

During his second term in the House, Stokes earned a seat on the Appropriations Committee. During more than two decades on the committee, Stokes steered hundreds of millions of federal dollars into projects in his home state. He eventually became an Appropriations subcommittee chair, or ''cardinal,'' for Veterans, HUD, and Independent Agencies. Stokes was the second African-American ''cardinal'' ever (the first, Julian Dixon of California, chaired the DC Subcommittee). Years later, Stokes said of the Appropriations Committee, ''It's the only committee to be on. All the rest is window dressing.'' In addition to chairing an Appropriations subcommittee, Stokes is one of fewer than two dozen African Americans ever to chair a House committee and one of just a handful to wield the gavel on multiple panels: the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (100th Congress), the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (97th–98th Congresses, 102nd Congress), and the Select Committee on Assassinations (95th Congress).

The growing ranks of black Members sought to create a power base, realizing—in the words of Representative William (Bill) Clay, Sr. of Missouri they ''had to parlay massive voting potential into concrete economic results.'', As freshman House Members, Stokes and Clay quickly developed an enduring friendship and became strong supporters of the formation of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), to promote economic, educational, and social issues that were important to African Americans. This strategy dovetailed with Stokes's perception of his role as an advocate for the ''black community'' in his district. Stokes served as chairman of the CBC for two consecutive terms beginning in 1972, after Chairman Charles Diggs, Jr., of Michigan resigned from the post. A centrist, Stokes was widely credited with shepherding the group away from the polarizing politics of various black factions toward a more stable and organized policy agenda.

Using his position as CBC chairman and his increasing influence on the Appropriations Committee, Representative Stokes pushed a legislative agenda that mirrored the needs of his majority-black district. He earned a reputation as a congenial but determined activist for minority issues, consistently scoring as one of the most liberal Members of the House in the Americans for Democratic Action and the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations vote tallies. He advocated more funding for education (particularly for minority colleges), affirmative action programs to employ more blacks, housing and urban development projects, and initiatives to improve access to health care for working-class Americans. In the 1980s, Stokes vocalized black concerns that the Ronald W. Reagan administration was intent on rolling back minority gains made in the 1960s and 1970s. He described conservative efforts to scale back school desegregation efforts and affirmative action programs—as well as massive spending on military programs—as a ''full scale attack'' on the priorities of the black community. He also was an early advocate of federal government intervention in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

From his seat on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Stokes was a particularly forceful critic of the Reagan administration's foreign policy. He gained national prominence as a member of the House Select Committee to Investigate Covert Arms Transactions with Iran when he grilled Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North in 1987 about his role in funding anticommunist Nicaraguan Contras through weapons sales to Tehran. At one juncture he reminded North, ''I wore [the uniform] as proudly as you do, even when our government required black and white soldiers in the same Army to live, sleep, eat and travel separate and apart, while fighting and dying for our country.''

House leaders repeatedly sought to capitalize on Stokes's image as a stable, trustworthy, and competent adjudicator—turning to him to lead high-profile committees and handle controversial national issues, as well as the occasional ethics scandals in the House. When Representative Henry Gonzalez of Texas resigned as chairman of the Select Committee on Assassinations, Speaker Thomas P. (Tip) O'Neill of Massachusetts tapped Stokes to lead the panel, which was investigating the circumstances surrounding the deaths of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In 1978, Stokes's committee filed 27 volumes of hearings and a final report that recommended administrative and legislative reforms. While the panel found that the King and the Kennedy murders may have involved multiple assassins (James Earl Ray and Lee Harvey Oswald have traditionally been described as lone killers), it concluded there was no evidence to support assertions of a broad conspiracy involving domestic groups or foreign governments—an assessment that has been upheld for the past three decades. The committee did suggest that Oswald may have had an accomplice on Dealey Plaza, where Kennedy was killed in November 1963.

Stokes's chairmanship of the Select Committee on Assassinations led to his appointment by Speaker O'Neill in 1981 as chairman of the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (often called the Ethics Committee). Stokes steered the panel through a turbulent period that included investigations of Members implicated in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's ABSCAM sting and a sex scandal that involved two House Members and current and former House Pages.

During the 1990s, Stokes's seniority made him an influential voice on the Appropriations Committee. In 1993, at the start of the 103rd Congress, he assumed the chairman's gavel of the Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies, which controlled one of the largest chunks of discretionary spending in the federal budget. Stokes prodded federal agencies to hire and serve more minorities. Republicans praised him for his nonpartisan leadership of the subcommittee, but when the GOP won control of the House in the 1994 elections, and Stokes became the Ranking Member of the panel, he often found himself fighting Republican efforts to trim federal spending that involved cutting welfare programs, including public housing.

In January 1998, Stokes announced his retirement from the House, noting that he wanted to leave ''without ever losing an election.'' Moreover, a new generation of rising black politicians Cleveland was displacing those of Stokes's generation. Among his proudest accomplishments as a Representative, Stokes

cited his ability to bring Appropriations Committee money to his district to address needs in housing and urban development and the opportunities that allowed him to set ''historic precedents'' as an African American in the House. ''When I started this journey, I realized that I was the first black American ever to hold this position in this state,'' Stokes told a newspaper reporter. ''I had to write the book . . . I was going to set a standard of excellence that would give any successor something to shoot for.'' After his congressional career, Louis Stokes resumed his work as a lawyer. He was a great American Hero—to be admired and remembered by us all.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of a truly remarkable man—former Congressman Louis B. Stokes, who passed away last month at the age of 90.

It was my honor to meet with Congressman Stokes when I was a staffer in the office of Congressman Ron Dellums. I later had the honor to serve with him as a member of the House of Representatives as we worked to secure funding for homeless shelters in my district.

Congressman Stokes was a trailblazer.

Born in Cleveland in 1925, he loved his home city and his home state of Ohio. And he was determined to improve the lives of everyone in his community. After serving in the military, he returned home to become a civil rights attorney and work on behalf of the poor and disenfranchised.

Raised in poverty along with his brother Carl, he dreamed of a more just and equal world. He refused to allow prejudice or adversity to slow him down.

Through his life, Lou showed an unwavering commitment to the people of Cleveland, and particularly the vulnerable and voiceless.

As the first African American member of Congress from Ohio—and an original cofounder of the Congressional Black Caucus and founding chair of the CBC's Health Brain Trust—Congressman Stokes was a proud voice for civil rights and equality.

And as the first African American to serve on the House Appropriations committee—the committee on which I now serve—Congressman Stokes worked tirelessly to bring resources and opportunities to folks struggling across the country.

In many ways, Congressman Stokes was ahead of his time. He was one of the earliest and most vocal supporters of addressing the burgeoning HIV/AIDS crisis.

As a veteran, he fought to ensure every veteran had the highest possible quality services and care upon returning home. And as the chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee on Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, he worked to ensure agency services reached communities of color.

His work to combat discrimination in every form—housing, education, health care access, economic opportunity and more—continues to inspire me.

While Congressman Stokes will be greatly missed, his legacy and work lives on.

By opening doors of opportunity, and inspiring generations of leaders in Cleveland, Ohio and beyond, Congressman Lou Stokes has made our nation a more just and equal place. He was a great man and a good friend who will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and my deepest gratitude for sharing this great human being with us.

IRAN'S PAST BEHAVIOR IS AN INDICATOR OF ITS FUTURE BEHAVIOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) for 30 minutes.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, it is a psychological fact of life that, when it comes to human beings, the best predictor of future behavior is past behavior, period, end of story.

Psychologists who study human behavior agree that past behavior is a useful marker for future behavior, but only under certain specific conditions. For example, high-frequency, habitual behaviors are more predictive than infrequent behaviors. Predictions work best if done over short periods of time, based upon these behaviors. The anticipated situation must be essentially the same as the past situation that activated the behavior in the first place. Also, the behavior did not change by corrective or negative action or feedback. The person must remain essentially unchanged in their consistent behavior. The person must be fairly consistent in his or her behaviors over time.

Forensic psychologists that observe such behavior often use metaphor to warn of serious danger by referring to such individuals as ''a ticking time bomb'' or as one ''carrying a hand grenade, and it is just a matter of when the pin is pulled.''

What happens if we apply these same criteria to Iran's behavior? The result is the same. Psychologically, there is no reason to expect future behavioral change, given Iran's 36 years of bad behavior.

The record of history since 1979 is clear with regard to Iran's actions with the West and, in particular, the United States. For 30 of those 36 years, the United States has declared Iran as the most active state sponsor of terrorism in the world.

For 36 years, Iran has brutally murdered more Americans than any other terror group or state sponsor of terror. Their clerics have declared fatwas on the United States; their leaders have dubbed us the Great Satan and have called Israel a one-bomb state, with pledges to eliminate their existence.

□ 2115

That brutal behavior earned them treatment, and rightfully so, as a pariah, shunned by global economy, diplomacy, and withholding international goodwill.

So what a fantastic time to accommodate a terrorist state and make a deal.

Some, such as Secretary of State John Kerry, dismiss all of Iran's reticence as posturing rhetoric. How in God's name can we be so naive at the highest levels of our Republic to believe it?

How in God's name can we judge Iran's actions worthy of fair treatment and goodwill?

Perhaps we should take the teachings of Christ as a guide when he stated:

> Every good tree bears good fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. Therefore, by their fruits, you will know them.

Christ's words, of course, are true. Iranian deeds speak louder than words. The problem is both word and deed are reprehensible, which should cause us even more alarm.

Don't believe me? Here are the facts of Iranian actions under this regime.

1979, hostage crisis. From the moment this regime came into being, the first act was to overrun the United States Embassy in Tehran, terrorizing 66 American hostages for 444 days, most of them, and forcing abandonment of our U.S. Embassy and consulates.

1982–1992, Lieutenant Colonel William Buckley, the CIA Station Chief and Vietnam warrior, decorated for valor, is tortured and brutally murdered.

David Anderson, a reporter of great renown, was captured and held for 7 years.

American University President David Dodge was captured and held for a year.

1983, April 18, the U.S. Embassy in Beirut is bombed, murdering 63, 17 of them Americans. The entire CIA Middle East contingent is reportedly murdered. The entire operation was directed by Hezbollah and financed by Iran.

October 23, the United States Marine barracks in Beirut was destroyed by the largest nonnuclear explosion detonated on Earth by the hand of an Iranian terrorist; 241 United States Marines are slaughtered, and 100 are wounded.

During the same attack, the French barracks are destroyed by another Iranian terrorist bomb that murders 58 French paratroopers.

December 12, 1983, the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait was bombed by Iranian terrorists from Iranian-backed Hezbollah and Dawa, murdering 5 and wounding 86. Seventeen members of the Dawa are captured and arrested in connection. Iranian-sponsored terrorist acts then are perpetrated for years to come to try to negotiate their release.

1984, September 20, United States Embassy annex in Beirut is destroyed by Iranian-backed Hezbollah terrorists, murdering 22 civilians and 2 U.S. soldiers.

1985, June 14, Trans World Airlines Flight 847 hijacked with 160 hostages. Robert Dean Stetham, a United States Navy diver, is forced to kneel in front of an open aircraft door, shot in the back of the head, and dumped onto the tarmac. The remaining hostages are released, following terrorist releases from prisons in Israel and Lebanon.

1989, July 13, Dr. Abdul Rahman Ghassemlou, the Secretary General of the Kurdish Democratic Party of Iran, was assassinated by Iranian operatives, along with two associates in Vienna, where he was secretly meeting with envoys sent by then-Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

1991, August 8, the assassination of Shapour Bakhtiar, who was the last Iranian Prime Minister prior to the Islamic Revolution by Iranian operatives. In a botched attempt on Bakhtiar's life in a Paris suburb before in 1980, his assailants murdered a French policeman and a female neighbor.

1992, March 17, the Israeli Embassy bombing in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Iran's terrorist proxy, Hezbollah, perpetrated the suicide bomb attack on the Israeli Embassy in Argentina, which murdered 29 people and wounded 242 others, the great majority of which were civilian bystanders in the vicinity of the embassy.

On the 17th of September 1992, Kurdish leader Dr. Mohammad Sadegh Saeid Sharafkandi and three other Iranian Kurds were assassinated at the Mykonos Cafe in Berlin. German courts linked the Iranian Government and Minister of Intelligence, Ali Fallahian, to the assassination.

1994, July 18, Iran was directly responsible for the Argentinian-Israeli Mutual Association Jewish community center bombing in Buenos Aires, Argentina, which murdered 85 and wounded 300. The AMIA attack remains the deadliest terrorist attack in Argentina's history.

In 2006, an Argentine court ''declared former Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani and eight others fugitives from justice in Argentina'' for their role in the AMIA bombing.

1996, June 25, 14 members of the Iranian-backed Saudi branch of Hezbollah detonated a massive bomb in front of the Khobar Towers, a U.S. military housing complex in Saudi Arabia. The terrorist attack murdered 19 Americans and wounded 372 of our service men and women.

The attackers detonated a parked truck laden with the equivalent of somewhere between 3,000 and 8,000 pounds of explosive in the Khobar Towers parking lot. The resulting explosion ''sheared the face off an eight-story structure which housed U.S. Air Force personnel.''

2003–2011, following the 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq, Iran undermined U.S. operations by ''consistently supplying weapons, its own advisers, and Iranian proxy Hezbollah advisers from Lebanon to multiple residence groups, both Sunni and Shia,'' which targeted Coalition Forces.

For the U.S., ''concern revolved around Iran's role in arming and assisting the Shiite militias.'' In Iraq, ''the top killer of U.S. troops'' were IEDs, or improvised explosive devices, which were primarily supplied by Iran. In total, Iran's support for Iraqi insurgents led to the death of thousands of U.S. soldiers and others in Iraq.

In 2010, United States Ambassador to Iraq James Jeffrey stated, ''Up to a quarter, or 1,200 of the American casualties, and some of the more horrific incidents in which Americans were kidnapped can be traced without doubt to these Iranian groups.''

I should also personally note that many were my friends, and all were my brothers and sisters as fellow warriors.

2006–2015, Iranian support for the Taliban against United States troops in Afghanistan has been ongoing since at least 2006. According to a RAND report, ''although Iran has traditionally backed Tajik and Shia groups opposed to the Taliban, its enmity with the United States and tensions over the nuclear program led it to provide measured support to the Taliban.''

According to the Treasury Department, ''since at least 2006, Iran has arranged frequent shipments of small arms and associated ammunition, rocket-propelled grenades, mortar rounds, 107 mm rockets, plastic explosives, and probably man-portable defense systems to the Taliban.''

A member of my own staff left limbs in Afghanistan by these devices.

Through ''Qods force materials support,'' the report states, ''we believe Iran is seeking to inflict casualties on U.S. and NATO forces.'' In 2010, multiple media sources reported Iran as ''paying Taliban fighters $1,000 for each U.S. soldier they kill in Afghanistan.'' This is currently.

Over a 6-month period in 2010, one ''Taliban treasurer'' claimed to have collected more than $77,000 from an Iranian firm in Kabul as payment for killing Americans.

2011, October, U.S. authorities thwarted a terrorist plot in this town, Washington, D.C., which included ''the assassination of Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United States and subsequent bomb attacks on Saudi and Israeli Embassies.''

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder stated that the plot was ''directed and approved by elements of the Iranian Government and, specifically, senior members of the Quds Force''—in this town. The two individuals charged were ''Manssor Arbabsiar, a 56-year-old naturalized U.S. citizen holding both Iranian and U.S. passports, and Gholam Shakuri, an Iran-based member of Iran's Quds Force.''

U.S. authorities arrested Arbabsiar on September 29, 2011, with Shakuri remaining at large.

2012, in March, Azerbaijan. United States and Israeli officials were among those targeted for assassination by a group of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps from Iran-linked terrorists. They were arrested in Baku, Azerbaijan.

According to The Washington Post, ''United States and Middle Eastern officials now see the attempts as part of a broader campaign by Iran-linked operatives to kill foreign diplomats in at least seven countries over a span of 13 months.''

How right they were.

13–14 February, New Delhi, India, the wife of Israeli Defense attache and her driver were wounded after a device attached to their car exploded. The Delhi police concluded that the suspects were members of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps.

A similar device was defused in Tbilisi, Georgia, after being discovered on the underside of an Israeli diplomat's car.

The following day, three Iranian men accidentally detonated a cache of explosives—darn—in Bangkok, Thailand. The explosives were intended to be used to assassinate Israeli diplomats. A multinational investigation has produced ''the clearest evidence yet that Iran was involved'' in all three plots.

18 July, a suicide bomber destroyed an Israeli tour bus in Burgas, Bulgaria, murdering the bus driver and five Israelis, and wounding more than 30 others. In an investigation in 2012, the Bulgarian Government found Iran and its proxy, Hezbollah, responsible for the attack.

Behavior, behavior, 36 consistent years. But now President Obama wants to negotiate with terrorists to prevent war.

Mr. Speaker, we are not the attackers here. Threat of war only comes from the United States when we are bullied, cajoled, attacked, or threatened. The President and Secretaries Kerry, Lew, and Moniz want us to show goodwill for bad behavior.

The American people are against it, as evidenced by the strong opposition from the majority of Americans who rightly deduce the deal would allow nuclear capacity for Iran and makes a legal path to possess weapons of mass destruction.

The President often makes political speeches demanding we keep dangerous firearms out of the hands of those with psychological problems, yet, under identical behavioral criteria, he would give nuclear capacity to Iran.

While public multiple-victim shootings are horrific, imagine an Iran with a nuclear capacity. Given Iran's prolific use of every form of weaponry and export of terror, are our leaders so naive to think Iran's behavior would be any better than putting a weapon in the hands of a psychologically consistent and dangerous individual?

Past behavior is the best predictor of future behavior. Any psychologist or criminologist will tell you this, yet the President is selling us on the deluded hope that this is somehow the right and only path to take. Nonsense.

No alternative you say? How can that be?

Our own administration does not even realize that Iran's interpretation of this very deal and ours are separated by a fairly problematic gulf.

In the last month, even the last few days, Iran's President Rouhani and his foreign ministry have made public statements that declare the following regarding this good deal. According to Iran and its statements from its leaders, here is what they think they have agreed to:

Iran can pursue the development of missiles without any restriction.

They can violate the U.N. resolutions without violating the agreement. Iran says it is not a treaty but binding.

Iran can violate the U.N. Security Council Resolution without violating the JCPOA, or the agreement.

Iran intends to violate the United Nations Security Council Resolution restrictions on weapons sales and imports. In fact, they are already negotiating with Russia for the sale of SS–300 and –400 missiles.

□ 2130

And Iran also has not agreed to inspect Parchin itself, but it will refuse to let anyone else inspect it.

These are from their own statements in recent days. Iran's public statements declare, Mr. Speaker, that all sanctions will be lifted.

Under Iran's interpretation and even in the stated language of the agreement, this includes those, such as the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps—they are in the agreement; they are listed—and the Quds Force, the same organization that we just itemized all of these terrorist acts, both of these groups. Two of the most reprehensible terrorist organizations in the world are in this agreement for sanctions to be lifted. Read them. Annex II sanctions list. I have.

This flies in the face of our President's own statements and reassurances. Under Secretary of Treasury Szubin assures us that sanctions on these organizations will be maintained.

Secretary of Treasury Lew even goes further and has stated recently that, ''We will not be providing any sanctions relief to any of these lines of activity and will not be delisting from sanctions the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, the Quds Force, or any of their subsidiaries or senior officials.''

Then, why are they in the deal? According to the agreement and even Iran's recent public statements, they believe that they will be lifted.

Terrorists Soleimani, A.Q. Khan, numerous organizations that I have had to fight on battlefields, now we will reward their bad behavior with goodwill.

The Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps and the Quds Force are both listed in this agreement and have sanctions against them lifted, according to interpretations of its terms. What a great deal. There is none better. This is the best we can do.

President Hassan Rouhani declared last month, ''After the agreement is implemented, the economic sanctions will be immediately removed, meaning, financial, banking, insurance, transportation, petrochemical sanctions. All economic sanctions will be removed.''

Congratulations, Mr. President, on that good deal and that goodwill.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation is in grave danger. We are trusting a psychologically fanatical and terrorist State with 36 consistent years of bad behavior to now behave well.

Perhaps the only thing missing to shore up the President and Secretary Kerry's reassurances is perhaps an airplane on the tarmac with an open door with our United States leader waving a document in his hand, declaring, ''Peace in our time.''

The power of this Nation only rests with the consent of the people. That is where the Congress, both parties, this august body, comes in.

But now our President even wants to find a political way to strip the American people from a vote by their duly elected representatives to avoid the optics of an opposition.

I guess he and President Hassan Rouhani of Iran do have something very much in common after all: not allowing a vote in their respective legislative bodies. One would expect that from a fanatical, unstable, religious dictatorship, but not in the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, the President is outside his constitutional authority. No other President in the history of our Nation has ever cobbled together sanctions provisions meant to prevent nuclear capacity, to provide a de facto treaty with a foreign rogue State and give them what the sanctions were intended to deny.

The President has acted without the consent of the people. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, the people, through their duly elected Representatives, will now act without the consent of the President.

Article I, Section 8, of the United States Constitution, a document I have defended since I was 18, states that the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations rests in the Congress of these United States.

Article II, Section 2, states that the President can only make a binding treaty with a foreign nation upon two-thirds consent with the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, the President states that this is not a treaty. We agree. And, therefore, constitutionally, we are not bound to abide by it. Neither are the States.

The Supremacy Clause does not apply here. It is not a treaty. Not having the effect of treaty law, the States are free to act. And today they are and will. And we will.

I call upon my colleagues, people that have taken an oath to support and defend this republic, to stand with me.

We will declare the lifting of sanctions of terrorists as laid out in the agreement as null and void. It is illegal under past U.S. sanctions law.

We will uphold United States sanctions law against executive fiat action. We will make explicit the sense of Congress in upcoming State actions both legally and economically.

We will prevent the lifting of sanctions on scores of those listed in the agreement, thereby violating section 37 of Annex II of the Iran deal.

We will send a strong message to Iran that the power of this republic does not rest with its President. It rests by the consent of the people. We are bound to uphold that trust as our constitutional duty.

Mr. Speaker, I also call upon Americans to stand with me. Pound the White House with calls and emails. Support State legislative actions and sanctions. Support your representatives, both State and assembly, and your U.S. Representatives in this fight.

We ask the people to support us in this fight, not shoot us in the back, regardless of political party with anger and cynicism, leveling blame on those who oppose this deal rather than on the one who has created it.

Then, if we do this, what will the future look like? It will look like an Iran contained, not an Iran accommodated. It will look like a Nation that led rather than cowered.

It will have a United States that stands firm when Iran, a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, does—if they ever do—decide to go rogue, will be like North Korea, when a previous administration assured us that, if we reached out to them with the IAEA and lifting of sanctions and easing, that they would come around.

They abandoned it. We should have known it. Their bad behavior was consistent. That future was predictable. They have nuclear weapons, and we knew it. We said we could trust them in a similar agreement.

But our country will stand for free people and free economies on this globe. It is what we do. And if we fail in that task, who will take our place?

How we fight today determines how we shape tomorrow. Accommodating terrorists and nations with 36 consistent years of bad behavior is not the best deal we have. If Iran, like Libya, displays good behavior first, then we will have a basis for discussion and follow-on goodwill, which we saw in that case.

Until then, the power of the republic rests with its people, not with its executive. Let us never waiver from that position. As long as we treasure this republic and its Constitution, this will defend.

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

REMEMBERING FORMER CONGRESSMAN LOUIS STOKES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) until 10 p.m.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise regretting that I was unable to be here when MARCY KAPTUR, the gentlewoman from Ohio, was talking about Representative Louis Stokes.

Congressman Stokes and I were very good friends. I had the opportunity to serve with him for many years. And I wanted to take this time, Mr. Speaker, to thank Ms. KAPTUR for leading the special order.

On August 18, we learned of the passing of our friend, former Representative Lou Stokes.

He was a reluctant candidate, Mr. Speaker, who went on to serve his constituents for three decades. I have had the honor of serving here for 34 years.

But when I first came here, of course, I thought Lou Stokes had been here forever. I don't really think I have been here forever.

But he was a friend to all, respected by his colleagues on both sides of the aisle and beloved by his constituents. For three decades, he served here and left a lasting imprint on a State, our Nation, and, indeed, the world.

Lou Stokes was the first African American to represent Ohio and the first to chair the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. He was chairman as well of the Black Caucus and a tireless campaigner for civil rights and equality.

Moreover, he was also the first African American to serve on the Appropriations Committee, where he and I were colleagues. I sat just two chairs from him for almost a decade along with Ms. KAPTUR for a number of years.

He chaired the Appropriations Subcommittee for Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development. That chairmanship reflected Representative Stokes' longstanding mission to address the unmet needs of millions of Americans living in inner city neighborhoods, like many of those in Cleveland who sent him to Congress.

Having been raised in a housing project himself along with his brother, former Cleveland Mayor Carl Stokes, he made it his mission to ensure that Congress was paying attention to the important issues of affordable housing, access to jobs, healthcare delivery, and crime prevention.

As a veteran, Representative Stokes never wavered from his determination to make certain that Congress was meeting its responsibility to those who had served our Nation in uniform.

I was saddened to learn of his passing. In his 90 years, Representative Stokes lived a very rich and full life. He was full of life and a deep and abiding love for his family, this House, the State, and Nation that he served so ably.

Lou Stokes was a gentleman and a gentle man. He was a giant in integrity and in intellect, committed to common sense, courage, and seeking the right answers for his people, for his State, and for his country.

It is a testament to him that his four children all followed him into careers that helped better their communities and our country.

One is an administrator at Howard University. Another is a well-respected journalist and news anchor in New York. The third is a Cleveland municipal court judge. And the fourth is an editor and public affairs director for a television station in Detroit.

He was extraordinarily proud of his children and of his grandchildren. They, like all of us in this House who served with him, Mr. Speaker, were and are extraordinarily proud of Congressman Louis Stokes.

I join in extending my condolences to them, to their mother, Representative Stokes' wife of 55 years, Angela, and to the seven grandchildren that Representative Stokes so cherished.

The House of Representatives was made a better body by having Lou Stokes serve in this hall. A grateful Nation thanks him and his family for sharing his life with all of us who had the honor and privilege and joy of serving by his side in this revered House of the people that he loved and who loved him.

I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. MCCOLLUM (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of funeral in district.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 267. An act to authorize the transfer of certain items under the control of the Omar Bradley Foundation to the descendants of General Omar Bradley; to the Committee on Armed Services.

S. 1362. An act to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to clarify waiver authority regarding programs of all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE programs); to the Committee on Ways and Means; in addition, to the Committee on Energy and Commerce for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 1576. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to prevent fraud by representative payees; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

S. 1596. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2082 Stringtown Road in Grove City, Ohio, as the ''Specialist Joseph W. Riley Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

S. 1826. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 99 West 2nd Street in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, as the Lieutenant Colonel James ''Maggie'' Megellas Post Office; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. HARRIS, on Thursday, August 6, 2015.

H.R. 212. An act to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of algal toxins in drinking water, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1138. An act to establish certain wilderness areas in central Idaho and to authorize various land conveyances involving National Forest System land and Bureau of Land Management land in central Idaho, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1531. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide a pathway for temporary seasonal employees in Federal land management agencies to compete for vacant permanent positions under internal merit promotion procedures, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2131. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 83 Meeting Street in Charleston, South Carolina, as the ''J. Waties Waring Judicial Center''.

H.R. 2559. An act to designate the ''PFC Milton A. Lee Medal of Honor Memorial Highway'' in the State of Texas.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on July 31, 2015, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill:

H.R 3236. To provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, to provide resource flexibility to the Department of Veterans Affairs for health care services, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, further reported that on August 6, 2015, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 2559. To designate the ''PFC Milton A. Lee Medal of Honor Memorial Highway'' in the State of Texas.

H.R. 1531. To amend title 5, United States Code, to provide a pathway for temporary seasonal employees in Federal land management agencies to compete for vacant permanent positions under internal merit promotion procedures, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2131. To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 83 Meeting Street in Charleston, South Carolina, as the ''J. Waties Waring Judicial Center''.

H.R. 212. To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of algal toxins in drinking water, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1138. To establish certain wilderness areas in central Idaho and to authorize various land conveyances involving National Forest System land and Bureau of Land Management land in central Idaho, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 9, 2015, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the second and third quarters of 2015, pursuant to Public Law 95–384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JANICE ROBINSON, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 17 AND JULY 21, 2015

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]
Janice Robinson	7/17	7/21	France		1,840.00		1,734.00				3,574.00
Committee total					1,840.00		1,734.00				3,574.00

[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.

JANICE C. ROBINSON, July 28, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO UKRAINE, GEORGIA, AND IRELAND, EXPENDED BETWEEN JUNE 28 AND JULY 6, 2015

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. Peter Roskam	6/29	7/2	Ukraine		1,106.97		(3)				1,106.97
Hon. David Price	6/29	7/2	Ukraine		1,106.97		(3)				1,106.97
Hon. Tom Rice	6/29	7/2	Ukraine		1,106.97		(3)				1,106.97
Hon. Rob Woodall	6/29	7/2	Ukraine		1,106.98		(3)				1,106.98
Hon. Dina Titus	6/29	7/2	Ukraine		1,106.98		(3)				1,106.98
Hon. Lois Capps	6/29	7/2	Ukraine		1,106.98		(3)				1,106.98
Justin Wein	6/29	7/2	Ukraine		1,106.98		(3)				1,106.98
Michael Shapiro	6/29	7/2	Ukraine		1,106.98		(3)				1,106.98
Hon. Peter Roskam	7/2	7/5	Georgia		915.00		(3)				915.00
Hon. David Price	7/2	7/5	Georgia		915.00		(3)				915.00
Hon. Tom Rice	7/2	7/5	Georgia		915.00		(3)				915.00
Hon. Rob Woodall	7/2	7/5	Georgia		915.00		(3)				915.00
Hon. Dina Titus	7/2	7/5	Georgia		915.00		(3)				915.00
Hon. Lois Capps	7/2	7/5	Georgia		915.00		(3)				915.00
Justin Wein	7/2	7/5	Georgia		915.00		(3)				915.00
Michael Shapiro	7/2	7/5	Georgia		915.00		(3)				915.00
Hon. Peter Roskam	7/5	7/6	Ireland		236.93		(3)				236.93
Hon. David Price	7/5	7/6	Ireland		236.93		(3)				236.93
Hon. Tom Rice	7/5	7/6	Ireland		236.93		(3)				236.93
Hon. Rob Woodall	7/5	7/6	Ireland		236.93		(3)				236.93
Hon. Dina Titus	7/5	7/6	Ireland		236.93		(3)				236.93
Hon. Lois Capps	7/5	7/6	Ireland		236.93		(3)				236.93
Justin Wein	7/5	7/6	Ireland		236.93		(3)				236.93
Michael Shapiro	7/5	7/6	Ireland		236.93		(3)				236.93
Committee total					18,071.20						18,071.20

[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. PETER J. ROSKAM, July 28, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO LITHUANIA, FINLAND, POLAND, AND IRELAND,EXPENDED BETWEEN JUNE 26 AND JULY 5, 2015

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. John Boehner	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Hon. Dan Lipinski	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Hon. Greg Walden	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Hon. John Shimkus	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Hon. Mike Simpson	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Hon. Mike Kelly	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Hon. Susan Brooks	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Hon. Ann Wagner	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Mike Sommers	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
David Stewart	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Michael Ricci	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Ann Loupone	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Tom Andrews	6/27	6/29	Lithuania		824.00	(3)					824.00
Hon. John Boehner	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Hon. Dan Lipinski	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Hon. Greg Walden	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Hon. John Shimkus	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Hon. Mike Simpson	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Hon. Mike Kelly	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Hon. Susan Brooks	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Hon. Ann Wagner	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Mike Sommers	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
David Stewart	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Michael Ricci	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Amy Loupone	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Tom Andrews	6/29	7/1	Finland		584.00	(3)					584.00
Hon. John Boehner	7/1	7/2	Poland		303.00	(3)					303.00
Hon. Dan Lipinski	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
Hon. Greg Walden	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
Hon. John Shimkus	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
Hon. Mike Simpson	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
Hon. Mike Kelly	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
Hon. Susan Brooks	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
Hon. Ann Wagner	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
Mike Sommers	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
David Stewart	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
Michael Ricci	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
Amy Loupone	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
Tom Andrews	7/1	7/2	Poland		237.00	(3)					237.00
Hon. John Boehner	7/2	7/5	Ireland		1,040.00	(3)					1,040.00
Hon. Dan Lipinski	7/2	7/5	Ireland		341.00	(3)	1,595.00				1,936.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO LITHUANIA, FINLAND, POLAND, AND IRELAND,EXPENDED BETWEEN JUNE 26 AND JULY 5, 2015—Continued

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. Greg Walden	7/2	7/5	Ireland		934.00	(3)					934.00
Hon. John Shimkus	7/2	7/5	Ireland		934.00	(3)					934.00
Hon. Mike Simpson	7/2	7/5	Ireland		934.00	(3)					934.00
Hon. Mike Kelly	7/2	7/5	Ireland		934.00	(3)					934.00
Hon. Susan Brooks	7/2	7/5	Ireland		934.00	(3)					934.00
Hon. Ann Wagner	7/2	7/5	Ireland		934.00	(3)					934.00
Mike Sommers	7/2	7/5	Ireland		934.00	(3)					934.00
David Stewart	7/2	7/5	Ireland		934.00	(3)					934.00
Michael Ricci	7/2	7/5	Ireland		934.00	(3)					934.00
Amy Loupone	7/2	7/5	Ireland		934.00	(3)					934.00
Tom Andrews	7/2	7/5	Ireland		934.00	(3)					934.00
Committee total					33,106.00		1,595.00				34,701.00

[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. JOHN A. BOEHNER, Aug. 5, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. Ann Kirkpatrick	4/1	4/2	Ethiopia		398.04		55.22		141.03		594.29
	4/2	4/3	Tanzania		573.00		538.10				1,111.10
	4/3	4/3	Burundi				64.05				64.05
	4/3	4/4	Spain		95.00						95.00
Hon. Jim Costa	5/5	5/7	Germany		715.00		162.08		328.86		1,205.94
Hon. K. Michael Conaway	5/25	5/26	Germany		343.16						343.16
	5/26	5/27	Estonia		249.40		236.49		66.16		552.05
	5/27	5/28	Czech Republic		372.38		88.47				460.85
	5/28	5/29	Romania		257.00						257.00
	5/29	5/29	Italy		24.00						24.00
	5/29	5/30	Spain		160.12						160.12
Jackie Barber	5/25	5/26	Germany		331.97						331.97
	5/26	5/27	Estonia		226.87		236.49		66.16		529.52
	5/27	5/28	Czech Republic		372.37		88.47				460.84
	5/28	5/29	Italy		12.00						12.00
	5/29	5/30	Spain		97.70						97.70
Committee total					4,228.01		1,469.37		602.21		6,299.59

[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, July 30, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. Sam Farr	4/9	4/12	Panama		949.00		1,948.33		0.00		2,897.33
Hon. Barbara Lee	4/9	4/12	Panama		949.00		2,487.60		222.09		3,658.69
Hon. David Joyce	5/2	5/3	Africa		336.31				214.63		550.94
	5/3	5/5	Africa		604.00				131.40		735.40
	5/5	5/7	Europe		769.50				209.62		979.12
	5/7	5/9	Europe		715.00		115.88		490.95		1,321.83
	5/9	5/10	Europe		138.00				201.25		339.25
Hon. David Valadao	5/7	5/9	Europe		357.50				490.95		848.45
	5/9	5/10	Europe		138.00				201.25		339.25
Commercial airfare							6,493.30				6,493.30
Hon. Betty McCollum	5/2	5/3	Qatar		114.00				62.00		176.00
	5/3	5/5	Afghanistan		112.00				12.00		124.00
	5/5	5/6	Kuwait		105.00				52.00		157.00
Commercial airfare							9,332.55				8,332.55
Committee total					5,287.31		20,377.66		2,288.14		27,953.11

[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. HAROLD ROGERS, Chairman, July 30, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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]
Visit to Ukraine, Romania, Poland, Lithuania—March 26–April 2, 2015:											
Hon. Mac Thornberry	3/27	3/29	Romania		651.51						651.51
	3/29	3/31	Ukraine		745.23						745.23
	3/31	4/1	Poland		275.00						275.00
	4/1	4/3	Lithuania		324.57						324.57
Hon. Mike Rogers	3/27	3/29	Romania		651.51						651.51
	3/29	3/31	Ukraine		745.23						745.23
	3/31	4/1	Poland		275.00						275.00
	4/1	4/3	Lithuania		324.57						324.57
Tim Morrison	3/27	3/29	Romania		572.93						572.93
	3/29	3/31	Ukraine		745.22						745.22

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015—Continued

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]
	3/31	4/1	Poland		275.00						275.00
	4/1	4/3	Lithuania		324.56						324.56
John P. MacNaughton	3/27	3/29	Romania		572.93						572.93
	3/29	3/31	Ukraine		745.22						745.22
	3/31	4/1	Poland		275.00						275.00
	4/1	4/3	Lithuania		324.56						324.56
Delegation expenses			Ukraine				3,694.00		3,648.63		7,342.63
			Romania						1,926.44		1,926.44
Visit to Romania, Israel—March 29–April 4, 2015:											
Hon. Michael Turner	3/29	3/31	Romania		510.00						510.00
	3/31	4/4	Italy		1,650.00						1,650.00
Commercial airfare							10,063.16				10,063.16
Hon. Loretta Sanchez	3/29	3/31	Romania		510.00						510.00
	3/31	4/4	Italy		1,650.00						1,650.00
Commercial airfare							10,063.16				10,063.16
Hon. Paul Cook	3/29	3/31	Romania		510.00						510.00
	3/31	4/4	Italy		1,650.00						1,650.00
Commercial airfare							9,657.46				9,657.46
Jesse Tolleson	3/29	3/31	Romania		510.00						510.00
	3/31	4/4	Italy		1,650.00						1,650.00
Commercial airfare							9,709.96				9,709.96
Douglas Bush	3/29	3/31	Romania		510.00						510.00
	3/31	4/4	Italy		1,650.00						1,650.00
Commercial airfare							10,579.96				10,579.96
Visit to Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia—March 27–April 3, 2015:											
Hon. Rob Wittman	3/29	3/29	Korea								
	3/29	3/31	Vietnam		277.73						277.73
	3/31	4/2	Malaysia		275.00						275.00
	4/2	4/3	Thailand		235.12						235.12
Commercial airfare							6,696.60				6,696.60
Hon. Madeleine Bordallo	3/29	3/29	Korea								
	3/29	3/31	Vietnam		277.73						277.73
	3/31	4/2	Malaysia		275.00						275.00
	4/2	4/3	Thailand		235.12						235.12
Commercial airfare							16,803.40				16,803.40
Ryan Crumpler	3/29	3/29	Korea								
	3/29	3/31	Vietnam		277.73						277.73
	3/31	4/2	Malaysia		275.00						275.00
	4/2	4/3	Thailand		235.12						235.12
Commercial airfare							16,803.40				16,803.40
Brian Garrett	3/29	3/29	Korea								
	3/29	3/31	Vietnam		277.73						277.73
	3/31	4/2	Malaysia		275.00						275.00
	4/2	4/3	Thailand		235.12						235.12
Commercial airfare							16,803.40				16,803.40
Delegation expenses			Vietnam						400.33		400.33
			Malaysia						832.87		832.87
			Thailand						405.60		405.60
Visit to Tunisia, Nigeria, Djibouti, Kenya, Senegal—April 6–13, 2015 with CODEL Gillibrand:											
Hon. Susan Davis	4/7	4/8	Tunisia		212.03						212.03
	4/8	4/9	Nigeria		287.67						287.67
	4/9	4/9	Djibouti								
	4/9	4/12	Kenya		740.00						740.00
	4/12	4/13	Senegal		260.00						260.00
Visit to Panama—April 9–11, 2015 with CODEL Duncan:											
Hon. Bradley Byrne	4/9	4/11	Panama		786.00						786.00
Visit to Afghanistan, Qatar, Kuwait—May 1–6, 2015:											
Hon. Martha McSally	5/2	5/3	Qatar		114.00						114.00
	5/3	5/5	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	5/5	5/6	Kuwait								
Hon. Susan Davis	5/2	5/3	Qatar		114.00						114.00
	5/3	5/5	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	5/5	5/6	Kuwait								
Jaime Cheshire	5/2	5/3	Qatar		114.00						114.00
	5/3	5/5	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	5/5	5/6	Kuwait								
Craig Greene	5/2	5/3	Qatar		114.00						114.00
	5/3	5/5	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	5/5	5/6	Kuwait								
Visit to Germany, Austria, Egypt, Portugal, Tunisia—May 1–10, 2015 with CODEL Nunes:											
Hon. Paul Cook	5/2	5/3	Tunisia								
	5/3	5/5	Egypt		1,0604.00						604.00
	5/5	5/7	Austria		1,073.50						1,073.50
	5/7	5/9	Germany		715.00						715.00
	5/9	5/10	Portugal		138.00						138.00
Visit to the Czech Republic, Ukraine, Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Georgia—May 2–9, 2015:											
Hon. Joe Wilson	5/2	5/4	The Czech Republic		136.00						136.00
	5/4	5/5	Romania		191.00						191.00
	5/5	5/6	Ukraine		377.20						377.20
	5/6	5/7	Turkey		430.00						430.00
	5/7	5/8	Georgia		610.00						610.00
	5/8	5/9	Bulgaria		237.60						237.60
Hon. Madeleine Bordallo	5/2	5/4	The Czech Republic		136.00						136.00
	5/4	5/5	Romania		191.00						191.00
	5/5	5/6	Ukraine		377.20						377.20
	5/6	5/7	Turkey		430.00						430.00
	5/7	5/8	Georgia		610.00						610.00
	5/8	5/9	Bulgaria		237.60						237.60
Delegation expenses			Romania						824.00		824.00
			Bulgaria						3,839.06		3,839.06
			Ukraine						928.65		928.65
			Georgia						1,572.06		1,572.06
			The Czech Republic				76.50		1,293.48		1,369.98
Visit to Honduras, Guatemala—May 3–7, 2015:											
Hon. Austin Scott	5/3	5/4	Honduras		238.00						238.00
	5/4	5/7	Guatemala		430.00						430.00
Commercial airfare									896.95		896.95
Hon. Marc Veasey	5/3	5/4	Honduras		238.00						238.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015—Continued

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]
	5/4	5/7	Guatemala		430.00						430.00
Commercial airfare									896.95		896.95
Hon. Catherine Sendak	5/3	5/4	Honduras		238.00						238.00
	5/4	5/7	Guatemala		628.00						628.00
Commercial airfare									896.95		896.95
Michael Amato	5/4	5/7	Guatemala		628.00						628.00
Commercial airfare									896.95		896.95
Delegation expenses			Honduras						880.00		880.00
			Guatemala						2,294.00		2,294.00
Visit to United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, Djibouti—May 21–28, 2015:											
Alexander Gallo	5/22	5/23	United Kingdom		612.15						612.15
	5/23	5/24	Germany								
	5/24	5/26	Djibouti								
	5/26	5/27	Spain								
Commercial airfare											
Mark Morehouse	5/22	5/23	United Kingdom		612.15						612.15
	5/23	5/24	Germany								
	5/24	5/26	Djibouti								
	5/25	5/27	Spain								
Commercial airfare											
Delegation expenses			United Kingdom				1,248.80				1,248.80
Visit to Japan, Republic of South Korea—May 21–31, 2015:											
Hon. Mike Rogers	5/25	5/27	Japan		658.00						658.00
	5/27	5/29	South Korea		706.00						706.00
Hon. Jim Cooper	5/25	5/27	Japan		658.00						658.00
	5/27	5/29	South Korea		706.00						706.00
Hon. Mo Brooks	5/25	5/27	Japan		658.00						658.00
	5/27	5/29	South Korea		706.00						706.00
Hon. John Fleming	5/25	5/27	Japan		658.00						658.00
	5/27	5/29	South Korea		706.00						706.00
Hon. Doug Lamborn	5/25	5/27	Japan		658.00						658.00
	5/27	5/29	South Korea		706.00						706.00
Hon. Rick Larsen	5/25	5/27	Japan		658.00						658.00
	5/27	5/29	South Korea		706.00						706.00
Timothy Morrison	5/25	5/27	Japan		658.00						658.00
	5/27	5/29	South Korea		706.00						706.00
Leonor Tomero	5/25	5/27	Japan		658.00						658.00
	5/27	5/29	South Korea		706.00						706.00
Delegation expenses			South Korea						4,078.90		4,078.90
			Japan						9,241.37		9,241.37
Visit to Kuwait, Iraq—June 26–30, 2015:											
Hon. Rob Wittman	6/27	6/29	Iraq		22.00						22.00
	6/29	6/30	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
Commercial airfare							6,794.60				6,794.60
Hon. Madeleine Bordallo	6/27	6/29	Iraq		22.00						22.00
	6/29	6/30	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
Commercial airfare							10,931.10				10,931.10
Ryan Crumpler	6/27	6/29	Iraq		22.00						22.00
	6/29	6/30	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
Commercial airfare							10,930.80				10,930.80
Brian Garrett	6/27	6/29	Iraq		22.00						22.00
	6/29	6/30	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
Commercial airfare							10,930.80				10,930.80
Committee total					46,601.54		151,786.90		35,753,19		234,141.63

[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. MAC THORNBERRY, Chairman, Aug. 3, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. John Kline	5/22	5/24	Norway		784.54		(3)				784.54
	5/24	5/26	Sweden		744.23		(3)				744.23
	5/26	5/28	Finland		572.00		(3)				572.00
	5/28	5/30	Estonia		474.46		(3)				474.46
Hon. Suzanne Bonamici	5/22	5/24	Norway		784.54		(3)				784.54
	5/24	5/26	Sweden		744.23		(3)				744.23
	5/26	5/28	Finland		572.00		(3)				572.00
	5/28	5/30	Estonia		440.90		(3)				440.90
Hon. Virginia Foxx	5/22	5/24	Norway		784.54		(3)				784.54
	5/24	5/26	Sweden		744.23		(3)				744.23
	5/26	5/28	Finland		572.00		(3)				572.00
	5/28	5/30	Estonia		474.46		(3)				474.46
Hon. Tim Walberg	5/22	5/24	Norway		784.54		(3)				784.54
	5/24	5/26	Sweden		744.23		(3)				744.23
	5/26	5/28	Finland		572.00		(3)				572.00
	5/28	5/30	Estonia		474.46		(3)				474.46
Hon. Rick Allen	5/22	5/24	Norway		784.54		(3)				784.54
	5/24	5/26	Sweden		744.23		(3)				744.23
	5/26	5/28	Finland		572.00		(3)				572.00
	5/28	5/30	Estonia		474.46		(3)				474.46
Juliane Sullivan	5/22	5/24	Norway		784.54		(3)				784.54
	5/24	5/26	Sweden		744.23		(3)				744.23
	5/26	5/28	Finland		572.00		(3)				572.00
	5/28	5/30	Estonia		440.90		(3)				440.90
Brian Newell	5/22	5/24	Norway		784.54		(3)				784.54
	5/24	5/26	Sweden		744.23		(3)				744.23
	5/26	5/28	Finland		572.00		(3)				572.00
	5/28	5/30	Estonia		440.90		(3)				440.90
Janelle Belland	5/22	5/24	Norway		784.54		(3)				784.54
	5/24	5/26	Sweden		744.23		(3)				744.23
	5/26	5/28	Finland		572.00		(3)				572.00
	5/28	5/30	Estonia		440.90		(3)				440.90

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015—Continued

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]
Jean Hinz	5/22	5/24	Norway		784.54		(3)				784.54
	5/24	5/26	Sweden		744.23		(3)				744.23
	5/26	5/28	Finland		572.00		(3)				572.00
	5/28	5/30	Estonia		440.90		(3)				440.90
Elizabeth Podgorski	5/22	5/24	Norway		784.54		(3)				784.54
	5/24	5/26	Sweden		744.23		(3)				744.23
	5/26	5/28	Finland		572.00		(3)				572.00
	5/28	5/30	Estonia		440.90		(3)				440.90
Committee total					25,550.94						25,550.94

[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. JOHN KLINE, Chairman, July 29, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. Joe Barton	3/27	3/28	Germany		333.76		(3)				333.76
	3/29	3/29	Bahrain		394.98		(3)		185.00		579.98
	3/30	3/30	Saudi Arabia		459.33		(3)		269.70		729.03
	3/31	3/31	Ethiopia		398.04		(3)		196.25		594.29
	4/1	4/2	Tanzania		480.00		(3)				480.00
	4/3	4/4	Spain		334.28		(3)				334.28
Hon. Yvette Clarke	4/10	4/12	Panama		524.00		3,414.63		1,0005.00		4,943.63
Hon. Fred Upton	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)		5,085.00		5,436.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)		4,864.74		5,478.01
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)		4,064.55		4,812.94
Hon. Frank Pallone	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Hon. Joe Pitts	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Hon. Greg Walden	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Hon. Bob Latta	5/4	5/5	Portugal		263.74		(3)				263.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		351.27		(3)				351.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		486.39		(3)				486.39
Hon. Cathy McMorris Rodgers	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Hon. Mike Pompeo	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Hon. Bill Johnson	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Hon. Jerry McNerney	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Alexa Marrero	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Tom Hassenboehler	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Joan Hillebrands	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Theresa Gambo	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Jeff Carroll	5/4	5/5	Portugal		351.74		(3)				351.74
	5/5	5/7	Belgium		613.27		(3)				613.27
	5/7	5/9	Ukraine		748.39		(3)				748.39
Hon. Gregg Harper	5/25	5/26	Japan		658.00		(3)				658.00
	5/27	5/29	South Korea		706.00		(3)				706.00
Hon. Richard Hudson	5/25	5/26	Japan		658.00		10,728.80				11,386.80
	5/27	5/29	South Korea		706.00		(3)				706.00
David Redl	6/23	6/25	Argentina		682.44		11,316.53				11,998.97
David Goldman	6/23	6/23	Argentina		682.44		12,066.53				12,748.97
Hon. Bill Flores	6/27	6/30	Kuwait		105.00		12,438.90				12,543.90
	6/27	6/29	Iraq		22.00						22.00
Committee total					30,519.87		49,965.39		15,670.24		96,155.55

[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. FRED UPTON, Chairman, July 30, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. David Schweikert	4/9	4/12	Panama		786.00		865.10				1,651.10
Hon. Robert Pittenger	5/5	5/5	France		330.00		7,640.50		827.00		8,797.50
	5/5	5/7	Austria		667.20		551.44		1,320.00		2,538.64

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015—Continued

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]
	5/7	5/9	Germany		775.56		(3)		1,088.89		1,844.45
	5/9	5/10	Portugal		137.50		(3)				137.50
Hon. Juan Vargas	5/6	5/8	Mexico		786.00		561.00				1,329.00
Hon. Randy Hultgren	5/22	5/24	Norway		784.54		(3)				784.54
	5/24	5/26	Sweden		744.23		(3)				744.23
	5/26	5/28	Finland		572.00		(3)				572.00
	5/28	5/30	Estonia		474.46		(3)				474.46
Committee total					6,019.49		9,618,04		3,235.89		18,873.42

[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. JEB HENSARLING, Chairman, July 31, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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]
Eric Jacobstein	5/25	5/26	Honduras		185.99		1,059.30				1,245.29
	5/26	5/28	El Salvador		417.41						417.41
	5/28	5/30	Guatemala		400.29						400.29
Jennifer Hendrixson White	3/29	4/1	Korea		985.00		10,423.20				11,408.20
	4/1	4/2	Hong Kong		514.73						514.73
	4/2	4/4	Japan		649.26						649.26
Eddy Acevedo	6/4	6/7	Haiti		673.00		900.40				1,573.40
Mark Walker	6/4	6/7	Haiti		678.00		900.40				1,578.40
Sadaf Khan	6/4	6/7	Haiti		683.00		900.40				1,583.40
Rebecca Ulrich	5/25	5/27	Guatamala		380.20		1,049.30				1,429.50
	5/27	5/29	El Salvador		421.40						421.40
	5/29	5/31	Honduras		420.00						420.00
Sadaf Khan	5/25	5/27	Guatemala		390.20		1,049.30				1,439.50
	5/27	5/29	El Salvador		417.40						417.40
	5/29	5/31	Honduras		440.00						440.00
Hon. Darrell Issa	5/6	5/7	Mexico		768.00		742.39				1,510.39
Scott Cullinane	3/29	4/3	Moldova		910.00		3,353.60				4,263.60
	4/3	4/4	Ukraine		361.00						361.00
Naz Durakoglu	3/29	4/3	Moldova		900.00		3,377.60				4,277.60
	4/3	4/4	Ukraine		351.00						351.00
Hon. Dana Rohrabacher	5/6	5/8	Switzerland		741.00		13,258.40				13,999.40
	5/8	5/9	Serbia		276.00				[4]1,643.00		1,919.00
	5/9	5/11	Bosnia		194.00						194.00
	5/10	5/11	Montenegro		178.00						178.00
	5/11	5/12	Kosovo		164.00						164.00
Paul Behrends	5/6	5/8	Switzerland		741.00		13,258.40				13,999.40
	5/8	5/9	Serbia		276.00						276.00
	5/9	5/11	Bosnia		194.00						194.00
	5/10	5/11	Montenegro		178.00						178.00
	5/11	5/12	Kosovo		164.00						164.00
Thomas Alexander	4/23	4/24	Mexico		362.00		1,255.95				1,617.95
Leah Campos	4/7	4/9	Uruguay		504.00		1,636.50				2,140.50
Kristen Marquardt	5/2	5/5	Turkey		995.17		4,196.80				5,191.97
	5/5	5/8	Jordon		1,009.01						1,009.01
Mira Resnick	5/4	5/5	Turkey		190.98		4,594.59				4,785.57
	5/5	5/8	Jordan		794.89						794.89
Hon. Reid Ribble	5/2	5/4	Czech Republic		760.37		11,571.20				12,331.57
	5/4	5/5	Romania		201.58						201.58
	5/5	5/6	Ukraine		392.49						392.49
	5/6	5/8	Georgia		610.62						610.62
	5/8	5/9	Bulgaria		226.95						226.95
Hon. Jeff Duncan	4/9	4/12	Panama		786.00		1,348.60				2,134.60
Hon. Eliot Engel	4/9	4/12	Panama		761.00		2,164.50				2,925.50
Hon. Gregory Meeks	4/9	4/12	Panama		262.00		1,989.10				2,251.10
Hon. David Cicilline	4/9	4/12	Panama		786.00		2,163.60				2,949.60
Hon. Juan Castro	4/9	4/12	Panama		786.00		859.10				1,645.10
Mark Walker	4/9	4/12	Panama		786.00		984.10				1,770.10
Rebecca Ulrich	4/9	4/12	Panama		786.00		1,019.10				1,805.19
Eric Jacobstein	4/9	4/12	Panama		761.00		1,019.10				1,780.10
Doug Campbell	4/9	4/12	Panama		766.00		1,019.10				1,785.10
Hon. Matt Salmon	5/3	5/7	Vietnam		1,149.12		15,309.70		[4]1A5,018.68		21,477.50
	5/7	5/10	Hong Kong		1,306.35				[4]1A8,298.38		9,604.73
Hon. Alan Lowenthal	5/3	5/7	Vietnam		971.34		16,087.80				17,059.14
	5/7	5/10	Hong Kong		935.04						935.04
Hon. Tom Emmer	5/3	5/7	Vietnam		915.76		12,578.70				13,494.46
	5/7	5/10	Hong Kong		1,072.99						1,072.99
Amy Chang	5/3	5/7	Vietnam		941.14		15,221.90				16,163.04
	5/7	5/10	Hong Kong		989.10						989.10
Joseph Brady Howell	5/3	5/7	Vietnam		859.01		15,309.90				16,168.91
	5/7	5/10	Hong Kong		960.43						960.43
Hon. Gregory Meeks	5/23	5/25	Peru		706.00		(3)				706.00
	5/25	5/28	Colombia		1,041.00		(3)				1,041.00
	5/28	5/28	El Salvador				(3)				
	5/28	5/30	Panama		544.00		(3)				544.00
Thomas Hill	5/2	5/5	Egypt		797.52		6,100.60		[4]1A184.00		7,082.12
	5/5	5/8	Tunisia		663.00				[4]1A116.54		779.54
	5/8	5/9	Malta		231.35						231.35
Joan Condon	5/2	5/5	Egypt		801.00		6,585.10				7,386.10
	5/5	5/8	Tunisia		663.00						663.00
	5/8	5/9	Malta		238.23						238.23
Jessica Kelch	5/2	5/5	Egypt		797.52		4,197.60				4,995.12
	5/5	5/8	Tunisia		663.00						663.00
Committee total					43,825.84		177,485.33		15,260.60		236,571.77

[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.
[4] Indicates delegation costs

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE, Chairman, July 30, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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]
STAFFDEL Rebecca Ulrich:											
Hon. Jeff Miller	5/25	5/27	Guatemala		370.00		* 1,049.30				1,419.30
	5/27	5/29	El Salvador		422.40						422.40
	5/29	5/31	Honduras		460.00						460.00
Alex Carnes	5/25	5/27	Guatemala		397.00		* 1,049.30				1,446.30
	5/27	5/29	El Salvador		403.40						403.40
	5/29	5/31	Honduras		430.00						430.00
CODEL Kirsten Gillibrand:											
Hon. Kathleen Rice	4/7	4/8	Tunisia		215.42		(3)				215.42
	4/8	4/9	Chad		286.37		(3)				286.37
	4/9	4/10	Kenya		728.67		(3)				728.67
	4/11	4/12	Senegal		242.98		(3)				242.98
Per Diem Returned:					(247.49)						247.49
CODEL Martha McSally:											
Hon. Norma Torres	5/2	5/3	Qatar		62.00		** 12,581.05				12,643.05
	5/3	5/5	Afghanistan		12.00						12.00
	5/5	5/6	Kuwait		355.00						355.00
CODEL Mike Rogers:											
Hon. Mark Walker	5/25	5/27	Japan		665.00		(3)				665.00
	5/28	5/29	South Korea		706.00		(3)				706.00
STAFFDEL Mandy Bowers:											
Mandy Bowers	4/3	4/3	Turkey								0.00
	4/4	4/7	Malaysia		546.00		*** 14,160.80				14,706.80
	4/8	4/12	Australia		1,233.00						1,233.00
Alan Carroll	4/3	4/3	Turkey								0.00
	4/4	4/7	Malaysia		819.00		*** 10,689.70				11,508.70
	4/8	4/12	Australia		1,233.00						1,233.00
Lewis Burke	4/3	4/3	Turkey								0.00
	4/4	4/7	Malaysia		546.00		*** 8,799.90				9,345.90
	4/8	4/12	Australia		1,233.00						1,233.00
Nicole Tisdale	4/3	4/3	Turkey								0.00
	4/4	4/7	Malaysia		546.00		*** 14,160.80				14,706.80
	4/8	4/12	Australia		1,233.00						1,233.00
C. Hayes	4/3	4/3	Turkey								0.00
	4/4	4/7	Malaysia		546.00		*** 14,660.80				15,206.80
	4/8	4/12	Australia		1,233.00						1,233.00
Additional expenses:											
Local Staff Overtime	4/4	4/7	Malaysia						302.34		302.34
Transportation	4/8	4/12	Australia						2,034.00		2,034.00
CODEL Michael McCaul:											
Hon. Michael McCaul	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/3	5/3	Iraq		1,150.00		(3)				1,150.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.21		(3)				718.21
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		408.41		(3)				408.41
	5/8	5/11	France		1,960.00		(3)				1,960.00
Hon. William Keating	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/3	5/3	Iraq		1,150.00		(3)				1,150.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.21		(3)				718.21
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		408.41		(3)				408.41
	5/8	5/11	France		1,960.00		(3)				1,960.00
Hon. John Katko	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/3	5/3	Iraq		1,150.00		(3)				1,150.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.21		(3)				718.21
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		375.96		**** 1,606.10				1,982.06
Hon. Will Hurd	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/3	5/3	Iraq		1,150.00		(3)				1,150.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.21		(3)				718.21
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		**** 5,303.90				5,687.90
Hon. Barry Loudermilk	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.22		(3)				718.22
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		408.41		(3)				408.41
	5/8	5/11	France		1,960.00		(3)				1,960.00
Hon. Kathleen Rice	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/3	5/3	Iraq		1,150.00		(3)				1,150.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.21		(3)				718.21
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		375.96		(3)				375.96
	5/8	5/11	France		1,960.00		(3)				1,960.00
Brendan Shields	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/3	5/3	Iraq		1,150.00		(3)				1,150.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.21		(3)				718.21
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		375.97		(3)				375.97
	5/8	5/11	France		1,960.00		(3)				1,960.00
Laura Fullerton	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/3	5/3	Iraq		1,150.00		(3)				1,150.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.21		(3)				718.21
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		375.96		(3)				375.96
	5/8	5/11	France		1,960.00		(3)				1,960.00
Miles Taylor	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/3	5/3	Iraq		1,150.00		(3)				1,150.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.21		(3)				718.21
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		375.97		(3)				375.97
	5/8	5/11	France		1,960.00		(3)				1,960.00
Susan Phalen	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/3	5/3	Iraq		1,150.00		(3)				1,150.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.21		(3)				718.21
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		375.96		(3)				375.96
	5/8	5/11	France		1,960.00		(3)				1,960.00
Lanier Avant	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.21		(3)				718.21
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		375.96		**** 3,050.60				3,426.56
Nicole Tisdale	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		718.21		(3)				718.21
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		375.97		(3)				375.97
	5/8	5/11	France		1,960.00		(3)				1,960.00
Additional expenses:											
Transportation, OT, etc.	5/2	5/5	Israel						27,539.45		27,539.45

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015—Continued

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]
Vehicle rental, etc.	5/5	5/6	Turkey						1,655.87		1,655.87
Bus rental, OT, etc.	5/6	5/7	Germany						3,971.78		3,971.78
Rental van, OT, etc.	5/7	5/8	Belgium						4,433.62		4,433.62
Trans, OT, Equip rental	5/8	5/11	France						22,207.37		22,207.37
Gifts for official visit	5/2	5/11	All						656.06		656.06
Committee total					78,126.22		87,112.25		62,800.49		228,038.96

[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.
* For STAFFDEL Ulrich, airfair all inclusive.
** For CODEL McSally, airfare inclusive of multiple legs of trip.
*** For STAFFDEL Bowers, airfares inclusive of multiple legs of trip.
**** Flight from Brussels to US.
***** Flight from Germany to US.
****** Flight from Brussels to US.

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL, Chairman, July 30, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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, July 15, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. Bob Goodlatte	5/21	5/30	Peru		614.00		(3)		1,677.00		2,291.00
			Colombia								
			El Salvador								
			Panama								
Hon. Tom Marino	5/21	5/30	Peru		614.00		(3)		1,677.00		2,291.00
			Colombia								
			El Salvador								
			Panama								
Hon. Mike Bishop	5/21	5/30	Peru		614.00		(3)		1,677.00		2,291.00
			Colombia								
			El Salvador								
			Panama								
Hon. Pedro Pierluis	5/21	5/30	Peru		614.00		(3)		1,677.00		2,291.00
			Colombia								
			El Salvador								
			Panama								
John Manning	5/21	5/30	Peru		614.00		(3)		1,677.00		2,291.00
			Colombia								
			El Salvador								
			Panama								
Danielle Brown	5/21	5/30	Peru		614.00		(3)		1,677.00		2,291.00
			Colombia								
			El Salvador								
			Panama								
Branden Ritchie	5/21	5/30	Peru		614.00		(3)		1,677.00		2,291.00
			Colombia								
			El Salvador								
			Panama								
Robert Parmiter	5/21	5/30	Peru		614.00		(3)		1,677.00		2,291.00
			Colombia								
			El Salvador								
			Panama								
Anthony Grossi	5/21	5/30	Peru		614.00		(3)		1,677.00		2,291.00
			Colombia								
			El Salvador								
			Panama								
Committee total					5,526.00				15,093.00		20,619.00

[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. BOB GOODLATTE, Chairman, July 30, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. Tim Walberg	3/28	3/29	Germany		315.00						315.00
	3/29	3/30	Bahrain		396.00						396.00
	3/30	3/31	Saudi Arabia		485.00						485.00
	3/31	4/1	Ethiopia		400.00						400.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015—Continued

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]
	4/1	4/3	Tanzania		480.00						480.00
	4/3	4/4	Spain		236.00						236.00
Hon. Jason Chaffetz	4/23	4/24	Mexico		300.00		777.00				1,077.00
Hon. Stacey Plaskett	4/23	4/24	Mexico		362.00		1,052.00				1,414.00
Cordell Hull	4/22	4/24	Mexico		724.00		688.00				1,412.00
Hon. Jason Chaffetz	5/2	5/5	Saudi Arabia		946.00		12,361.00				13,307.00
Andrew Dockham	5/2	5/5	Saudi Arabia		946.00		12,691.00				13,637.00
Delegation expenses									2,978.00		2,978.00
Committee total					5,590.00		27,569.00		2,978.00		36,137.00

[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.

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ, Chairman, Aug. 7, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. Pete Sessions	4/30	5/5	Israel/Turkey		551.00		429.57		1,142.88		2,123.45
	5/6	5/7	Germany		231.00		41.79		324.28		597.07
	5/8	5/10	Bel/France		429.00		172.53		538.95		1,140.48
Lackey Miles	5/22	5/24	El Salvador		519.90		1,841.23				2,361.13
Hon. James McGovern	5/22	5/24	El Salvador		519.90		1,841.23				2,361.13
Committee total					2,250.80		4,326.35		2,006.11		8,583.26

[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, July 29, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. Barbara Comstock	5/21	5/30	Peru		2,291.00						2,291.00
			Colombia								
			El Salvador								
			Panama								
Hon. John Mica	6/19	6/23	France		2,074.00		4,560.90		84.00		6,718.90
Committee total					4,365.00		4,560.90		84.00		9,009.90

[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, July 31, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. JEFF MILLER, Chairman, July 30, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. Charles Rangel	4/9	4/12	Panama		786.00		3,094.15				3,880.15
Hon. Vern Buchanan	5/2	5/5	Israel		1,500.00		(3)				1,500.00
	5/3	5/3	Iraq				1,150.00				1,150.00
	5/5	5/6	Turkey		654.00		(3)				654.00
	5/6	5/7	Germany		384.00		(3)				384.00
	5/7	5/8	Belgium		375.96		(3)				375.96
	5/8	5/11	France		1,947.00		(3)				1,947.00
Hon. George Holding	5/7	5/9	Europe		715.00		1,897.90				2,612.90
	5/9	5/10	Europe		138.00		(3)				138.00
Hon. John Larson	5/23	5/28	Cuba		1,455.00		(3)				1,455.00
Hon. Vern Buchanan	3/28	3/29	Germany		334.28		(3)				334.28
	3/29	3/29	Romania				(3)				
	3/29	3/30	Bahrain		395.01		(3)				395.01
	3/30	3/31	Saudi Arabia		486.00		(3)				486.00
	3/31	4/1	Ethiopia		398.04		(3)				398.04
	4/1	4/3	Tanzania		573.00		(3)				573.00
	4/3	4/3	Burundi				(3)				
	4/3	4/4	Spain		104.12		(3)				104.12

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015—Continued

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]
Committee total					10,245.41		6,142.05				16,387.46

[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. PAUL RYAN, Chairman, July 31, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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. Mike Pompeo	4/5	4/8	Middle East		97.00						97.00
	4/8	4/9	Middle East		339.82						339.82
	4/10	4/11	Middle East		414.20				39.93		454.13
	4/11	4/12	Middle East						54.92		54.92
Commercial airfare							15,208.00				15,208.00
Hon. Eric Swalwell	4/5	4/8	Middle East		87.00						87.00
	4/10	4/11	Middle East		414.20				39.93		
	4/11	4/12	Middle East						54.92		454.13
Commercial airfare							14,339.60				14,339.60
Timothy Bergreen	4/5	4/8	Middle East		97.00						97.00
	4/8	4/9	Middle East		339.82						339.82
	4/10	4/11	Middle East		414.20				39.93		454.13
	4/11	4/12	Middle East						54.92		54.92
Commercial airfare							15,536.00				15,536.00
Chelsey Campbell			Middle East		97.00						97.00
	4/8	4/9	Middle East		339.82						339.82
	4/10	4/11	Middle East		414.20				39.93		454.13
	4/11	4/12	Middle East						54.92		54.92
Commercial airfare							15,536.00				15,536.00
Hon. Lynn Westmoreland	4/7	4/9	Central America		361.63				257.14		618.77
Commercial airfare							670.61				670.61
Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	4/7	4/9	Central America		361.63				257.14		618.77
Commercial airfare							670.61				670.61
Hon. James Himes	4/7	4/9	Central America		361.63				257.14		618.77
Commercial airfare							670.61				670.61
Hon. Jackie Speier	4/7	4/9	Central America		361.63				257.14		618.77
Commercial airfare							670.61				670.61
Andrew House	4/7	4/9	Central America		361.63				257.14		618.77
Commercial airfare							670.61		184.10		854.71
Shannon Stuart	4/7	4/9	Central America		361.63				257.14		618.77
Commercial airfare							670.61				670.61
Robert Minehart	4/7	4/9	Central America		361.63				257.14		618.77
Commercial airfare							670.61				670.61
Hon. Jeff Miller	4/10	4/12	Europe		834.37						834.37
Commercial airfare							3,365.40				3,365.40
Hon. Michael Turner	4/10	4/12	Europe		834.37						834.37
Commercial airfare							3,365.40				3,365.40
Jacob Crisp	4/10	4/12	Europe		834.37						834.37
Commercial airfare							3,365.40				3,365.40
Hon. Chris Stewart	5/4	5/6	Africa		935.37						935.37
	5/7	5/8	Africa		555.00						555.00
	5/8	5/9	Europe		385.00				633.32		1,018.32
Commercial airfare							13,294.02				13,294.02
Chelsey Campbell	5/4	5/6	Africa		935.37						935.37
	5/7	5/8	Africa		555.00						555.00
Commercial airfare							10,926.02				10,926.02
Hon. Devin Nunes	5/2	5/3	Africa		336.32				241.63		577.95
	5/3	5/5	Africa		604.00				131.40		735.40
	5/5	5/7	Europe		769.50				209.62		979.12
	5/7	5/9	Europe		715.00		115.88		490.95		1,321.83
	5/9	5/10	Europe		138.00				201.25		339.25
Hon. Adam Schiff	5/2	5/3	Africa		336.32				241.63		577.95
	5/3	5/5	Africa		604.00				131.40		735.40
	5/5	5/7	Europe		769.50				209.62		979.12
Commercial airfare							848.00				848.00
Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	5/2	5/3	Africa		336.32				241.63		577.95
	5/3	5/5	Africa		604.00				131.40		735.40
	5/5	5/7	Europe		769.50				209.62		979.12
	5/7	5/9	Europe		715.00		115.88		490.95		1,321.83
	5/9	5/10	Europe		138.00				201.25		339.25
Hon. Terri Sewell	5/2	5/3	Africa		336.32				241.63		577.95
	5/3	5/5	Africa		604.00				131.40		735.40
	5/5	5/7	Europe		769.50				209.62		979.12
	5/7	5/9	Europe		357.50		115.88		490.95		964.33
Commercial airfare							4,834.30				4,834.30
Damon Nelson	5/2	5/3	Africa		336.32				241.63		577.95
	5/3	5/5	Africa		604.00				131.40		735.40
	5/5	5/7	Europe		769.50				209.62		979.12
	5/7	5/9	Europe		715.00		115.88		490.95		1,321.83
	5/9	5/10	Europe		138.00				201.25		339.25
Timothy Bergreen	5/2	5/3	Africa		336.32				241.63		577.95
	5/3	5/5	Africa		604.00				131.40		735.40
	5/5	5/7	Europe		769.50				209.62		979.12
	5/7	5/9	Europe		715.00		115.88		490.95		1,321.83
	5/9	5/10	Europe		138.00				201.25		339.25
Kristin Jepson	5/2	5/3	Africa		336.32				241.63		577.95
	5/3	5/5	Africa		604.00				131.40		735.40
	5/5	5/7	Europe		769.50				209.62		979.12
	5/7	5/9	Europe		715.00		115.88		490.95		1,321.83
	5/9	5/10	Europe		138.00				201.25		339.25
Robert Minehart	5/2	5/3	Africa		336.32				241.63		577.95
	5/3	5/5	Africa		604.00				131.40		735.40
	5/5	5/7	Europe		769.50				209.62		979.12
	5/7	5/9	Europe		715.00		115.88		490.95		1,321.83
	5/9	5/10	Europe		138.00				201.25		339.25
Diane Rinaldo	5/25	5/27	Asia		841.38						841.38
	5/27	5/29	Europe		426.00				473.51		899.51

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015—Continued

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]
Commercial airfare							9,087.66				9,087.66
Amanda Rogers-Thorpe	5/25	5/27	Asia		841.38						841.38
	5/27	5/29	Europe		426.00				473.50		899.50
Commercial airfare							9,087.66				9,087.66
Committee total					33,143.34		124,298.89		13,249.16		170,691.39

[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.
* In accordance with title 22, United States Code, Section 1754(b)(2), information as would identify the foreign countries in which Committee Members and staff have traveled is omitted.

HON. DEVIN NUNES, Chairman, July 30, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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 COMMITTEE
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.☒

HON. PAUL RYAN, Chairman, July 1, 2015

[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.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE 2012 TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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 COMMITTEE
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.☒

HON. TREY GOWDY, Chairman, July 15, 2015.

[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.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2015

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]
Erika Schlager	4/13	4/18	Austria	Euro	1,870.00		1,771.10				3,641.10
	5/20	5/23	Czech Republic	Koruna	832.00		2,696.30				3,528.30
Alex Johnson	4/23	4/28	France	Euro	2,531.78		2,133.70				4,665.48
			Denmark	Krone							
	6/3	6/10	Turkey	Lira	2,574.00		2,817.50				5,391.50
			Greece	Euro							
Robert Hand	4/23	4/28	Denmark	Krone	513.00		1,541.00				2,054.00
Shelly Han	5/26	6/3	South Korea	Won	2,544.00		2,818.00				5,362.00
			China	Renminbi							
Janice Helwig	4/13	6/30	Austria	Euro	26,286.00		4,667.85				30,953.85
Committee total					37,150.78		18,445.35				55,596.13

[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. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, Chairman, July 31, 2015.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

2423. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Clarification of United States Antitrust Laws, Immunity, and Liability Under Marketing Order Programs [Docket No.: AMS-FV-14-0072; FV14-900-2 FR] received August 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Agriculture.

2424. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Cranberries Grown in States of Massachusetts, et al.; Revising Determination of Sales History [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-14-0091; FV15-929-1 FR] received August 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Agriculture.

2425. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops--Import Regulations; Changes to Reporting Requirements To Add Electronic Form Filing Option [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-14-0093; FV15-944/980/999-1 FIR] received August 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Agriculture.

2426. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Olives Grown in California; Increased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-14-0105; FV15-932-1 FR] received August 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Agriculture.

2427. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's interim rule — Amendment of Asian Longhorned Beetle Quarantine Areas in Massachusetts and New York [Docket No.: APHIS-2015-0016] received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Agriculture.

2428. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Cotton and Tobacco Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Cotton Research and Promotion Program: Procedures for Conduct of Sign-up Period [AMS-CN-12-0059] received August 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Agriculture.

2429. A letter from the Board Chairman and CEO, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's Major final rule — Loans in Areas Having Special Flood Hazards (RIN: 3052-AC93) received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Agriculture.

2430. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting a notification of the President's intent to exempt all military personnel accounts, including Coast Guard personnel accounts, from any discretionary cap sequestration in FY 2016, if a sequestration is necessary, pursuant to Sec. 255(f) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended; to the Committee on Appropriations.

2431. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting the OMB Sequestration Update Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2016, pursuant to Sec. 254 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985; to the Committee on Appropriations.

2432. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General John D. Johnson, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2433. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Contracts or Delivery Orders Issued by a Non-DoD Agency (DFARS Case 2015-D014) [Docket No.: DARS-2015-0039] (RIN: 0750-AI63) received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2434. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Contractor Personnel Supporting U.S. Armed Forces Deployed Outside the United States (DFARS Case 2014-D023) (Docket No.: 2015-0010] (RIN: 0750-AI45) received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2435. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Use of Military Construction Funds (DFARS Case 2015-D006) [Docket No.: DARS-2015-0019] (RIN: 0750-AI52) received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2436. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Acquisition of the American Flag (DFARS Case 2015-D005) [Docket No.: DARS-2015-0014] (RIN: 0750-AI51) received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2437. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Item Unique Identification Prescription Correction (DFARS Case 2014-D021) [Docket No.: DARS-2015-0041] (RIN: 0750-AI65) received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2438. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's interim rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Network Penetration Reporting and Contracting for Cloud Services (DFARS Case 2013-D018) [Docket No.: DARS-2015-0039] (RIN: 0750-AI61) received August 26, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2439. A letter from the OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Limitations on Terms of Consumer Credit Extended to Service Members and Dependents [DOD-2013-OS-0133] (RIN: 0790-AJ10) received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2440. A letter from the Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the ''Annual Report to the Congress on the Presidential $1 Coin Program'', pursuant to Sec. 104 of the Presidential $1 Coin Act of 2005, Pub. L. 109-145; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2441. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility, Sullivan County, NY, et al. [Docket ID: FEMA-2015-0001] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8391] received August 10, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2442. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility; Delaware County, PA, et al. [Docket ID: FEMA-2015-0001] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8393] received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2443. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's report entitled ''Audit of the Exchange Stabilization Fund's Fiscal Years 2014 and 2013 Financial Statements'', pursuant to Sec. 10 of the Gold Reserve Act of 1934, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 5302; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2444. A letter from the Secretary, Division of Corporation Finance, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's Major final rule — Pay Ratio Disclosure [Release Nos.: 33-9877; 34-75610; File No.: S7-07-13] (RIN: 3235-AL47) received August 10, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2445. A letter from the Secretary, Division of Trading and Markets, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's Major final rule — Registration Process for Security-Based Swap Dealers and Major Security-Based Swap Participants [Release No.: 34-75611; File No.: S7-40-11] (RIN: 3235-AL05) received August 10, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2446. A letter from the Managing Associate General Counsel, Government Accountability Office, transmitting the Office's Major rule — Loans in Areas Having Special Flood Hazards (RINs: 1557-AD84, 7100 AE-22; 3064-AE27; 3052-AC93; 3133-AE40) received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2447. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Legal, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's Major final rule — Loans in Areas Having Special Flood Hazards (RIN: 3064-AE27) received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2448. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's Major final rule — Loans in Areas Having Special Flood Hazards (RIN: 3133-AE40) received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2449. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final priority — Technical Assistance Center for Vocational Rehabilitation Agency Program Evaluation and Quality Assurance [Docket ID: ED-2015-OSERS-0048] [CFDA No.: 84.263B.] received August 10, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

2450. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final priority — Rehabilitation Training: Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center —— Youth with Disabilities [CFDA No.: 84.264H.] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

2451. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final priority and definitions — Demonstration and Training Program: Career Pathways for Individuals with Disabilities [CFDA Number: 84.235N.] [Docket ID: ED-2015-OSERS-0061] received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

2452. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final priority — Rehabilitation Training: Vocational Rehabilitation Workforce Innovation Technical Assistance Center [CFDA Number: 84.264G.] [Docket ID: ED-2015-OSERS-0069] received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

2453. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final priority and definitions — Rehabilitation Training: Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center — Targeted Communities [CDFA Number: 84.264F.] [Docket ID: ED-2015-

OSERS-0070] received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

2454. A letter from the Acting Director, MSHA, Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Department of Labor, transmitting The Department's final rule — Fees for Testing, Evaluation, and Approval of Mining Products [Docket No.: MSHA-2014-0016] (RIN: 1219-AB82) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

2455. A letter from the Program Manager, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Closed-Circuit Escape Respirators; Extension of Transition Period [Docket No.: CDC-2015-0004; NIOSH-280] (RIN: 0920-AA60) received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2456. A letter from the Chair, Community Preventive Services Task Force, transmitting the Community Preventive Services Task Force's 2014-2015 Annual Report to Congress, pursuant to the Public Health Service Act, Sec. 399U(b)(6); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2457. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Regulatory Affairs, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Substantial Product Hazard List: Seasonal and Decorative Lighting Products [CPSC Docket No.: CPSC-2014-0024] received August 18, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2458. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Regulatory Affairs, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Substantial Product Hazard List: Extension Cords [CPSC Docket No.: CPSC-2015-0003] received August 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2459. A letter from the Administrator, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting a report entitled ''The Availability and Price of Petroleum and Petroleum Products Produced in Countries Other Than Iran'', the twenty-second in a series of reports required by Sec. 1245(d)(4)(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2460. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel, Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for External Power Supplies [Docket No.: EERE-2014-BT-TP-0043] (RIN: 1904-AD36) received August 25, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2461. A letter from the Deputy Director, ODRM, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program: Pandemic Influenza Countermeasures Injury Table (RIN: 0906-AA79) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2462. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report entitled ''Health, United States, 2014'', pursuant to Sec. 308 of the Public Health Service Act, Pub. L. 78-410; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2463. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Iowa; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference [EPA-R07-OAR-2015-0103; FRL-9926-85-Region 7] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2464. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Washington [EPA-R10-OAR-2007-0112; FRL-9932-21-Region 10] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2465. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Alabama, Mississippi, and South Carolina; Certain Visibility Requirements for the 2008 Ozone Standards [EPA-R04-OAR-2015-0177 FRL-9932-30-Region 4] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2466. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Florida; Miscellaneous Changes [EPA-R04-OAR-2015-0336; FRL-9932-25-Region 4] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2467. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Georgia; Atlanta; Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard [EPA-R04-OAR-2015-0248; FRL-9932-20-Region 4] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2468. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Arizona; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Lead (Pb) and the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) [EPA-R09-OAR-2014-0258; FRL-9926-72-Region 9] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2469. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; State of Colorado; Interstate Transport of Pollution for the 2006 24-Hour PM2.5 NAAQS [EPA-R08-OAR-2012-0346; FRL-9932-04-Region 8] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2470. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; State of Wyoming; Interstate Transport of Pollution for the 2006 24-Hour PM2.5 NAAQS [EPA-R08-OAR-2012-0351; FRL-9932-05-Region 8] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2471. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Definitions of Low Pressure Gas Well and Storage Vessel [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0505; FRL-9931-76-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AS49) received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2472. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Butte County Air Quality Management District, Feather River Air Quality Management District, and San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District; Correction [EPA-R09-OAR-2015-0246; FRL-9931-19-Region 9] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2473. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Acetic acid; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0793; FRL-9930-20] received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2474. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Indiana and Ohio; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2010 NO2 and SO2 NAAQS [EPA-R05-OAR-2012-0991; EPA-R05-OAR-2013-0435; FRL-9932-15-Region 5] received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2475. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Movement of the Northern Virginia Area from Virginia's Nonattainment Area List to its Maintenance Area List [EPA-R03-OAR-2015-0454; FRL-9932-35-Region 3] received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2476. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Fludioxonil; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0496; FRL-9931-06] received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2477. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Hexythiazox; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0804; FRL-9931-30] received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2478. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Lavandulyl Senecioate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0017; FRL-9930-16]

received August 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2479. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Data Requirements Rule for the 2010 1-Hour Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) [EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0711; FRL-9928-18-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR19) received August 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2480. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri, Controlling Emissions During Episodes of High Air Pollution Potential [EPA-R07-OAR-2014-0602; FRL-9932-39-Region 7] received August 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2481. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Klamath Falls, Oregon Nonattainment Area; Fine Particulate Matter Emissions Inventory and SIP Strengthening Measures [EPA-R10-OAR-2013-0005; FRL-9932-40-Region 10] received August 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2482. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Rhode Island; Rhode Island Low Emission Vehicle Program [EPA-R01-OAR-2009-0541; A-1-FRL-9932-46-Region 1] received August 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2483. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; District of Columbia; Interstate Pollution Transport Requirements for the 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Matter Standard [EPA-R03-OAR-2015-0537; FRL-9932-55-Region 3] received August 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2484. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; Indiana; Alcoa BART [EPA-R05-OAR-2014-0660; FRL-9932-18-Region 5] received August 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2485. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Nebraska; Cross-State Air Pollution Rule [EPA-R07-OAR-2015-0565; FRL-9932-84-Region 7] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2486. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; Michigan and Wisconsin; 2006 PM2.5 NAAQS PSD and Visibility Infrastructure SIP Requirements [EPA-R05-OAR-2009-0805; FRL-9932-65-Region 5] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2487. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Prevention of Significant Deterioration and Title V Permitting for Greenhouse Gases: Removal of Certain Vacated Elements [EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0414; FRL-9932-11-OAR] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2488. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Idaho: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program; Revision [EPA-R10-RCRA-2015-0307; FRL-9932-87-Region 10] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2489. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; IL; MN; Determinations of Attainment of the 2008 Lead Standard for Chicago and Eagan [EPA-R05-OAR-2015-0408; EPA-R05-OAR-2015-0409; FRL-9932-63-Region 5] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2490. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Partial Approval and Disapproval of Air Quality State Implementation Plans (SIP); State of Nebraska; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) [EPA-R07-OAR-2015-0270; FRL-9932-78-Region 7] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2491. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Kansas; Cross-State Air Pollution Rule [EPA-R07-OAR-2015-0564; FRL-9932-83-Region 7] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2492. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — NORTH CAROLINA: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R04-RCRA-2015-0294; FRL-9932-93-Region 4] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2493. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Klamath Falls, Oregon Nonattainment Area; Fine Particulate Matter Emissions Inventory and SIP Strengthening Measures [EPA-R10-OAR-2013-0005; FRL-9932-40-Region 10] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2494. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Kansas; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-R07-OAR-2015-0512; FRL-9932-81-Region 7] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2495. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Missouri; Cross-State Air Pollution Rule [EPA-R07-OAR-2015-0556; FRL-9932-95-Region 7] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2496. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Montana; Revisions to the Administrative Rules of Montana; Correction [EPA-R08-OAR-2010-0304; FRL-9932-53-Region 8] received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2497. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval of North Carolina's Request to Relax the Federal Reid Vapor Pressure Gasoline Volatility Standard for Mecklenburg and Gaston Counties [EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0208; FRL-9931-94-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AS64) received August 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2498. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Promulgation of State Implementation Plan Revisions; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Ozone, 2008 Lead, and 2010 NO2 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Colorado [EPA-R08-OAR-2012-0972; FRL-9932-52-Region 8] received August 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2499. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Methane sulfonic acid; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0633; FRL-9931-07] received August 14, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2500. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Difenoconazole; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0470; FRL-9929-61] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2501. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Illinois; Disapproval of State Board Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2006 PM2.5 and 2008 Ozone NAAQS [EPA-R05-OAR-2009-0805; EPA-R05-OAR-2011-0969; FRL-9932-97-Region 5] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2502. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental

Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New Mexico; Revisions to the New Source Review (NSR) State Implementation Plan (SIP) for Albuquerque-Bernalillo County; Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Permitting [EPA-R06-OAR-2013-0616; FRL-9931-35-Region 6] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2503. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Michigan: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [EPA-R05-RCRA-2014-0689; FRL-9933-29-Region 5] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2504. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Michigan; Michigan State Board Requirements [EPA-R05-OAR-2014-0657; FRL-9933-11-Region 5] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2505. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Missouri; 2013 Missouri State Implementation Plan for the 2008 Lead Standard [EPA-R07-OAR-2015-0223; FRL-9933-09-Region 7] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2506. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Dimethomorph; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0531; FRL-9932-26] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2507. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Secondary Aluminum Production [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0544; FRL-9932-44-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AQ40) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2508. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Partial Approval and Disapproval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Nebraska; Revision to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) Infrastructure Requirements for the 1997 and 2006 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards and the Revocation of the PM10 Annual Standard and Adoption of the 24hr PM2.5 Standard [EPA-R07-OAR-2015-0269; FRL-9933-04-Region 7] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2509. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions; Channel Sharing by Full Power and Class A Stations Outside the Broadcast Television Spectrum Incentive Auction Context [GN Docket No.: 12-268] [MB Docket No.: 15-137] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2510. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Revisions to Auxiliary Installations, Replacement Facilities, and Siting and Maintenance Regulations [Docket No.: RM12-11-003; Order No.: 790-B] received August 10, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2511. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final revised interpretations — Final Action Concerning Review of Interpretations of Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act; Rule Governing Disclosure of Written Consumer Product Warranty Terms and Conditions; Rule Governing Pre-Sale Availability of Written Warranty Terms; Rule Governing Informal Dispute Settlement Procedures; and Guides for the Advertising of Warranties and Guarantees (RIN: 3084-AB24; 3084-AB25; 3084-AB26) received August 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2512. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Mica-Based Pearlescent Pigments; Confirmation of Effective Date [Docket Nos.: FDA-2014-C-1616 and FDA-2015-C-0245] received August 10, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2513. A letter from the Deputy Director, ODRM, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Scholarship Program Regarding Professions Needed by National Research Institutes [Docket No.: NIH-2007-0930] (RIN: 0925-AA10) received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2514. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Administration, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Miscellaneous Corrections [NRC-2015-0105] (RIN: 3150-AJ60) received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2515. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Definitions and Standards for Grid-Enabled Water Heaters [Docket No.: EERE-2015-BT-STD-0017] (RIN: 1904-AD55) received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2516. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Clothes Washers [Docket No.: EERE-2013-BT-TP-0009] (RIN: 1904-AC97) received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2517. A letter from the Chair of the Incentive Auctions Task Force, Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Analysis, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions [GN Docket No.: 12-268] received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2518. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report by the Department on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period of April 1 through May 31, 2015, pursuant to Sec. 620C(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and in accordance with Sec. 1(a)(6) of Executive Order 13313; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2519. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Addition of Certain Persons to the Entity List; and Removal of Certain Persons from the Entity List Based on Removal Requests [Docket No.: 150427401-5401-01] (RIN: 0694-AG61) received August 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2520. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a report certifying that the export of the listed items to the People's Republic of China is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry, pursuant to Sec. 1512 of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for FY 1999 (Pub. L. 105-261), as amended by Sec. 146 of the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for FY 1999 (Pub. L. 105-277), and the President's September 29, 2009 delegation of authority [74 Fed. Reg. 50,913 (Oct. 2, 2009)]; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2521. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a report certifying that the export of the listed item to the People's Republic of China is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry, pursuant to Sec. 1512 of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for FY 1999 (Pub. L. 105-261), as amended by Sec. 146 of the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for FY 1999 (Pub. L. 105-277), and the President's September 29, 2009 delegation of authority [74 Fed. Reg. 50,913 (Oct. 2, 2009)]; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2522. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a determination consistent with the provisions of 22 U.S.C. Sec. 2291-4, as amended, a copy of Presidential Determination No. 2015-10 determining that Colombia meets the statutory requirements relating to the interdiction of aircraft reasonably suspected to be engaged in illicit drug trafficking; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2523. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting agreements prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements, other than treaties entered into by the United States, to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2524. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report prepared by the Department concerning international agreements, other than treaties entered into by

the United States, to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2525. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 15-065; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2526. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 15-043; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2527. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 15-035; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2528. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 15-044; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2529. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 15-074; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2530. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 15-034; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2531. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 15-028; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2532. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 15-025; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2533. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification of proposed issuance of an export license, pursuant to Secs. 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 15-039; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2534. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Secretary's determinations, certifications, and notifications, pursuant to the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012, Secs. 1244(c)(1), 1246(a)(1), and 1247(a); ; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2535. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by Sec. 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and Sec. 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Cote d'Ivoire that was declared in Executive Order 13396 of February 7, 2006; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2536. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by Sec. 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and Sec. 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a final report on the national emergency with respect to the risk of nuclear proliferation created by the accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation that was declared in Executive Order 13617 of June 25, 2012; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2537. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by Sec. 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and Sec. 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2538. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting as required by Sec. 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), notification that the national emergency declared, with respect to Export Control Regulations, in Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001 is to continue in effect beyond August 17, 2015; (H. Doc. No. 114—55); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

2539. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 21-141, ''Title IX Athletic Equity Act of 2015'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2540. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 21-142, ''Naval Lodge Building, Inc. Real Property Tax Relief Act of 2015'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2541. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 21-140, ''Ruby Whitfield Way Designation Act of 2015'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2542. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 21-143, ''Margaret Peters and Roumania Peters Walker Tennis Courts Designation Act of 2015'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2543. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 21-144, ''Closing of Public Streets adjacent to Squares 603S, 605, 607, 661, 661N, and 665, and in U.S. Reservations 243 and 244, S.O. 13-14605, Act of 2015'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2544. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 21-146, ''Sale of Synthetic Drugs Temporary Amendment Act of 2015'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2545. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 21-147, ''Ward 5 Paint Spray Booth Moratorium Temporary Act of 2015'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2546. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 21-145, ''Medical Marijuana Cultivation Center Expansion Temporary Amendment Act of 2015'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2547. A letter from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277, 5 U.S.C. 3345-3349d; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2548. A letter from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2549. A letter from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2550. A letter from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2551. A letter from the Executive Analyst, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting two reports pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2552. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Activities Inventory Reform (FAIR) Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-270), the Department's FY 2012 and FY 2013 report on inventories of commercial and inherently governmental activities; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2553. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277, 5 U.S.C. 3345-3349d; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2554. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2555. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting The Corporation's 2015 Annual Performance Plan, pursuant to the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (as amended) and the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2556. A letter from the General Counsel, General Services Administration, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277, 5 U.S.C. 3345-3349d; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2557. A letter from the Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's Federal Activities Inventory Reform Inventory for FY 2012 and 2013, pursuant to the Federal Activities Inventory Reform (FAIR) Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-270; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2558. A letter from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting the Board's FY 2014 annual report, pursuant to Sec. 203(a) of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2559. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's annual report prepared in accordance with Sec. 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2560. A letter from the HR Specialist (Executive Resources), Small Business Administration, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998,

Pub. L. 105-277, 5 U.S.C. 3345-3349d; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2561. A letter from the Special Counsel, U.S. Office of Special Counsel, transmitting the Report to Congress for FY 2014; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2562. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Regulations; Areas of the National Park System, Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Bicycling [NPS-CUVA-18292; PPMWCUVAR0, PPMRSNR1Z.Y00000] (RIN: 1024-AE18) received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2563. A letter from the Departmental Privacy Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Privacy Act Regulations; Exemption for the Indian Arts and Crafts Board [156D0102DM/DS10700000-DMSN00000.000000/DX.10701.CEN00000] (RIN: 1090-AB10) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2564. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; North Atlantic Swordfish Fishery [Docket No.: 120627194-3657-02] (RIN: 0648-XE005) received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2565. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 140918791-4999-02] (RIN: 0648-XE064) received August 18, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Pub. L. 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2566. A letter from the Deputy Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's 2012 Annual Report for the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, pursuant to the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2567. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fisheries [Docket No.: 130822745-5611-02] (RIN: 0648-BD64) received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2568. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's Thirty-Seventh Hart-Scott-Rodino Annual Report, pursuant to Sec. 7A of the Clayton Act and the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2569. A letter from the Chairman, Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting the notice of adoption of Recommendation 2015-1, Promoting Accuracy and Transparency in the Unified Agenda [80 Fed. Reg. 36757 (June 26, 2015)]; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2570. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting the report of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts on applications for delayed-notice search warrants and extensions during FY 2014, as required by 18 U.S.C. 3103a(d); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2571. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's determination on a petition filed on behalf of workers who were employed at Westinghouse Electric Corp. in Bloomfield, New Jersey, to be added to the Special Exposure Cohort, pursuant to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 and 42 C.F.R. pt. 83; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2572. A letter from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting the Report of the Proceedings of the Judicial Conference of the United States for the March 2015 session, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 331; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2573. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's annual report of the Review Panel on Prison Rape, pursuant to Sec. 4(c)(1)(A) of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, 42 U.S.C. 15603(c)(1)(A), also including a status report from the Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics entitled ''PREA Data Collection Activities, 2015''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2574. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''Solutions for Safer Communities: FY 2013 Annual Report to Congress'', in accordance with Secs. 522, 810, and 1406 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et. seq.), as amended; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2575. A letter from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court, transmitting notification that the Supreme Court will open the October 2015 term on Monday, October 5, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. and will continue until all matters before the Court ready for argument have been disposed of or decided; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2576. A letter from the Chair, United States Sentencing Commission, transmitting the Commission's Report to Congress: Impact of the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010 (as directed by Sec. 10 of Pub. L. 111-220), pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994-995, and its specific authority under 28 U.S.C. 995(a)(20); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2577. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, Department of Defense, transmitting the biennial report on the status of the Missouri River Bank Stabilization and Navigation Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Project, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, and Nebraska, pursuant to Sec. 4003(e) of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2578. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revision of Freedom of Information Act Regulation [Docket No.: FR-5624-F-02] (RIN: 2501-AD57) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2579. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment and Amendment of Class E Airspace; Bremerton, WA [Docket No.: FAA-2014-1067; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ANM-15] received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2580. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Restricted Areas R-4501A, R-4501B, R-4501C, R-4501D, R-4501F, and R-4501H; Fort Leonard Wood, MO [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0640; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ACE-4] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2581. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Class D and E Airspace; Independence, KS [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0565; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ACE-7) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2582. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Headland, AL [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0046; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ASO-23] received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2583. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Greenville, SC [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0044; Airspace Docket No.: 15-ASO-3] received August 5, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2584. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Campbellsville, KY [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0458; Airspace Docket No.: 15-ASO-2] received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2585. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Dyersburg, TN [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0968; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ASO-17] received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2586. 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-2014-0921; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-073-AD; Amendment 39-18193; AD 2015-13-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2587. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc. [Docket No.: FAA-2015-2906; Directorate Identifier 2014-SW-068-AD; Amendment 39-18213; AD 2015-15-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August

6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2588. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-2957; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-089-AD; Amendment 39-18218; AD 2015-15-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2589. 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-2015-2463; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-086-AD; Amendment 39-18216; AD 2015-15-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2590. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class B Airspace; New Orleans, LA [Docket No.: FAA-2015-2219; Airspace Docket No.: 15-AWA-5] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2591. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2014-1127; Directorate Identifier 2014-NE-16-AD; Amendment 39-18203; AD 2015-14-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2592. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31030; Amdt. No.: 521] received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2593. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Honeywell International, Inc. Turboprop Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2006-23706; Directorate Identifier 2006-NE-03-AD; Amendment 39-18177; AD 2015-12-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2594. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Defuniak Springs, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0045; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ASO-22] received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2595. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31025; Amdt. No.: 3650] received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2596. 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-2014-0926; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-085-AD; Amendment 39-18204; AD 2015-14-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2597. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31024; Amdt. 3649] received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2598. 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-2014-0428; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-067-AD; Amendment 39-18205; AD 2015-14-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2599. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31023; Amdt. No. 3648] received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2600. 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-2015-0086; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-191-AD; Amendment 39-18206; AD 2015-14-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2601. 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-2014-0570; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-094-AD; Amendment 39-18201; AD 2015-14-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2602. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31022; Amdt. No.: 3647] received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2603. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; GA 8 Airvan (Pty) Ltd. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-1123; Directorate Identifier 2014-CE-037-AD; Amendment 39-18209; AD 2015-16-02 R1] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2604. 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-2014-0778; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-095-AD; Amendment 39-18220; AD 2015-15-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2605. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Various Transport Category Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-2962; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-071-AD; Amendment 39-18221; AD 2012-11-09 R1] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2606. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-1177; Directorate Identifier 2015-CE-009-AD; Amendment 39-18208; AD 2015-14-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2607. 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-2014-0011; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-046-AD; Amendment 39-18194; AD 2015-12-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2608. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Turbomeca S.A. Turboshaft Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0164; Directorate Identifier 2014-NE-02-AD; Amendment 39-18191; AD 2015-13-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2609. 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-2014-1052; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-140-AD; Amendment 39-18210; AD 2015-15-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2610. 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-2015-0679; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-182-AD; Amendment 39-18211; AD 2015-15-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant

to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2611. 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-2014-0572; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-027-AD; Amendment 39-18214; AD 2015-15-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2612. 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-2015-0088; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-179-AD; Amendment 39-18217; AD 2015-15-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2613. 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-2014-0748; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-013-AD; Amendment 39-18219; AD 2015-15-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 6, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2614. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0165; Directorate Identifier 2015-NE-02-AD; Amendment 39-18212; AD 2015-15-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2615. A letter from the Trial Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Securement of Unattended Equipment [Docket No.: FRA-2014-0032; Notice No.: 2] (RIN: 2130-AC47) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2616. 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-2014-0348; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-033-AD; Amendment 39-18225; AD 2015-15-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2617. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0095; Directorate Identifier 2015-NE-01-AD; Amendment 39-18228; AD 2015-16-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2618. 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-2014-0652; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-076-AD; Amendment 39-18223; AD 2015-15-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2619. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-3139; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-139-AD; Amendment 39-18224; AD 2015-15-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2620. 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-2013-0834; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-045-AD; Amendment 39-18227; AD 2015-16-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2621. 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-2014-0487; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-026-AD; Amendment 39-18226; AD 2015-16-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2622. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Kidde Graviner [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0751; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-188-AD; Amendment 39-18229; AD 2015-16-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2623. 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-2015-0826; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-221-AD; Amendment 39-18222; AD 2015-15-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2624. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31027; Amdt. No.: 3652] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2625. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31026; Amdt. No.: 3651] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2626. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31029; Amdt. No.: 3654] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2627. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31028; Amdt. No.: 3653] received August 26, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2628. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Water Quality Standards Regulatory Revisions [EPA-HQ-OW-2010-0606; FRL-9921-21-OW] (RIN: 2040-AF16) received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2629. A letter from the Chairman, Office of Proceedings and the Office of Economics, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulations Governing Fees for Services Performed in Connection with Licensing and Related Services — 2015 Update [Docket No.: EP 542 (Sub-No. 23)] received August 10, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2630. A letter from the Chief Impact Analyst, Office of Regulation Policy, Office of the General Counsel (02REG), Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Loan Guaranty: Adjustable Rate Mortgage Notification Requirements and Look-Back Period (RIN: 2900-AP25) received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

2631. A letter from the Chief Impact Analyst, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel (02REG), Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Additional Compensation on Account of Children Adopted Out of Veteran's Family (RIN: 2900-AP18) received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

2632. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel (02REG), Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Vet Centers (RIN: 2900-AP21) received August 10, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

2633. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of the Squaw Valley-Miramonte Viticultural Area [Docket No.: TTB-2015-0002; T.D. TTB-129; Ref: Notice No.: 146] (RIN: 1513-AC12) received August 19, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by

Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2634. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled ''2012 Regional Partnership Grants to Increase the Well-Being of and to Improve the Permanency Outcomes for Children Affected by Substance Abuse: Second Annual Report to Congress'', as required by the Child and Family Services Improvement Act, Pub. L. 112-34; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2635. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury providing additional information regarding the Treasury's ability to continue to finance the government and the extraordinary measures taken to avoid default; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2636. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations — Determination of Distributive Share When Partner's Interest Changes [TD 9728] (RIN: 1545-BD71) received August 5, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2637. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final and temporary regulations — Extension of Time to File Certain Information Returns [TD 9730] (RIN: 1545-BM50) received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2638. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations — Basis in Interests in Tax-Exempt Trusts [TD 9729] (RIN: 1545-BJ42) received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2639. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Updated Static Mortality Tables for Defined Benefit Pension Plans for 2016 [Notice 2015-53] received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2640. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Procedures for Advance Pricing Agreements (Rev. Proc. 2015-41) received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2641. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Procedures for Requesting Competent Authority Assistance under Tax Treaties (Rev. Proc. 2015-40) received August 13, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2642. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Applicable Federal Rates — September 2015 (Rev. Rule. 2015-19) received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2643. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Transfers of Property to Partnerships with Related Foreign Partners and Controlled Transactions Involving Partnerships [Notice 2015-54] received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2644. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Update of Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates [Notice 2015-55] received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2645. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Section 4980I — Excise Tax on High Cost Employer-Sponsored Health Coverage [Notice 2015-52] received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2646. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Income tax treatment of 2014 fuel credits allowable under section 6426(c) and section 6426(d) [Notice 2015-56] received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2647. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Federal Tax Treatment of Identity Protection Services Provided to Data Breach Victims (Announcement 2015-22) received August 21, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2648. A letter from the Lead Regulations Writer, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Social Security Number Card Applications [Docket No.: SSA-2014-0042] (RIN: 0960-AH68) received August 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2649. A letter from the General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Office of Compliance, transmitting the Office's report on the Occupational Safety and Health Inspections conducted during the 112th and 113th Congresses, as provided in Sec. 215(e)(1) of the Congressional Accountability Act, 2 U.S.C. 1341(e)(1); jointly to the Committees on House Administration and Education and the Workforce.

2650. A letter from the Acting Director, Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Liberalization of Certain Documentary Evidence Required as Proof of Exportation on Drawback Claims [CBP Dec. 15-11] (RIN: 1515-AE02) received August 11, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; jointly to the Committees on Homeland Security and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1344. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children; with an amendment (Rept. 114–241). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2820. A bill to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes (Rept. 114–242). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. KLINE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 3154. A bill to allow manufacturers to meet warranty and labeling requirements for consumer products by displaying the terms of warranties on Internet websites, and for other purposes (Rept. 114–243). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1462. A bill to combat the rise of prenatal opioid abuse and neonatal abstinence syndrome (Rept. 114–244). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1725. A bill to amend and reauthorize the controlled substance monitoring program under section 3990 of the Public Health Service Act, and for other purposes (Rept. 114–245). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 758. A bill to amend Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to improve attorney accountability, and for other purposes (Rept. 114–246). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 2954. A bill to designate the Federal building located at 617 Walnut Street in Helena, Arkansas, as the ''Jacob Trieber Federal Building, United States Post Office, and United States Court House'' (Rept. 114–247). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. S. 261. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 200 NW 4th Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as the William J. Holloway, Jr. United States Courthouse (Rept. 114–248). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 3114. A bill to provide funds to the Army Corps of Engineers to hire veterans and members of the Armed Forces to assist the Corps with curation and historic preservation activities, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114–249). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 487. A bill to allow the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma to lease or transfer certain lands (Rept. 114–250). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 959. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Medgar Evers House, located in Jackson, Mississippi, and for other purposes (Rept. 114–251). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1949. A bill to provide for the consideration and submission of site and design proposals for the National Liberty Memorial approved for establishment in the District of Columbia (Rept. 114–252). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1937. A bill to require

the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to more efficiently develop domestic sources of the minerals and mineral materials of strategic and critical importance to United States economic and national security and manufacturing competitiveness (Rept. 114–253, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 2791. A bill to require that certain Federal lands be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of certain Indian tribes in Oregon; and for other purposes (Rept. 114–254). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. S. 501. An act to make technical corrections to the Navajo water rights settlement in the State of New Mexico; and for other purposes (Rept. 114–255). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SESSIONS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 408. Resolution providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 64) disapproving of the agreement transmitted to Congress by the President on July 19, 2015, relating to the nuclear program of Iran; and for other purposes (Rept. 114–256). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1937 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MARCHANT:

H.R. 3442. A bill to provide further means of accountability of the United States debt and promote fiscal responsibility; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina:

H.R. 3443. A bill to prohibit the provision of funds under title X of the Public Health Service Act to Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc., or its affiliates, subsidiaries, successors, or clinics during a period of review by the Government Accountability Office and the Congress; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PITTS (for himself and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana):

H.R. 3444. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to reduce Medicaid and CHIP fraud in the territories of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Mr. PITTS, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia):

H.R. 3445. A bill to prohibit the sale of arms to Bahrain; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. POCAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIND, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas):

H.R. 3446. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary to provide for the use of data from the second preceding tax year to carry out the simplification of applications for the estimation and determination of financial aid eligibility, to increase the income threshold to qualify for zero expected family contribution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. FOXX:

H.R. 3447. A bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE:

H.R. 3448. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to prohibit the taking of any endangered species or threatened species of fish or wildlife in the United States as a trophy and the importation of any such trophy into the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 3449. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to extend honorary citizenship to otherwise qualified noncitizens who enlisted in the Philippines and died while serving on active duty with the United States Armed Forces during certain periods of hostilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 3450. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to prohibit private educational lenders from requiring accelerated repayment of private education loans upon the death or disability of a cosigner of the loan; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 3451. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code to make student loans dischargeable; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 3452. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income any amount awarded under a Federal Pell Grant and any portion of a scholarship used by a full-time student for room and board; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself and Mr. LUCAS):

H.R. 3453. A bill to clarify the regulatory treatment of Federal Home Loan Bank products; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. WALORSKI:

H.R. 3454. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of Energy to conduct a fuel system requirements harmonization study, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HASTINGS:

H.J. Res. 65. A joint resolution to authorize the use of the United States Armed Forces to achieve the goal of preventing Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mr. HOYER, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. REICHERT):

H. Con. Res. 73. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 2nd Annual Fallen Firefighters Congressional Flag Presentation Ceremony; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H. Con. Res. 74. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for an event to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Million Man March; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H. Res. 409. A resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to exclude certain organizations from the definition of earmark; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. GOHMERT (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. BABIN, Mr. YOHO, and Mr. BRAT):

H. Res. 410. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 does not apply to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action regarding Iran and submitted to Congress on July 19, 2015, because the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action is a treaty and, pursuant to Article II of the U.S. Constitution, the Senate must give its advice and consent to ratification if the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action is to be effective and binding upon the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

108. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Texas, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 37, urging the United States Congress to direct the Department of Defense to relocate the United States Africa Command to Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston; to the Committee on Armed Services.

109. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of California, relative to Assembly Joint Resolution No. 8, recognizing the 50th anniversary of the enactment of the Older Americans Act of 1965, and the successful implementation of that act; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

110. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Oregon, relative to House Joint Memorial 16, urging Congress to work with Turkish diplomats, European Union, and NATO allies to stop mass arrests and detainment of journalists in Turkey; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

111. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 167, urging the United States Congress and the Louisiana Congressional Delegation to take such actions as are necessary to rectify the revenue sharing inequities between coastal and interior energy producing states; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

112. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 228, urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to reestablish a right-of-way through the Lake Ophelia National Wildlife Refuge in order to provide access to property owned by the Avoyelles Parish School Board; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

113. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Missouri, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 15, calling upon the President and administration officials to support the increased importation of oil from Canadian oil sands and to approve the newly routed TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

114. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Texas, relative to House Concurrent Resolution 80, urging the Congress of the United States to provide federal funding for necessary repairs to the Battleship Texas; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

115. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 207, urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to regulate airline baggage fees and processes for consumers as it relates to transportation of passenger luggage and passenger delays resulting from lost, damaged, or delayed luggage; ; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

116. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Missouri, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 29, urging the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States to repeal the excise tax on medical devices; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

117. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of California, relative to Assembly Joint Resolution No. 2, designating the year of 2015 as ''State of California Year of Commemoration of the Centennial Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923''; jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Education and the Workforce.

118. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 225, urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to work to adopt policies that will help with the stability and the viability of the domestic shrimp industry, including support for the Imported Seafood Safety Standards Act; jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Energy and Commerce.

119. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Oregon, relative to Senate Joint Memorial 12, urging the Congress of the United States of America to support developing a solution to the financial issues that arise from the operation of the marijuana industry; jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Financial Services.

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. MARCHANT:

H.R. 3442.

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

Article I, section 8, clause 2: The Congress shall have Power . . . To borrow Money on the credit of the United States.

Article I, section 8, clause 18: The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina:

H.R. 3443.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Article 1, Section 9, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. PITTS:

H.R. 3444.

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

Article I, 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 Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mr. MCGOVERN:

H.R. 3445.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, Clause 3, and Clause 18

By Mr. DOGGETT:

H.R. 3446.

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

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

By Ms. FOXX:

H.R. 3447.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18, Congress may enact laws necessary and proper to the execution of its enumerated powers. As this legislation solely amends the amount of time available for execution of previously granted authority, it is merely technical in nature and an appropriate exercise of Congress' authority to amend its previous actions through necessary and proper statutes.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE:

H.R. 3448.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 3449.

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

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, the reported bill is authorized by Congress's power to: ''To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization. . . .''

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 3450.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 3451.

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

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 3452.

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

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia:

H.R. 3453.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (''The Congress shall have the 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; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States'')

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (The Congress shall have the power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.)

By Mrs. WALORSKI:

H.R. 3454.

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

Article I, Sec. 8, Cl. 3

By Mr. HASTINGS:

H.J. Res. 65.

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

U.S. Const. art. I, §8, cl. 11

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 20: Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. ESHOO, and Mrs. LAWRENCE.

H.R. 110: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 169: Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia.

H.R. 188: Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 209: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, and Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 217: Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 244: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER and Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina.

H.R. 249: Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 267: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 292: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MEEHAN, and Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.

H.R. 499: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 511: Mr. MCHENRY, Mrs. WALORSKI, and Mr. BYRNE.

H.R. 546: Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS.

H.R. 556: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. GRIFFITH.

H.R. 581: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 584: Mr. ASHFORD.

H.R. 592: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. JONES, and Mr. TIPTON.

H.R. 653: Mr. ABRAHAM.

H.R. 662: Mr. SCHRADER.

H.R. 671: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 682: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 700: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 702: Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, and Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 716: Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 721: Mr. STEWART, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. ASHFORD.

H.R. 731: Mr. HECK of Nevada.

H.R. 763: Mr. LANCE.

H.R. 766: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas and Mr. JOLLY.

H.R. 822: Mrs. NOEM.

H.R. 829: Mr. HECK of Washington and Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 838: Miss RICE of New York.

H.R. 842: Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. EDWARDS, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. ISSA, Mr. ROSS, and Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 845: Mr. REICHERT and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 879: Ms. MCSALLY and Mr. SMITH of Texas.

H.R. 885: Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 902: Mr. SARBANES and Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 920: Mr. PETERS and Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 921: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. GRAHAM, and Mr. ABRAHAM.

H.R. 927: Ms. JUDY CHU of California.

H.R. 932: Mr. MEEKS and Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 953: Mr. EMMER of Minnesota and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 973: Mr. CULBERSON.

H.R. 980: Mr. HARPER.

H.R. 985: Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. MICA, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. POCAN, Mr. COOK, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 1000: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 1035: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

H.R. 1054: Mr. NEWHOUSE.

H.R. 1061: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 1086: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 1101: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 1111: Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.

H.R. 1117: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 1132: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.

H.R. 1148: Mr. BOUSTANY.

H.R. 1170: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 1188: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. POLIS, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 1196: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 1197: Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 1211: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.

H.R. 1221: Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. OLSON, Ms. LOFGREN, and Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.

H.R. 1233: Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. HARRIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 1258: Ms. DELBENE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. ESTY.

H.R. 1288: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. NEAL, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. CLAWSON of Florida, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. JOYCE, Ms. ESTY, Mr. FATTAH, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. HIMES, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Ms. TSONGAS.

H.R. 1292: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. ISRAEL, and Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 1298: Mr. MCCAUL.

H.R. 1299: Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia.

H.R. 1301: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

H.R. 1303: Ms. HAHN.

H.R. 1304: Ms. HAHN.

H.R. 1309: Mr. NEUGEBAUER.

H.R. 1312: Ms. DELAURO, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. GABBARD, and Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 1321: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 1344: Mr. RANGEL and Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 1356: Mrs. COMSTOCK.

H.R. 1375: Mr. ISRAEL, Miss RICE of New York, and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 1384: Mr. HIMES, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. O'ROURKE.

H.R. 1399: Mr. SMITH of Texas.

H.R. 1401: Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee and Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 1424: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 1427: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 1434: Mr. PIERLUISI.

H.R. 1439: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 1441: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 1462: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, and Mr. MACARTHUR.

H.R. 1464: Ms. LEE, Ms. HAHN, and Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 1475: Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 1496: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 1516: Mr. TAKANO, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania

H.R. 1550: Mr. CÁRDENAS and Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 1552: Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1559: Mr. LANCE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. NUNES, Ms. FUDGE, and Mr. BOST.

H.R. 1567: Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, and Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 1568: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. HIGGINS.

H.R. 1571: Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mrs. BUSTOS.

H.R. 1594: Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. HIGGINS.

H.R. 1603: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.

H.R. 1608: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. SHUSTER, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 1610: Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, and Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 1624: Mr. BRAT, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MARINO, and Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS.

H.R. 1644: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. ROTHFUS.

H.R. 1655: Mr. VAN HOLLEN and Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 1706: Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.

H.R. 1714: Mr. COLLINS of New York and Mr. SHUSTER.

H.R. 1718: Mr. WESTMORELAND and Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 1725: Ms. KUSTER and Mrs. COMSTOCK.

H.R. 1726: Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 1739: Mr. HECK of Nevada.

H.R. 1749: Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 1752: Mr. BARLETTA.

H.R. 1763: Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 1769: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. MENG, Mr. JONES, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, and Mr. BISHOP of Utah.

H.R. 1786: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. NEAL, Mr. COHEN, Ms. GRAHAM, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 1818: Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 1854: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 1856: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 1859: Mr. KING of New York, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LANCE, and Mr. COFFMAN.

H.R. 1887: Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 1901: Mr. FINCHER.

H.R. 1902: Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 1908: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 1934: Mr. FARENTHOLD.

H.R. 1942: Mr. NADLER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. TONKO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 1943: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. MOORE, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 1988: Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 1989: Mr. HARDY.

H.R. 1996: Mr. MCCAUL.

H.R. 2009: Mr. SCHWEIKERT.

H.R. 2016: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 2017: Mr. HARPER and Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.

H.R. 2027: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 2037: Mr. ADERHOLT.

H.R. 2044: Mr. TROTT.

H.R. 2050: Ms. GABBARD, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. GRAHAM, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. ASHFORD, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. VISCLOSKY.

H.R. 2061: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.

H.R. 2076: Mr. HECK of Nevada and Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 2083: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2096: Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. HURT of Virginia, and Mr. FARR.

H.R. 2102: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 2114: Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 2147: Ms. ADAMS and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 2148: Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia.

H.R. 2150: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 2173: Mr. CLAY.

H.R. 2191: Mr. COFFMAN.

H.R. 2210: Mr. COFFMAN.

H.R. 2216: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 2229: Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 2257: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2266: Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. FUDGE, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 2287: Mr. ASHFORD and Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.

H.R. 2303: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 2311: Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 2315: Mr. GALLEGO.

H.R. 2327: Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 2368: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 2369: Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 2391: Ms. FUDGE and Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 2407: Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 2449: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. MENG, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 2460: Mr. PIERLUISI, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. NEAL, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. BISHOP of Utah.

H.R. 2461: Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 2494: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. HONDA, Mr. O'ROURKE, and Ms. LEE.

H.R. 2513: Mr. HILL and Mr. BARTON.

H.R. 2524: Mr. MCDERMOTT.

H.R. 2540: Mr. GUTHRIE.

H.R. 2568: Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Mrs. BLACKBURN.

H.R. 2595: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 2602: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.

H.R. 2609: Mr. JORDAN.

H.R. 2643: Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. KING of New York.

H.R. 2652: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.

H.R. 2658: Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 2660: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 2675: Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. CRAMER and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.

H.R. 2713: Mr. SMITH of Texas, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, and Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 2716: Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 2730: Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina.

H.R. 2737: Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. NEWHOUSE, and Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 2749: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 2753: Mr. HECK of Nevada.

H.R. 2759: Ms. ESHOO and Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 2764: Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 2766: Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.

H.R. 2769: Mr. DUFFY.

H.R. 2799: Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 2802: Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 2808: Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 2815: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 2846: Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 2847: Mr. CRAMER, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. KING of New York.

H.R. 2849: Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 2853: Mr. STEWART.

H.R. 2855: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 2858: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. KEATING, Mr. TONKO, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 2867: Mr. MOULTON, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. MOORE, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. DELANEY, and Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 2894: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Mr. ZELDIN.

H.R. 2900: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 2901: Mr. EMMER of Minnesota, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.

H.R. 2912: Mr. RUSSELL.

H.R. 2913: Mr. SANFORD.

H.R. 2920: Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. COURTNEY, Mrs. BEATTY, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 2923: Mr. RICHMOND.

H.R. 2938: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 2940: Ms. HAHN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. POLIQUIN, Mr. WALDEN, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 2948: Mr. NUGENT, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. MARCHANT.

H.R. 2972: Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 2994: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2998: Mr. DUFFY.

H.R. 3011: Mr. LANCE and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.

H.R. 3013: Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.R. 3025: Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California.
H.R. 3035: Mr. DUFFY.
H.R. 3037: Ms. ESHOO and Mr. BRAT.
H.R. 3040: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 3048: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 3052: Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 3067: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. SABLAN, and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 3071: Mr. GRAYSON.
H.R. 3072: Mr. COLLINS of New York.
H.R. 3092: Mr. COFFMAN.
H.R. 3093: Mr. RENACCI.
H.R. 3099: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 3110: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Mr. GUTIÉRREZ.
H.R. 3118: Mr. MACARTHUR.
H.R. 3123: Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia.
H.R. 3126: Mr. HENSARLING and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 3134: Mr. WOODALL.
H.R. 3136: Mr. MCCLINTOCK and Mr. COLLINS of Georgia.
H.R. 3137: Mr. MACARTHUR, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Mr. JONES.
H.R. 3138: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. HARRIS, and Mr. LOUDERMILK.
H.R. 3139: Mr. ZELDIN, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BARR, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mr. GIBSON.
H.R. 3150: Mr. BUTTERFIELD and Mr. Pierluisi.
H.R. 3151: Mr. SCHWEIKERT and Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 3155: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 3156: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 3158: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 3164: Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. ENGEL, and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 3171: Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia.
H.R. 3177: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 3180: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.
H.R. 3184: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 3193: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 3197: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 3199: Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 3229: Mr. JOYCE, Mr. TIBERI, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3237: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 3243: Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 3248: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 3251: Mr. HUELSKAMP and Mr. POMPEO.
H.R. 3278: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 3285: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 3287: Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 3290: Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PAYNE and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 3296: Mr. FLORES.
H.R. 3308: Mr. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 3309: Mr. HECK of Nevada.
H.R. 3326: Ms. NORTON and Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 3337: Ms. FUDGE and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3338: Ms. NORTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. HANNA, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. HENSARLING, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. ROSS, Ms. ESTY, and Mr. ROKITA.
H.R. 3339: Mr. DESJARLAIS and Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
H.R. 3340: Mr. BARR.
H.R. 3341: Mr. HONDA, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 3364: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. MOORE, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 3365: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 3366: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. BROWN of Florida.
H.R. 3378: Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GALLEGO, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 3393: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.
H.R. 3403: Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H.R. 3406: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3411: Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 3423: Mr. ROTHFUS and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 3441: Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.J. Res. 1: Mr. MILLER of Florida and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.J. Res. 2: Mr. MILLER of Florida and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.J. Res. 14: Mr. MULVANEY.
H.J. Res. 51: Ms. GRAHAM.
H.J. Res. 52: Mr. CARNEY, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KIND, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. SIRES, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VELA, and Mr. REED.
H.J. Res. 58: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.J. Res. 64: Mr. COOK, Mr. MCCAUL, Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California, Ms. FOXX, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. DENT, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, and Mr. NUNES.
H. Con. Res. 17: Mr. BOST and Ms. SINEMA.
H. Con. Res. 33: Mr. DELANEY.
H. Con. Res. 49: Mr. TED LIEU of California.
H. Con. Res. 65: Ms. PINGREE, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. MOORE, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. GRAYSON, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. GALLEGO, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H. Con. Res. 69: Mr. CHABOT.
H. Res. 28: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. CUELLAR.
H. Res. 130: Ms. BASS and Ms. LOFGREN.
H. Res. 145: Mr. FARR, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PALLONE, and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H. Res. 177: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H. Res. 210: Mr. HONDA.
H. Res. 211: Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H. Res. 214: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. MOULTON, and Mrs. LOWEY.
H. Res. 220: Mr. FARR, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. POSEY, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. COURTNEY.
H. Res. 230: Ms. ESTY, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Ms. FUDGE, and Mrs. BUSTOS.
H. Res. 286: Mrs. BUSTOS.
H. Res. 289: Mr. LYNCH and Miss RICE of New York.
H. Res. 290: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H. Res. 294: Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Ms. ESHOO.
H. Res. 343: Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. WALZ, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. FLORES, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H. Res. 346: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H. Res. 367: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania and Mr. DENT.
H. Res. 374: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H. Res. 402: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. CHAFFETZ

The provisions of H.J. Res. 64, Disapproving of the agreement transmitted to Congress by the President on July 19, 2015, relating to the nuclear program of Iran, that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of House rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. GOODLATTE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Judiciary in H.J. Res. 64 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. HENSARLING

The provisions in H.J. Res. 64 that warranted a referral to the Committee on Financial Services do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE

The provisions of H.J. Res. 64 (Disapproving of the agreement transmitted to Congress by the President on July 19, 2015, relating to the nuclear program of Iran) that warranted a referral to the Committee on Foreign Affairs do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. RYAN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Ways and Means in H.J. Res. 64, ''Disapproving of the agreement transmitted to Congress by the President on July 19, 2015, relating to the nuclear program of Iran,'' do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

H.R. 3412: Mr. VEASEY.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the Clerk's desk and referred as follows:

19. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the City Commission of the City of Lauderhill, FL, relative to Resolution No. 15R-07-161, condemning the Dominican Republic's impending mass deportation of Haitian immigrants; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

20. Also, a petition of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, Oakland County, MI, relative to Miscellaneous Resolution No. 15154, objecting to the development of a nuclear waste repository in close proximity to the Great Lakes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

21. Also, a petition of City Council of Anaheim, CA, relative to Resolution No. 2015-222, urging the 114th United States Congress to adopt H.R. 2140 — The Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2015, that would attach human rights conditions to trade and security agreements with Vietnam to promote freedom, human rights, and the rule of law as

part of United States-Vietnam relations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

22. Also, a petition of Mr. Gregory D. Watson, a citizen of Austin, TX, relative to urging Congress to propose, for ratification by special conventions held within the individual states, an amendment to the United States Constitution which would require that at least one of the two houses of Congress approve, by majority vote of all members elected and serving in that body, a reprieve or pardon granted by the President of the United States to a person earlier having been properly found guilty of committing an offense against the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

23. Also, a petition of the New Orleans City Council, Louisiana, relative to Resolution No.: R-15-337, recognizing August 6, 2015, as the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Voting Rights Act of 1965; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

24. Also, a petition of the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, CA, relative to Resolution No. 270-15, commemorating the 71st Anniversary of the Port Chicago disaster and urging the President of the United States and the U.S. Congress to exonerate the 50 sailors convicted of mutiny in the incident with the designation of Honorable Discharge; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and the Judiciary.

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Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 161 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 No. 128

Senate

The Senate met at 2 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, our King, we praise You for providing for our needs. Great is Your faithfulness.

Abide with our lawmakers, enabling them to discover the unshakeable even as they labor during shaken times. In this perishable world, show them what is truly secure and constant. Lord, keep them humble, tolerant, and open-minded, always aware of their limited, fallible knowledge. Remind them that the anvil of Your everlasting truth will wear out the many hammers of skepticism, cynicism, and despair.

Lord, thank You for being the same yesterday, today, and forever.

We pray in Your great 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 (Mr. BARRASSO). The majority leader is recognized.

IRAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today we will begin consideration of the resolution to disapprove the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action negotiated by China, France, Germany, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the United States. This resolution seeks to constrain Iran's nuclear weapons program. I will ask all Senators to be present in the Chamber beginning tomorrow afternoon to commence debate on this important issue.

Let me extend my appreciation for the time and research many of our colleagues have given to understanding the details, the strengths, and the weaknesses of this agreement. For many, this has been a very difficult decision. For some, it was made even more difficult by assertions from the administration that the only choice was between this agreement and war. Of course, that was never, never true. All such political statements really say is that the administration lacks the will and the leadership to pursue a stronger agreement, additional sanctions, and policies intended to end Iran's enrichment program if it cannot attain congressional agreement on the President's deal with Iran.

The Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act passed the Senate by a vote of 98 to 1 earlier this year. It provided each of us with the opportunity to truly represent our constituents on this important issue. I expect that every Senator who voted for that measure is now entitled to an up-or-down vote—not a filibuster or artificial limits on passage but an important vote—on this resolution.

Along with the Americans we were sent here to represent, countries, businesses, and proliferation networks seeking to expand ties with Iran stand to have a simple question answered. All of the people involved in this around the world deserve to have a simple question answered: Does the Senate disapprove of this deal with Iran? Does the Senate disapprove of this deal with Iran? The Senate should not hide behind procedural obfuscation to shield the President or our individual views.

This debate should not be about a President who will leave office in 16 months; it should be about where our country will be in 16 years.

The Democratic leader said that his party strove to preserve the Corker-Cardin bill and that it was incumbent on Congress to review this agreement with the thoughtful, level-headed process this agreement deserves. I agree that is exactly what is needed right now. I know that is exactly what nearly every Senator in this body voted for. And I call on every Senator to resist attempts to obstruct a final vote and deny the American people and Congress the say they deserve on this extremely important matter.

The facts have already led many of our Democratic colleagues—including the top Democrat on the Foreign Relations Committee in the Senate and the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House, as well as the likely next leader of the Democratic Party in the Senate—to come out in opposition to this agreement. Certainly those were not easy decisions for them. But these Democrats are joined in their skepticism by Americans of every political persuasion who believe this deal will make our country less safe—less safe.

Even those lawmakers who have come out in favor of the President's agreement use terms such as ''deeply flawed'' to describe it. Let's remember why that is. The American people were led to believe that negotiations with Iran would be about ending its nuclear program, but that is not what the deal before us would do. We know the President's deal with Iran will not end its nuclear program but will instead leave Iran with a threshold nuclear capability recognized as legitimate by the international community—quite the opposite of the original goal. We know the President's deal with Iran will leave it with thousands of centrifuges, an advanced research and development program, and access to billions of dollars, at least some of which the President himself has acknowledged will be used to support terrorism. We know

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

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the President's deal with Iran will allow it to further ballistic missile research and strengthen its economy. In short, by almost any measure, we know Iran will emerge stronger from this deal in nearly every aspect of its national power and better positioned to expand its sphere of influence.

The Iranian nuclear program was never intended to produce nuclear energy for peaceful civilian purposes. That was never what they had in mind. Certainly Iran does not need an underground enrichment facility for those purposes or long-range ballistic missiles. Iran has employed every aspect of national power to defend the regime and the Islamic revolution to include support for terrorism, unconventional warfare, public diplomacy, cyber warfare, suppression of internal dissent, and, of course, support for proxies and terrorist groups.

We already know Iran is undertaking many activities relevant to the development of a nuclear explosive device. As the International Atomic Energy Agency revealed in a November 2011 report, it has attempted to, No. 1, procure nuclear-related equipment and materials through individuals and entities related to the military; No. 2, develop pathways for the production of nuclear material; No. 3, acquire nuclear weapons development information and documentation from a clandestine nuclear supply network; and No. 4, develop an indigenous design of a nuclear weapon, as well as test components. All of that has been done, according to the IAEA.

Moreover, as Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger and George Shultz recently observed:

> The final stages of the nuclear talks have coincided with Iran's intensified efforts to expand and entrench its power in neighboring states.

They warned:

> Iranian or Iranian client forces are now the pre-eminent military or political element in multiple Arab countries. Unless political restraint is linked to nuclear restraint, an agreement freeing Iran from sanctions risks empowering Iran's hegemonic efforts.

I will have more to say later in the week concerning my opposition to this agreement, and I expect every Senator will wish to explain his or her respective vote. But I would ask every Senator to keep this in mind as well: The President has said that ''no deal is better than a bad deal.'' And while he will be out of office in a few months, the rest of the country and the world will have to deal with the predictable consequences of the President's deal for far longer than the next year and a half.

If lawmakers determine that this deal is indeed a bad one, then they have a duty to vote that way. We can work together to prepare suitable sanctions legislation and other measures required to maintain our capabilities to deal with the threat from Iran, but no matter what, we should conduct a respectful and serious debate that is consistent with the serious ramifications of this agreement.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader is recognized.

WELCOMING EVERYONE BACK

Mr. REID. Mr. President, first of all, I am very happy to welcome everyone back from our long recess. I am sure everyone worked as hard as I did. I had a week off, and I enjoyed it very much.

I also think it is important to recognize the new class of pages we have. I am always very happy to see these bright young men and women here who will devote the rest of the semester to us. They do so much and get so little recognition for it, so I appreciate all they do for us.

NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH IRAN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I gave a speech this morning at Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and it is, I think, directly how I feel about this. I am glad it got some coverage this morning.

I ask unanimous consent that the full remarks of the speech I made this morning at 10 o'clock be printed in the RECORD.

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

SENATOR HARRY REID: REMARKS ON IRAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT, CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

When the Senate is gaveled into session a few hours from now, a debate that has ignited passions from Tehran to Tel Aviv, from Beijing to Berlin, and from coast to coast across the United States will take center stage in the world's greatest deliberative body.

The question at hand is no small matter: Is the agreement between Iran and the international community, led by the United States, the best pathway to peace and security for America, Israel and our partners and interests?

I believe the answer is yes. And today I am gratified to say to my fellow Americans, our negotiating partners, and our allies around the world: this agreement will stand. America will uphold its commitment and we will seize this opportunity to stop Iran from getting a nuclear weapon.

While the formal debate begins this afternoon, the private negotiations that brought us to this point have been going on for years—and the public's review of the agreement has gone on for months.

During that long period, President Obama and Secretary Kerry were clear in their goals: above all, that the United States will not allow Iran to obtain a nuclear weapon.

The United States also would not sign any agreement that takes Iran at its word or relies on trust Iran has not earned.

And at the most difficult crossroads of this time-consuming and technical negotiation, President Obama and Secretary Kerry made clear that the hard choices belonged to Iran.

Now it's our turn. Now the United States has a choice to make: We can enforce an agreement that forces Iran to walk away from any nuclear-weapons program, or we can walk away from that agreement and assume responsibility for the consequences.

We can take the strongest step ever toward blocking Iran from getting a nuclear bomb, or we can block this agreement and all but ensure Iran will have the fissile material it would need to make a bomb in a matter of months. But we cannot have it both ways.

Make no mistake: blocking the bomb and blocking this agreement are two distinct choices that lead to very different futures.

I've spent a lot of time talking, listening, and thinking about the various elements of this agreement, and so have my colleagues. I've heard from nuclear scientists, the intelligence community and our military leaders.

I've listened to diplomats and experts.

I've been briefed by Secretary Kerry and Undersecretary Sherman, by Secretaries Lew and Moniz—the brilliant nuclear physicist who knows more than almost anyone of the reality of this threat, the science behind the agreement and the agreement itself.

I've heard ardent supporters and passionate opponents. I've talked with Nevadans from all walks of life. I've spoken with Israel's leaders, including Prime Minister Netanyahu and Ambassador Dermer. And I've read the text of this agreement carefully.

In all my years, I cannot think of another debate with so much expertise, passions and good faith on both sides.

It is clear to me and to the overwhelming majority of my caucus that this agreement gives us the best chance to avoid one of the worst threats in today's world—a nuclear-armed Iran. In fact, I believe this agreement is not just our best chance to avert what we fear most—I fear it is our last best chance to do so.

Before I explain why, let me first acknowledge some of the people who helped us get to this historic moment.

I mentioned President Obama and his Cabinet Secretaries, who achieved a remarkable diplomatic breakthrough.

I also want to acknowledge my colleagues, led by Senator Menendez, who helped set the stage for those negotiations by rallying the Senate and the world behind sanctions that brought Iran to the negotiating table.

I also acknowledge Senators Cardin and Corker for their leadership. The legislation they wrote created the process to review the agreement in the Congress.

I support this agreement—and the United States Senate will support President Obama's veto of any effort to undermine it—for two simple reasons:

First, this agreement will do a tremendous amount of good.

And second, blocking this agreement would lead to a tremendous amount of bad outcomes.

The bottom line is that enforcing this agreement can prevent the things we most dread—but undermining it would permit those very same dreadful consequences.

And those consequences are, in fact, unacceptable.

We all recognize the threat Iran poses to Israel, with powerful weapons and hateful words, with anti-Semitic smears and pledges of the Jewish state's destruction. No one can underestimate this menace. And no one should dismiss how much more dangerous Iran would be in this regard if it were armed with a nuclear bomb.

We also recognize the threat of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps—the threat from Iran's support for Hezbollah and Assad—of Iran's brazen human rights violations toward its own people and the Americans it holds as political prisoners and those who have disappeared. We recognize the danger Iran poses

to our allies, our interests, and our own troops and diplomats serving in the Middle East.

No one is blind to the threat Iran poses. But again, no one should forget that Iran would become a threat of an entirely different magnitude if it ever were to have a nuclear weapon. I cannot think of a single challenge in the region that wouldn't get worse in that nightmare scenario.

That is why our goal, first and foremost, must be to keep Iran from getting its hands on one.

We have no illusions about the Iranian regime—which is exactly why when we are presented with the best way to stop its nuclear ambitions, we must not let that chance slip through our fingers. We must support and enforce the agreement we have reached.

The agreement that Congress now assumes the responsibility to review does a better job than any other proposal of reducing Iran's chance to get a bomb.

When our negotiators came to the table, they did so with Andrew Carnegie's advice in mind. The man who gave his name and fortune to this institution once said that ''our duty is with what is practicable now—with the next step possible in our day and generation.''

In our day, we know it is not practical to bomb away knowledge of how to build a nuclear weapon or erase that knowledge with sanctions. So our negotiators said, even though we cannot take away the recipe to build a bomb, we can take away both the ingredients and the use of equipment to cook one. That's what we're doing—but only if the United States upholds and enforces this agreement.

The good news is this agreement does more than take away Iran's ability to build a bomb—it gives us the ability to watch its every move.

Through strict limits and intrusive inspections, this agreement takes away Iran's highly enriched material, and takes away Iran's ability to make more of it.

This agreement takes away Iran's ability to build any facilities or fissile material secretly and with impunity.

The agreement Iran signed forbids it from pursuing, building, or having a nuclear weapon ever. There is no expiration date on that commitment—and it is not grounded in any way in trust.

This isn't a peace treaty with Iran or a gift out of the goodness of our hearts. If we trusted Iran, we wouldn't need the video cameras and inspectors and seals and all manner of technology to make sure Iran complies.

We're not asking Iran to promise us anything and taking it at its word—we are demanding Iran prove to us it is complying with every last letter of this agreement.

Before it gets sanctions relief, Iran has to take specific actions. And if it doesn't happen, as some fear, sanctions will be imposed on Iran.

We have done everything possible to make sure that if Iran cheats, we'll know, we'll know quickly, and we'll act immediately and with the international community behind us.

That makes us safer. That makes Israel safer. That makes the world safer. That's what nuclear experts around the world know, what diplomats know, and what the overwhelming majority of my caucus knows. That is why this agreement will stand.

And to make sure this agreement succeeds, Congress must provide the oversight to ensure monitoring and enforce verification. At the same time, Congress must continue to hold the line against Iranian arms trafficking, its funding of terrorism, and demanding the return of Americans who have been taken as political prisoners and those who disappeared—priorities that were never meant to be part of this negotiation but must never be forgotten.

This agreement offers a number of different ways to cut off Iran's pathways to a bomb. There is, on the other hand, one surefire way to open Iran's path to destruction—and that is to reject this agreement.

As I mentioned, the second reason I support this agreement is because of what happens if we walk away from it. That would leave Iran with no limitations on any nuclear weapons program and leave the United States with no leverage to do anything about it.

If we walk away from the agreement we helped secure, think about what happens the very next day: Iran gets to keep as many centrifuges as it wants, and build as many more as it would like. Iran gets to build its stockpile of the kind of uranium and plutonium you'd need to build a bomb. Iran gets to test more advanced technologies that bring it closer to a bomb—and to do so as quickly as it wants. And when those weapons are ready, Iran gets to point them at Israel—or worse, launch them and make good on its threat to wipe Israel off the map.

Iran also gets to kick out the inspectors and hide all of this from the world.

Forget worries about 15 years or 20 years from now. All of this is what would happen tomorrow.

If we walk away from this agreement, the international sanctions regime also falls apart, meaning the tool Congress imposed to bring Iran to the table disappears from our arsenal.

Sanctions don't work if it's our idea alone—the world has to be on the same page. Here's why: America doesn't do business with Iran. We haven't for decades. But other countries made their own economic sacrifices in the name of pressuring Iran—and now they want to buy Iran's oil and trade with it.

So as much as we'd like for the sanctions that brought Iran to the table to also bring Iran to its knees, it's only with international cooperation that sanctions actually do anything. Like it or not, we need our partners in this effort. And our partners have told us in no uncertain terms that if the United States walks away, we'll walk away alone.

Sanctions have isolated Iran and brought us to this moment. But if we squander it and turn our backs on our international partners, it is we—the United States—who will be isolated. And worse, we would surrender our leverage to negotiate in the future.

Put it all together, and what does it mean if America blocks this agreement instead of blocking Iran's pathways to a bomb? It means Iran gets more money and more impunity to develop a nuclear weapon. It means we get far less scrutiny and far less security. It means we'll have put ourselves at a disadvantage at the very moment we let Iran become more dangerous.

Of course we still have the military option. President Obama has been crystal clear about that. But military strikes cannot solve this problem nearly as effectively as the solution before us today. Clearly, a military option could also come with significant costs and risks for both Israel and the United States. After all, that's why diplomacy is our first resort and the military option is our last.

This is why I believe blocking the agreement would actually achieve the opposite of what opponents intend. Instead of being tougher on Iran, voting against this agreement is a vote against a smart international sanctions regime, against inspections, against any international requirement that Iran backs off its nuclear program in any way. Blocking this agreement pushes the Iranians closer to a bomb rather than pushing it farther away.

General Brent Scowcroft's national-security expertise served four Republican presidents. As he said, we would be sowing further turmoil in the Middle East rather than seizing a chance and a responsibility to stabilize it. That would be a tragedy of our own making—one we cannot allow.

I respect greatly the concerns I've heard about what this agreement means for Israel. I believe this agreement makes Israel safer, and in no small part that is why I support it.

Over my decades in the Senate, my support for the safety and security of the Israeli people has been at the core of my views on the Middle East and the national security of the United States. From the Bonds for Israel dinners I attended 50 years ago, to the history of my own wife's family, my support for the State of Israel and the Jewish people has been personal and unimpeachable. And I have not been afraid to disagree with the President of the United States when it comes to Israel, whether on settlements or when the Administration opposed Congress passing specific sanctions.

We must build on our firm commitment to make sure Israel can defend itself. It will take more money and military support, but we must provide the one true democracy in the region and the one and only Jewish state in the world with the resources it needs.

The United States must also maintain its staunch support of Israel, including by using our veto in the United Nations for resolutions that isolate Israel unfairly or make it less secure.

I have read closely the letter that Secretary Kerry sent to the Senate on September 2. That letter lays out a number of important steps that the United States would take to support Israel's security.

One of those steps is protecting Israel's Qualitative Military Edge. Another is negotiating a new ten-year Memorandum of Understanding on military assistance. And yet another step is continuing to work with Israel on joint efforts to deal with shared threats, as well as confronting both conventional and asymmetric threats.

I've also closely reviewed the legislation that Senator Cardin is proposing, which will provide additional security assistance and assurances to Israel.

After looking at the letter and the legislation, I plan work with the White House and with both Democrats and Republicans to guarantee that the United States is doing everything possible to protect the safety and security of Israel.

And as the Administration has promised, we'll continue funding the missile-defense system that has already saved so many Israeli civilian lives. We'll also grow our strategic relationship even stronger, collaborating to detect and destroy tunnels used to terrorize Israeli civilians.

Now, after all the good this agreement will do in blocking Iran's pathways to a bomb—after all the dangers rejecting it will do by letting Iran grow more dangerous while our clout and credibility slip down the drain—after all the assurances that our commitment to Israel's security is stronger than ever—after all that, some still say they want a better deal.

But there is no such thing. There is no more plausible alternative. There is no better deal.

Opponents of this agreement, who I respect, talk often about how very real the Iranian threat is to Israel and the region—and it absolutely is. But for all the talk about what is real, the idea that we can somehow get a better deal is imaginary.

Diplomats, scientists and our international counterparts tell us it is fantasy. The agreement before us is the result of many years of hard work. We live in the real world—and in

the real world, this really is the best option to keep Iran from a nuclear bomb.

Let me say a brief word about the details of getting this done.

The Senate, of course, has an important oversight role to play. When we voted nearly unanimously for the Iran Review Act, we voted to give the Senate that role. We voted to consider three possible outcomes: no action at all, a resolution of approval, or a resolution of disapproval. It is absurd to argue—as some are doing now—that by voting for a process with three possible and very different outcomes, senators somehow obligated themselves to vote to advance a specific outcome. They did no such thing.

I hope we can avoid the usual and unnecessary procedural hurdles. Democrats have already agreed to forgo our opportunity to filibuster, and I've offered Leader McConnell the chance to go straight to a vote on passage of the resolution. But of course, as he has noted many times in the past, everything of importance in the Senate requires 60 votes. So passage will require 60 votes.

There is no precedent in recent history for an issue of this magnitude getting consideration in the Senate without having to secure 60 votes. This is not about how any one leader manages the floor—this is a precedent stretching back decades.

Finally, of all the many important things at stake here, American leadership is one of them.

After convening our international partners in common cause, rallying the world behind tough sanctions, after negotiating and negotiating and negotiating some more—the way America acts now will inform the way we are viewed on the world stage and the credibility with which we can negotiate in the future.

If America reneges on this agreement, we will lose more than the compliance of our adversary—we will lose the confidence of our allies.

America led the negotiations to stop any Iranian nuclear program, and now it is time for Congress to reaffirm America's leadership by supporting this agreement. We cannot and will not allow Iran to have a nuclear weapon. Neither the United States, nor Israel, our Gulf partners, a volatile Middle East, or anyone in the world can risk that danger. I believe it is our responsibility to avoid that threat.

Let's heed Andrew Carnegie's reminder of our duty to respect what is practical and to respond with pragmatic solutions—solutions like the one before us. As he said, ''When a statesman has in his keeping the position and interests of his country, it is not with things as they are to be in the future, but with things as they are in the present.''

The agreement on the table at present is a good one.

It is our best chance to ensure Iran never builds the worst weapon on earth. I will do everything in my power to make sure it is enforced and effective—to make sure, in turn, we are safer and more secure—in our day and generation, and in the days and generations to come.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I note that there are a lot of things in this speech that I think are important, but the one thing certainly that is so vitally important is that no one has come up with an alternative. Any alternative is imaginary. It is fantasy land. I speak about that in my remarks.

Today we face one of the most critical national security issues of our time: whether to support the Iran agreement which would stop Iran from getting a nuclear weapon. That is what the agreement is—to stop Iran from getting nuclear weapons.

From the beginning, Senate Democrats have done everything possible to move the debate on the Iran agreement forward in the quickest way possible. We agreed to skip procedural votes and allow the Senate to begin debate on the resolution itself. And today I am proposing that the Senate move forward in the most efficient way possible. I am proposing that after the Senate concludes 3 days of serious debate on this issue, we then move to a vote on passage of the resolution, of course with a 60-vote threshold. But Republicans are insisting that the Senate go through all procedural steps, including cloture, on their own bill.

As the Republican leader, Senator MCCONNELL, has stated numerous times—not a few times, not many times, but numerous times—requiring 60 votes on matters of enormous importance is simply ''the way the Senate operates.''

Here are a few examples of the statements he has made. I could spend literally all afternoon talking about quotes that are very similar to what I am about to recite. July 30, 2011, Senator MCCONNELL:

Now, look, we know that on controversial matters in the Senate, it has for quite some time required 60 votes. So I would say again to my friend—

That is me—

it is pretty hard to make a credible case that denying a vote on your own proposal is anything other than a filibuster.

Listen, everybody, that is what Senator MCCONNELL said. Again, just a few days later:

I wish to make clear to the American people Senate Republicans are ready to vote on cloture on the Reid proposal in 30 minutes, in an hour, as soon as we can get our colleagues over to the floor. We are ready to vote. By requiring 60 votes, particularly on a matter of this enormous importance, is not at all unusual. It is the way the Senate operates.

Again he came back a few months later:

Mr. President, I can only quote my good friend the majority leader who repeatedly has said, most recently in 2007, that in the Senate it has always been the case we need 60 votes. This is my good friend the majority leader when he was the leader of this majority in March of 2007, and he said it repeatedly both when he was in the minority as leader of the minority or leader of the majority, that it requires 60 votes certainly on measures that are controversial.

He also said a short time later:

So who gets to decide who is wasting time around here? None of us. None of us have that authority to decide who is wasting time. But the way you make things happen is you get 60 votes at some point, and you move a matter to conclusion, and the best way to do that is to have an open amendment process. That is the way this place used to operate.

So says Senator MCCONNELL.

A few months later:

Madam President, reserving the right to object, what we are talking about is a perpetual debt ceiling grant, in effect, to the President. Matters of this level of controversy always require 60 votes. So I would ask my friend—

That is me—

if he would modify his consent request to set the threshold for this vote at 60?

We could fill in month by month, but let's go to August 6 of this year, just a short time ago:

Well, as we all know, it takes 60 votes to do everything except the budget process. We anticipate having a vote to proceed to the 20-week Pain-Capable bill sometime before the end of the year as well.

Recently, the Republican leader told his own Senators and conservative news outlets that any attempts to defund Planned Parenthood or repeal ObamaCare would need at least 60 votes. So why is the Iran agreement any different? It isn't.

Even more perplexing is that some would argue that because the Senate passed the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act, all Senators would then be obligated to vote for any cloture vote. Voting for the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act was a vote to review the agreement, not a commitment to vote either for or against it. Voting for the Iran review act did not commit any Senator to take a particular position on the Iran agreement. Voting for the Iran review act was simply a vote to review the Iran agreement, and that is what we have done. It was a vote for three possible outcomes: a resolution of approval, a resolution of disapproval, or no action at all. It did not and does not obligate Senators to advance any one result. The Iran review act clearly included a 60-vote threshold for either a resolution of approval or disapproval. That is it. Every Senator knew that. For any Senator to suggest otherwise is absurd and factually wrong. Incorrect.

No Senator who voted for the Iran review act voted to give up the 60-vote threshold. In fact, everyone who voted for it actually voted for the 60-vote threshold. In fact, one Republican Member, the junior Senator from Arkansas, said the reason he didn't vote for it is because it required a 60-vote threshold.

If, however, we are forced to have a vote on cloture, it will be because the Republican leader has rejected Democrats' reasonable and responsible proposal.

There is not on either side of this aisle a more respected U.S. Senator than the Senator from Virginia, TIM KAINE. He was coauthor of the Iran nuclear agreement, referred to properly as the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act. He said this morning:

I was the co-author of the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act under which Congress is considering the international agreement to prohibit Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. The bipartisan bill—to give Congress a deliberate and constructive review of the final nuclear agreement with Iran—was drafted so that 60 votes would be required in the Senate to pass either a motion of approval or a motion of disapproval.

Let me read this again. One of the people who helped write this bill, a respected Member of this body, said:

I was the co-author of the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act under which Congress

is considering the international agreement to prohibit Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. The bipartisan bill—to give Congress a deliberate and constructive review of the final nuclear agreement with Iran—was drafted so that 60 votes would be required in the Senate to pass either a motion of approval or a motion of disapproval.

He continued:

We should follow the procedure that was explicitly discussed and agreed to when we voted on this act, which passed the Senate 98 to 1.

That is a direct quote from one of the authors of this legislation.

It was never any Senator's intention to forgo the 60-vote threshold.

Republicans are trying to pull a bait-and-switch that is born out of desperation. They haven't had a good August; let's face it.

Are Republicans stalling on this issue so they don't have to work with Democrats to keep our government open and funded? There wasn't a day that went by during the recess that we didn't have some Republican Senator talk about closing the government. Every time that happened, the Republican leader would say: Well, we are not going to do that. So there is a lot of talk among Republican circles about the Republicans doing everything they can to force votes on things that have nothing to do with funding this government long term. So are Republicans stalling on this issue so they don't have to work with Democrats to keep our government open and funded? Do they want to wait until the last minute to jam us with something?

Are Republicans stalling on this issue so they don't have to work with us on a bipartisan cyber security bill? Every day that goes by without legislation in this body is a day that bad guys are doing bad things to our businesses and to our country—stealing our names and addresses, trade secrets, everything they can, is what they are doing.

Perhaps Republicans are stalling on this critical legislation so they don't have to address our distressed infrastructure, insolvent highway system, crumbling roads and bridges?

I hope that instead of forcing the Senate to jump through unnecessary procedural hurdles, the Republicans will join with the Senate Democrats and agree to vote on final passage.

It takes a lot of nerve for the Republican leader, after the numerous speeches he has given about the 60-vote threshold on everything important—is he suggesting this Iran agreement is not important?

Let's hope that instead of forcing the Senate to jump through unnecessary procedural hurdles—in fact, the Republicans are filibustering their own resolution. I hope they will join with Senate Democrats and agree to vote on final passage.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

HIRE MORE HEROES ACT OF 2015

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.J. Res. 61, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 61) amending 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

AMENDMENT NO. 2640

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a substitute amendment at the desk that I ask the clerk to report.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 2640.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

Strike line three and all that follows and insert:

That Congress does not favor the agreement transmitted by the President to Congress on July 19, 2015, under subsection (a) of section 135 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2160e) for purposes of prohibiting the taking of any action involving any measure of statutory sanctions relief by the United States pursuant to such agreement under subsection (c)(2)(B) of such section.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2641 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2640

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have an amendment at the desk that I ask the clerk to report.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 2641 to amendment No. 2640.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end add the following.

''This Act shall take effect 1 day after the date of enactment.''

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2642 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2641

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 2642 to amendment No. 2641.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike ''1 day'' and insert ''2 days''.

AMENDMENT NO. 2643

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have an amendment to the text proposed to be stricken.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 2643 to the language proposed to be stricken by amendment No. 2640.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end add the following.

''This Act shall take effect 3 days after the date of enactment.''

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on that amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2644 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2643

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 2644 to amendment No. 2643.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike ''3'' and insert ''4''.

MOTION TO COMMIT WITH AMENDMENT NO. 2645

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have a motion to commit with instructions at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] moves to commit the joint resolution to the Foreign Relations Committee with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 2645.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end add the following.

''This Act shall take effect 5 days after the date of enactment.''

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on the motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2646

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have an amendment to the instructions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 2646 to the instructions (amendment No. 2645) of the motion to commit H.J. Res. 61.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike ''5'' and insert ''6''.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2647 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2646

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 2647 to amendment No. 2646.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike ''6'' and insert ''7''.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendments, with the exception of the McConnell substitute amendment, be withdrawn; that no other amendments, points of order, or motions be in order to the joint resolution or the McConnell substitute prior to the vote on the McConnell substitute; that at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 10, the Senate proceed to vote on the McConnell substitute amendment; that the amendment be subject to a 60-affirmative-vote threshold; further, that if the McConnell amendment is agreed to, H.J. Res. 61, as amended, be read a third time and passed; that the time today until 5 p.m. be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees; that following leader remarks on Wednesday, September 9, until 6 p.m., the time be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees; and that following leader remarks on Thursday, September 10, until 5:30 p.m., the time be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

Mr. President, that is my unanimous consent request.

Let me say a brief word, and I will turn it over to my friend the Republican leader.

If the Republicans want more debate time, they can have it, but I think 3 days would be adequate. There is a definite time for doing this, and I think that is important.

If anyone thinks this is not a serious issue, I don't know what could be a serious issue. Based upon the underlying foundation that has been laid by my friend for these many years, this is going to require a 60-vote threshold. Everyone knows that. This goes back long before this dialogue started today on the floor. It has been going on for some time, as my friend the assistant Democratic leader, when he has an opportunity to address the Senate, will discuss.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. MCCONNELL. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Thursday, September 10, at 3 p.m., the substitute amendment to H.J. Res. 61 be agreed to, the joint resolution, as amended, be read a third time, and the Senate vote on passage of the resolution, as amended.

Mr. REID. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I also want to propound the following request. I ask unanimous consent that if cloture is invoked on the substitute amendment to H.J. Res. 61, the amendment be agreed to, the joint resolution, as amended, be read a third time, and there be 4 hours of debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, and that following the use or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on passage of the resolution, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, for all the reasons I have mentioned previously and the fact that I believe the Republican leader is way ahead of himself, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The assistant Democratic leader.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this has been one of the most extraordinary measures that has come before the Senate in the time that I have served here. It is rare to have an issue of this historic moment, of this importance, one that literally raises a question about war and peace in the Middle East, and one that has been considered so carefully by both sides of the aisle for such a long period of time.

When I left for the August recess, here in the Senate most of the Members on my side of the aisle—the Democratic side—were still processing and reviewing the proposed agreement. And, over the course of August, these Members announced their public positions on the matter.

As of today, there are 41 of the 46 Democratic Senators who have announced they will support the Iran agreement. There are another four who are opposed to it, and one who is yet to announce her position. We expect that to happen shortly.

This is a unique matter. I asked my staff and others to research one particular aspect of this debate. The aspect I asked them to research was a letter sent on March 9 of this year by 47 Republican Senators. Forty-seven Republican Senators sent a letter to the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Ayatollah.

To take you back in history, at that point in time when 47 Republican Senators sent that letter, the United States of America was in negotiation with Iran to see whether or not we could come to any kind of an agreement or understanding when it came to limit Iran's development of a nuclear weapon, something that I am sure all of us—both political parties—want to stop from happening. But in the midst of this delicate negotiation that was going on in Switzerland, 47 Republican Senators, including every Member of the Senate Republican leadership, sent a letter to the Ayatollah in Iran. It said:

> It has come to our attention while observing your nuclear negotiations with our government that you may not fully understand our constitutional system. Thus, we are writing to bring to your attention two features of our Constitution—the power to make binding international agreements and the different character of federal offices—which you should seriously consider as negotiations progress.

Forty-seven Republican Senators wrote to the Ayatollah in the midst of these delicate negotiations. It went on to say:

> First, under our Constitution, while the president negotiates international agreements, Congress plays the significant role of ratifying them. In the case of a treaty, the Senate must ratify it by a two-thirds vote. A so-called congressional executive agreement requires a majority vote in both the House and the Senate (which, because of procedural rules, effectively means a three-fifths vote in the Senate).

Forty-seven Republican Senators are advising the Ayatollah in Iran, in March, that he should know more about our constitutional form of government and understand that it will take Senate approval, which they say effectively means a three-fifths vote. They continue:

> Anything not approved by Congress is a mere executive agreement.
>
> Second, [the 47 Republican Senators advised the Ayatollah] the offices of our Constitution have different characteristics. For example, the president may serve only two 4-year terms, whereas senators may serve an unlimited number of 6-year terms. As applied today, for instance, President Obama will leave office in January, 2017, while most of us will remain in office far beyond then—perhaps decades.

Then the 47 Republicans Senators, in their March letter to the Ayatollah of Iran, say:

> What these two constitutional provisions mean is that we will consider any agreement regarding your nuclear-weapons program that is not approved by the Congress as nothing more than an executive agreement between President Obama and Ayatollah Khamenei. The next president could revoke such an executive agreement with the stroke of a pen and future Congresses could modify the terms of the agreement at any time.
>
> We hope this letter enriches your knowledge of our constitutional system and promotes mutual understanding and clarity as nuclear negotiations progress.

Forty-seven Republican Senators in March of this year, writing to the Ayatollah and basically telling him: Don't get your hopes up if you are negotiating with the United States, reminding him they will have the last word as Members of Congress, and also stipulating that a three-fifths vote will be required in the U.S. Senate.

Then they go on to say: Keep in mind we are going to be here a lot longer than any President; we may be the last person or the last group to make a decision on the future of these agreements. Then they are basically reminding them that Presidents come and go, and don't assume the next President

will even honor an agreement reached by this President.

Think back 12 years ago. What if 47 Democratic Senators—in the midst of our negotiation as to whether or not we should invade Iraq—had sent a letter to Saddam Hussein saying: Don't negotiate with President Bush. Don't pay any attention to his negotiations. We are the Congress. We will have the last word.

I cannot imagine what the public response would have been, but that is exactly what happened here—47 Republican Senators intervening in a negotiation process with Iran, basically telling those sitting at the table: Don't worry about reaching an agreement with the United States of America and this President.

I know what would have happened if that would have come up when Dick Cheney was Vice President of the United States. We would have had 47 Democrats up on charges of treason.

Well, in this circumstance, this was not good judgment. I would like to stipulate that the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee did not sign this letter. I want to make sure that is clear on the floor. But the 47 who did have to answer a question: Why? When we are in delicate negotiations as the United States of America, and we don't have a final agreement, why would 47 Republican Senators want to intervene in those negotiations? Why would they want to say to the Ayatollah: Don't waste your time negotiating with this President.

It is troublesome. Many of them had reached a conclusion even before the agreement was written that they were going to oppose it. Witness this letter.

But others took time to consider it, to measure it, and to announce their position when it came to this matter. I respect them for doing that, even if they came to a different conclusion than I did. I know what happened on our Democratic side because I was in contact with virtually with every Member of our Senate Democratic Caucus during the month of August, talking to them about this.

There is real soul-searching here, real serious consideration. Some of them, of course, went to the source, met with our intelligence agencies, the State Department, Department of Defense, and came back to Washington when we were in recess. One Senator I know sat down for 5 hours in closed meetings with our intelligence agencies to ask questions that were on his mind about this agreement.

Others, of course, met with their constituents, talked about it, found differences of opinion within their own States. They thought about it long and hard, prayed over it.

I talked to them, always wanting to hear where they were, but never pushing them because I knew this was serious, and they took it seriously. That is where we find ourselves today.

I salute the Senator from Tennessee. As the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, he and I may disagree on substance, but I respect him very much. He is a man of honor and a man of integrity, and he brings to this process the kind of attitude toward the Senate as an institution which I respect and I will continue to respect.

I also believe my colleague from Maryland, a close personal friend, Senator CARDIN—though we see this issue differently—has really thought long and hard about it. We have been on the phone together many, many times during the course of August. I ruined a lot of his vacation trying to figure out where he was and what his process was. He took it very seriously. I respect him, although we came out to different positions on this matter.

That is the way it should be, and what the American people expect of us now is a debate befitting this great institution of the Senate. They expect us to come and conscientiously consider this matter on its merits and express our points of view, and virtually every Senator has already done that publicly, save one. In the course of this debate, the American people can follow it because it is a critical debate. What is at issue here is whether Iran will develop a nuclear weapon.

We believe that they have the capacity now to create as many as 10 nuclear weapons. We don't want that to happen. It would be disastrous for the world—certainly disastrous for the Middle East and Israel—and that is why leaders from around the world, 100 different nations, support what President Obama is striving to do.

What the President is trying to do is something I believe should be the starting point in every critical foreign-policy decision: Use diplomacy, use negotiation, and try to solve our problems in a thoughtful, diplomatic way. And if that fails, never rule out other possibilities, but start with diplomacy. That is what the President has done.

During the course of this Presidency, he organized nations around the world to join us in this effort. If this were just the United States versus Iran, we wouldn't be where we are today, but the President engaged countries which historically and recently have not been our allies.

Before we left for the August recess, we sat down with the five Ambassadors from nations that joined us in the negotiation. I looked across the table there to see the Ambassadors from China, from Russia, from the United Kingdom, and representatives of the embassies of Germany and France. I thought to myself, if you are a student of history, this is an amazing coalition: China, Russia, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, and the United States all working together. And we brought into the sanctions regime other countries that didn't have the same direct involvement in negotiations but were with us. South Korea is a good example. Japan, another good example, joined us in this effort to put pressure on Iran. President Obama led this effort, and he was successful in this effort. The Iranians came to the negotiating table because we put the pressure on them—economic pressure that brought them to that moment.

Now we have before us this agreement. Some have said: You can never trust Iran no matter what they say. I would just harken back to the days of Ronald Reagan, who said of our enemies around the world when it came to agreements: ''Trust, but verify.''

Just recently we had an announcement made by Colin Powell, a man I respect very much, in support of this agreement. It was an announcement which surprised me in a way. I didn't know if he was going to take a position on this matter, but this article states:

> Former Secretary of State Colin Powell expressed support for the [Obama] nuclear agreement with Iran on Sunday, calling the various planks Iranian leaders accepted ''remarkable'' and dismissing critics' concerns over its implementation.
>
> ''It's a pretty good deal,'' he said on NBC's ''Meet the Press.''
>
> Critics concerned that the deal will expedite Iran's pursuit of a nuclear weapon, Powell added, are ''forgetting the reality that [Iranian leaders] have been on a superhighway, for the last 10 years, to create a nuclear weapon or a nuclear weapons program with no speed limit.''
>
> He said the reduction in centrifuges, Iran's uranium stockpile and their agreement to shut down their plutonium reactor were all ''remarkable.''
>
> ''These are remarkable changes, and so we have stopped this highway race that they were going down—and I think that's very, very important,'' Powell said.
>
> He also pushed back on skeptics who have expressed worries about the ability of independent inspectors to verify that Iran is following the agreement. Powell said that, ''with respect to the Iranians—don't trust, never trust, and always verify.''
>
> ''And I think a very vigorous verification regime has been put into place,'' he said.
>
> ''I say, we have a deal, let's see how they implement the deal. If they don't implement it, bail out. None of our options are gone,'' Powell added.

I think he hit the nail on the head. General Colin Powell, who served our country in the military and as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, then as Secretary of State, brings a perspective to this which very few can. He is a man who risked his life on the battlefield, a man who knows the true cost of war, but a man who was empowered by another Republican President to lead us in diplomatic negotiations. This is the kind of clear-eyed approach that we need and want when it comes to an issue of this gravity.

I will have other things to say on this matter, as others will.

I yield the floor to my colleagues.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I am going to have more lengthy comments to make on this topic a little later, but I did want first of all to thank the Senator from Illinois for his comments, and I certainly want to thank Senator CARDIN—and I will do so more fully in

just a moment. But I would like to remind the body that, yes, we went through several steps along the way to get to where we are today that certainly created consternation on both sides of the aisle. There were lots of things that occurred. A letter was referred to. There was an address to the joint Congress. There have been numbers of things along the way that have caused people to concern themselves that maybe this debate would end up being something that was partisan and of low level.

What we have done is that we have actually marshaled ourselves through that, and we ended up with the Iran review act in short terms. That gives us the opportunity, as the distinguished Senator mentioned, to actually review this. We have done that. We have had 12 hearings on this topic—extensive hearings—in the Foreign Relations Committee, and many other committees have done the same.

What we ended up putting in place, with 98 votes in the Senate—98 to 1; we had one Senator who was absent—is a process where all Senators could review this, could have the documents at their disposal to go through it, to go to classified briefings so they could understand—and should understand—fully what this agreement says and then have the right to vote.

Certainly, some things happened along the way that, as I mentioned, created some consternation, but as a body, in Senate fashion, in lieu of letting that divide us and letting that create a scenario where we wouldn't review it and not vote on it, we created a process where we would review it and vote on it.

It is my hope—and I know I have had a very nice conversation with the distinguished Senator from Illinois, and certainly multiple conversations with the distinguished Senator from Maryland—that over the process of this week that is what continues. I know that is what all of us want to see happen.

I do think the American people deserve to know where Senators and House Members stand on this serious piece of foreign policy that is before us, and I want to thank everyone for their role in getting it here.

As a matter of fact, I will move on, if I could, to what I had planned to say. I first want to thank Senator MCCONNELL and Senator REID for allowing this debate to take place this week without having a motion to proceed. I couldn't thank Senator CARDIN more for being a colleague who really works to try to figure out a way for the Senate to play its appropriate role in foreign policy. It has been nothing but outstanding in dealing with him since he assumed this role, and I want to thank him for the way he has conducted himself.

I would also like to remind people that without the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act there would be no role for Congress. One of the things I think has confused a lot of the American people—and there are a lot of people who would prefer this to have been a treaty—is the fact that under our form of government, the President is able to decide whether he is going to submit an agreement as a treaty or as an executive agreement. An executive agreement stays in place during the duration of that President's tenure and could be altered by the next President. A treaty is binding on future Presidents.

This President, as we know, decided to go directly to the U.N. Security Council and, by the way, lift some congressionally mandated sanctions that we all helped put in place that actually brought Iran to the table. So with the knowledge of that, Congress stepped in and passed this piece of legislation that now gives us the right to review what the President has negotiated and to prevent him from lifting those congressionally mandated sanctions should we decide we disapprove of this deal.

So this is a place where Congress came together and said: No, we want to play a role, even though a role is not contemplated under an executive agreement. I know this has been confusing to numbers of people, but this was the only vehicle capable of winning a veto-proof majority to provide Congress with this chance—a chance for the American people to have us, on their behalf, review this agreement and then vote.

As I mentioned, we have had more than a dozen hearings. I have spent a great deal of time, as has the ranking member, as have all of our committee members—and the Presiding Officer the same—as have so many people going through this agreement, and I oppose implementation of this deal. I oppose its implementation.

When the President first stated his goal—his goal of ending Iran's nuclear program—that was something that could have achieved tremendous bipartisan support in this body. As a matter of fact, onward there were discussions of dismantling the program. And as we all know today—and I will speak more fully on this tomorrow—rather than ending it, this agreement industrializes it. It allows the industrialization of the program run by the world's leading state sponsor of terror, and it does so with our approval.

Now, that is a large step from where we began these negotiations. Had the President achieved the goal, I think what we would have in this body is 100 Senators standing up and supporting what he said he wished to do with these negotiations. But we have ended up with something that certainly is a far cry from that.

Instead of having anytime, anywhere inspections, I think everyone understands there is a managed inspection process. Certainly, there are some issues relative to the IAEA that have given many Members tremendous concern.

The thing that is one of the most troubling aspects of this is that through the course of these negotiations, the leverage—where right now, basically, the world community has had its boot on a rogue nation's throat—in 9 months the leverage shifts from these nations—our nation being one of those—having them in a position where we might negotiate something that ends their program to now, where instead what happens is the leverage shifts to Iran. The leverage shifts to Iran.

They are going to receive, as we know, billions of dollars. Most people think the number is around $100 billion. By the way, they have a $406 billion gross domestic product. That is the size of their economy. We are going to release to them over the next 9 months about $100 billion—25 percent of their economy in 9 months.

The President has said, and surely others, that some of this is going to be used to sponsor terrorism. We know that. Think about if we had 25 percent of our GDP given to us over the next 9 months. We have an $18 trillion GDP—$4 trillion or $5 trillion given to us over the next 9 months. Certainly, this is going to have an impact on what they are able to do.

What Iran is going to be able to say in 9 months—when we push back on violations in the agreement, when we push back on terrorism and we push back on human rights violations—is that because most of the sanctions will be lifted at that moment, they will have their money, and their economy will be growing, well, look, if you push back, we think this is unfair. They are already making these statements in Iran: We will just resume our nuclear program.

So instead of our having leverage over them, they are going to have leverage over us. They are going to have leverage over us. This is in the vacuum of having no Middle Eastern policy. I don't say this to be pejorative. We know we have no policy in the Middle East to push back against Iran. We know that. So this agreement is going to end up being our de facto policy, and everything is going to be measured by this: What will Iran do if we push back?

What if we push back against the fact that they are giving Hamas rockets to fire into Israel? What if we push back against what Hezbollah is doing in Lebanon and what they are doing in Syria? What if we push back against what the IRGC—the arm of the Supreme Leader—is doing right now to protect Assad? They are the shock force to keep Assad in power right now.

We know that right now in prisons in Syria people are being tortured. We saw it firsthand. The ranking member and I went over to see what was happening at the Holocaust Memorial Museum presentation where Caesar, someone working for the Assad regime, took photographs. We know as we stand here in these comfortable settings in the Chamber of the Senate, people are being tortured, their genitals are being removed, and Iran is supporting that.

We know that—the fact that they are going to have some resources to do more of that, to do the same thing with the Houthis in Yemen, to support terrorists and people who are trying to disrupt the Government of Bahrain.

Look, the leverage shifts to them. All they can say—what they are going to be able to say—if we push back against those activities is this: Well, look, we think you are being unfair. We are just going to resume our program.

I don't understand. This is beyond me. I have had no one explain it to me. I know the Senator from Illinois had the diplomats from the other countries come in. I have no idea why in this last meeting in Geneva we agreed to lift the conventional weapons ban after 5 years. What did that have to do with the nuclear file? And then we lifted the ballistic missile technology embargo in 8 years? What was that about? Then, as we know, with some really weird language that is in the agreement, we immediately lifted the ban on ballistic missile testing.

I think everyone here knows—the people sitting in the audience, people watching—that Iran has no practical need whatsoever for this program—none. Let me say that one more time. Here is a country with 19,000 centrifuges—10,000 of them operating. They have an underground facility at Fordow. They have a facility at Arak that produces plutonium. They have all kinds of research and development.

And by the way, this agreement approves further research and development of their centrifuges. As a matter of fact, it paves the way for them and also times it out perfectly for them to be in a position to be at zero breakout time, which is exactly what the President said they would be at, in 13 years. They can just agree to this agreement, and they can just continue to implement this agreement and be in that position. But they have no practical need—none.

Some people have said: Well, if they really want to pursue the technology of medical isotopes, maybe—maybe—they could use 500 centrifuges. Think about this. We have a country with one nuclear reactor, a country that could buy the enriched uranium to provide the energy for that cheaply on the market. Instead, they have put their entire society through grinding sanctions that have harmed families. They have been doing that for years for something they have no practical need for. There is only one need, and we all know that, which is to be in the position to be a nuclear-armed country.

So let me say one more time that every Senator here supported this process except for one. The American people deserve to know where their elected officials stand on this consequential agreement. I hope people on both sides will cause this to be a sober debate. I know it will be impassioned, and people will certainly be speaking strongly about the pros and cons of this agreement.

I do hope at the end of the day—while I was gone—I digress—there were discussions about filibustering the right to vote on this Iran agreement. I read about it in some magazines here, that instead of this being about people expressing themselves relative to a policy they felt was important to the country, apparently all of a sudden it became about something else.

I would just say to my colleagues, I don't know how we can be in a place where we have said to our constituents that we want to review and vote on this agreement and then, over some revisionist statement or thought, come up with a process that says: No, we are going to filibuster it; we really don't want people to vote.

It is my hope that over the course of the next several days cooler heads will prevail and that we of course will have, I believe, a very sober debate. I think my friends on the other side of the aisle have seen what the leader just did to try to ensure that we keep the debate about approval or disapproval—in this case, disapproval—of this particular deal, and I hope that very soon we will all be able to express ourselves with a vote on the deal itself, whether we believe it is in our Nation's interest. I do not. Some do. Let's have a debate in a sober way.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. CORKER. Yes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I say to the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee how much I appreciate his good work, together with the ranking member Senator CARDIN, whom he alluded to earlier, but the Senator from Tennessee just said something which I think every American should find troubling, and that is perhaps the single-most important national security issue facing the country since the authorization for use of force in Iraq in 2002; that there might be a partisan filibuster of our ability even to have that up-or-down vote on the resolution of disapproval.

I ask the Senator from Tennessee, is he aware of reports that the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khomeini has said the Iranian Parliament will have the final word on this deal in Iran?

I wonder how the Senator would characterize a partisan filibuster in the U.S. Senate, preventing such an up-or-down vote in the Senate, while the Iranian Parliament would have the ability for that up-or-down vote in that institution.

Mr. CORKER. I did read those reports. I said to my friend from Illinois earlier: Look, there has been so much that has occurred from the very beginning that has caused people on each side to, in some cases, raise the partisan flag or think that this is a debate which could devolve into something that was of that orientation. What we have done, as the Senator mentioned, is we have risen above that, and we passed something that allows us to debate and to vote.

I read with interest what the Supreme Leader has said. I think he is hedging his bets, and no doubt he is going to take it to their Parliament and allow them to vote and debate. I hope that here, the citizens of our country will be shown that same respect and expect that their Senators and their House Members will have the opportunity to vote on the actual policy which has been negotiated and agreed to by these various countries. I hope that will be the case and, yes, I was very aware of that.

With that, without objection, I wish to yield the floor to my great friend, the ranking member on the Foreign Relations Committee. Together, we have marched through some incredible hearings. I think all of us have studied this dutifully. That could not have occurred without his incredible cooperation and that of his staff. I thank him for his leadership. I thank him for his willingness to seek a place where the Senate can deal with this in the appropriate way.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, let me first thank my friend Senator CORKER for his leadership but, more importantly, thank him on behalf of the Senate for standing up for what I think is the appropriate role of the United States Senate in reviewing a major foreign policy issue.

I have had the opportunity to serve with four different chairmen in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee since I have been in the Senate: Senator CORKER, Senator MENENDEZ, Secretary Kerry, and Vice President BIDEN. All four fought for the Senate having the appropriate role in establishing foreign policy.

We are a country that believes our system of democracy serves our country the best; that is, with separation of branches of government. We don't have a parliamentary system. We have an independent Congress—a Congress that is expected to provide independence in its reviews of the laws of our country and the policies of our Chief Executive, and that is exactly what we are doing in this debate.

I thank Senator CORKER for his extraordinary leadership of our committee. I know I speak for both Democrats and Republicans in saying that we support the independence of the Senate in reviewing our work.

Senator DURBIN—I listened to his comments. Senator DURBIN is a dear friend of mine. The two of us have fought together on human rights issues around the globe. We have fought for civil liberties in the United States. We have worked together on so many important issues, including in the Middle East. I deeply respect his views.

There are Members on both sides who have reached different conclusions, but we are all committed to making sure

Iran does not become a nuclear weapons state, and we honestly believe our view is the best way for that to be accomplished. I don't challenge any other Member's decision, and I certainly don't question their resolve against Iran becoming a nuclear weapons state or their support for our regional allies. I think each has demonstrated that throughout their career. Some of us have come to different conclusions.

I strongly believe we must prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear weapons state. It is a game-changer in the region. We have already heard from my colleagues that Iran is one of the principal purveyors of terrorism in that region. It would accelerate an arms race that already has too many arms in its region. It would make it so much more difficult to confront Iranian policy if they possess a nuclear weapon. President Obama is right to say we will not let that happen and that all options are on the table to make sure that doesn't happen, and Congress is right to say we support all options being on the table to make sure Iran does not become a nuclear weapons state. That is a goal we all have.

In this independent review, some of us believe the best way to accomplish that is to move forward with the agreement negotiated by the Obama administration. Others believe that is not the case.

I wish to second what Senator CORKER said about the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act. I was proud to be part of putting that bill together and gaining broad support in the Congress and the support of the administration. I think it put us in a much stronger position in negotiating in Vienna. I think the fact that we had set up the right way for a congressional review—that it was going to be a transparent review, a critical review—put our negotiators in the strongest possible positions in Vienna. I also think it provided the right type of review, so that after the agreement was reached, information would be made available to us, we would have an open process, the American people would learn more about it, and we would be in a better position to make our own judgment. It was clear in the review act that no action is required. We can't pass resolutions of approval or disapproval.

I wish to mention one thing, though, that I disagree with Senator CORKER, but maybe in the end we will come together on this issue. I wasn't part of the original negotiations on the review act. I came into it and was able to resolve the differences between the White House and the Congress and many Members of Congress, but it was clear, in talking to the architects of this legislation, that they always anticipated there would be a 60-vote threshold for the passage of this resolution in the Senate.

I agree with Senator CORKER that we shouldn't have to use filibusters and we shouldn't have to have procedural votes; that we should have a vote on the merits. I thought Senator REID's suggestion was the right way to go. I hope we can find a way that we can avoid the procedural battles and be able to take up this issue and let every Member vote their conscience as to whether to support or disapprove of the resolution.

I told the people of Maryland after the review—let me say how this review went. We had 2½ weeks of review before the recess, and Senator CORKER worked our committee unmercifully as far as what we did. We had hearings, we had briefings, we had classified briefings, we had Member meetings, and to the credit of the Members of the committee, all 19 showed up. These meetings went on for about 4 hours each. So we were back-to-back-to-back in our briefings and in trying to understand what was in the agreement for the 2½ weeks we were here.

I then went back to Maryland, as I am sure my colleagues went back to their States, and had a chance for the first time to meet with Marylanders and to talk with Marylanders, to express and talk with them and get their views, and to evaluate whether I thought it was best to go forward. It was a close call, but I decided I could not support the agreement.

I just wish to share why I cannot support the agreement—and Senator CORKER mentioned this: It places Iran, after a time period, in the position of enrichment of uranium that is dangerously close to being able to break out to a nuclear weapon in compliance with the agreement. Being legal, they can get to that point. At that point, they have already gotten sanctions relief, so they are in a much better financial position to be able to withstand any pressures that could be put on Iran. We know they want to become a nuclear weapons state. They have tried in the past. We know that. That has pretty well been documented. We have no reason to believe they are going to change their intentions. So if they want to become a nuclear weapons state and they make the calculation that we really don't have a sanctioned way to stop them—because at that point their economic strength is strong enough and sanctions take too long to really bite and take effect—it would not be an effective deterrent to erase the breakout.

Here is the key point of concern to me—and I acknowledge to all my colleagues that I don't know what is going to happen in the future. This is a close call, but I think there is a higher risk of potential military operation if we go forward with this agreement because we don't have effective sanctions once they have been removed. That concerns me because I don't think a military option is a good option. I don't believe it will eliminate the threat, and it has a lot of collateral issues involved with the military operation.

I acknowledge that if we do not go forward with this agreement, there is a risk. There is no question about it. There is high risk in either direction. But if we were to reject the agreement, what would happen? Well, no one can tell for sure. No one can tell for sure. There is a risk factor.

In my conversations with our European allies, they certainly want us to approve this agreement—don't get me wrong—but they know they have to work with the United States. They know Europe and the United States need to be in this together, and for their companies to be able to get full access to Iran, they have to work with the United States on a sanctions regime. They understand that.

Iran also understands that if we reject this agreement and they were to rush out to try to develop a nuclear weapon, it would ignite unity in the international community of action against Iran. They know that. They have to make that calculation. Iran also wants sanctions relief from the United States.

I can't predict the future, but I believe all parties will want a diplomatic solution. I understand that is not going to be easy, and maybe we will have to mix it up a little bit and put some other issues on the table. We have a lot of issues with Iran. We know about their terrorism, their interference in the region, et cetera. It may give us that opportunity. My point is, no one can predict the future. I came to that conclusion, and I understand others came to different conclusions.

There are other concerns I have with the agreement, including the 24-day delay. That doesn't concern me on known sites. It concerns me on undeclared sites and whether that will be adequate based on our intelligence information.

I am concerned about the possible military dimension that there isn't any consequence, as I see it, in the agreement if there is not an accurate account of what happened in the past. I wish it was more clear. I don't think the arms embargo relief should have been in this agreement.

I must say, I am concerned with the language in the agreement that talks about the United States and Iran with mutual respect and normalization. I don't know how we can have mutual respect for a country that actively foments regional instability and advocates Israel's destruction, kills innocents, and shouts ''Death to Americans,'' so I came to the conclusion that I couldn't support the agreement.

Others came to opposite views. Each of us did what we thought was best, and I respect that this is a vote of conscience. I do want to point out one comment that was made a little bit earlier by my colleague about the Iraq war. I voted against the Iraq war. It was not a hard vote for me because, quite frankly, I didn't see the intelligence information that would have justified the authorization for use of military force. But it was a controversial vote.

In my congressional district, it was an extremely unpopular vote, and the

reactions were not too much different than the reactions we are getting today in regards to this particular agreement with Iran. I voted against that, along with a lot of my colleagues.

When that vote was over and it was a done deal and we pursued our military operations in Iraq, I joined with all my colleagues and the administration to give us the best possible chance for America to succeed because that is our responsibility. That is our system. Our system is independent review. But when the review is over, it is time for us to come together.

So, yes, I have been talking to my Republican colleagues. I have been talking to my colleagues who are voting for the agreement and those who are voting against it as to how we can work together in a responsible manner when this debate is over so the United States can be in the strongest possible position, working with the administration, to prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear weapon state. Working together, I think we can help the administration have a stronger position, knowing the independence of Congress.

The administration has said and we can underscore that all options are on the table to make sure Iran will not become a nuclear weapon power. The administration has said and we can underscore that there is a need for a regional security strategy so that our partners know of our commitment to the region against whatever happens with Iran. The administration has suggested and we can reinforce that our closest ally in the region, Israel, will have the security it needs as a partner with the United States. The administration has stated and we can reinforce that we will be active and pursue terrorism by Iran if they increase their terrorism or attempt terrorism against the United States. We can speak to that. We can make sure that we are better informed and that we have the information we need to see whether Iran is using their sanctions relief so that we can act timely with the administration to protect U.S. interests.

I think we can speak with a strong voice when this debate is over, and I hope that during the next 2 weeks the debate that takes place on the floor of the Senate and the House of Representatives reflects the best tradition of the Congress in our independent review and our firm commitment to work on behalf of America. We must stand firm in our determination to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon. We must agree to counter Iranian support for terrorism and confront Iranian violations of ballistic missile protocols and international human rights obligations. Congress and the administration cannot dwell on past disagreements. Together we must find a functional bipartisan approach to Iran. I stand ready to work with my colleagues and the administration to achieve such a result.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I want to thank the Senator from Maryland for his comments and his tremendous leadership on this issue. I note that Senator COLLINS is here to speak. It is my understanding that she will speak for approximately 30 minutes. Senator CORNYN may be down shortly thereafter to speak and then Senator KAINE.

I know some people referred to the fact that it is only those who wanted to go to war with Iraq who are supporting this. But not only did the ranking member not support going to war with Iraq, neither did Senator MENENDEZ from New Jersey, who, again, opposes this agreement. That type of characterization certainly is not the way that this is. The two most knowledgeable Democrats in the Senate on this issue by far both oppose it.

With that, I yield the floor to the distinguished Senator from Maine, who represents a beautiful State. We thank her for her contributions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I want to thank the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee for his leadership on this issue, for briefing us, for arranging for briefings, and for his very thorough analysis. I also want to commend the Senator from Maryland for his vote of conviction, for doing what he believed was correct, for showing the courage to cast a vote of true conscience. I was honored to be here on the Senate floor to listen to his comments today.

President Obama's agreement with the Iranian Government with respect to its nuclear program is one of the most important foreign policy decisions ever to face the Senate. The vote that we shall cast will not be an easy one. The security of our Nation and the stability of the Middle East, as well as America's leadership in the world, are affected by this agreement, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or the JCPOA.

Thus, I have devoted countless hours to studying the agreement and its annexes, attending Intelligence Committee sessions and other classified briefings, questioning Secretary of State John Kerry, Secretary of Energy Ernie Moniz, and our intelligence officials, including the top manager for Iran, talking with our negotiators and with ambassadors, and discussing the agreement with experts with divergent views to ensure that my decision is as well informed as possible.

Let me begin by making clear that I supported the administration's undertaking these negotiations with Iran. Indeed, I was heartened when President Obama initially said in October of 2012 that ''our goal is to get Iran to recognize it needs to give up its nuclear program and abide by the U.N. resolutions that have been in place.'' He went on to say: ''The deal we'll accept is, they end their nuclear program. It's very straightforward.''

I was optimistic that the administration would produce an agreement that would accomplish the goals the President laid out. Along with six of my Republican colleagues, I did not sign a letter to the leaders of the Iranian Government sent in the midst of the negotiations because I wanted to give the administration every opportunity to complete an agreement that would have accomplished the goals the President himself originally set forth as the purpose of these negotiations.

I have long believed that a verifiable diplomatic agreement with Iran that dismantled its nuclear infrastructure and blocked its pathways to the development of a nuclear weapon would be a major achievement—an accomplishment that would make the world a safer place. Regrettably, that does not describe the agreement that the administration negotiated. The agreement is fundamentally flawed because it leaves Iran as capable of building a nuclear weapon at the expiration of the agreement as it is today. Indeed, at that time, Iran will be a more dangerous and stronger nuclear threshold state—exactly the opposite of what these negotiations should have produced.

Mark Dubowitz, a noted expert on sanctions, testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee: ''Even if Iran doesn't violate the JCPOA . . . it will have patient pathways to nuclear weapons, an ICBM program, access to heavy weaponry, an economy immunized against sanctions pressure, and a more powerful regional position . . .''

Under the agreement, not a single one of Iran's 19,000 centrifuges, used to enrich uranium to produce the fissile material for a nuclear bomb, will be destroyed. Not a single one. Iran will be able to continue its research and development on advanced centrifuges able to enrich uranium more rapidly and more effectively. Not only will Iran retain its nuclear capability, but it will also be a far richer nation and one that has more conventional weapons and military technology than it possesses today.

The lifting of sanctions will give Iran's leaders access ultimately to more than $100 billion in the form of frozen assets and overseas accounts. Iran also will once again be able to sell its abundant oil in global markets.

The administration has repeatedly argued that Iranian leaders will invest those billions of dollars into their own country to improve the lives of their citizens. The record strongly suggests otherwise.

Iran today is the world's foremost exporter of terrorism, pouring billions of dollars into terrorist groups throughout the region and into funding the murderous Assad regime in Syria. If Iran is financing, arming, and equipping terrorist groups in Iraq, Lebanon, Gaza, Syria, and Yemen when its own economy is in shambles and its citizens are suffering, why would anyone believe that it would invest the proceeds

of sanctions relief only in its own economy?

I do expect that Iran's leaders will invest in a few high-profile projects to help their own citizens. But given their history, it is inevitable that billions more will be used to finance terrorism and strengthens Iran's power and proxies throughout the Middle East.

It is deeply troubling that the administration secured no concessions at all from Iran, designated by our government—by the Director of National Intelligence—as the number one state sponsor of terrorism, to cease its support of terrorist groups. Whether it is Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Shiite militias in Iraq or the Houthis in Yemen, Iran's proxies are terrorizing innocent civilians, forcing families to flee their homes, and causing death and destruction. And incredibly, the JCPOA will end the embargoes on selling Iran intercontinental ballistic missile technology and conventional weapons, which the Russians, among others, are very eager to sell them.

Think about that for a moment. Why would Iran want to buy intercontinental ballistic missile technology? It already has the deeply troubling capacity to launch missile strikes at Israel, which it has pledged to wipe off the face of the Earth. ICBM technology poses a direct threat to our Nation from a nation whose leaders continue to chant ''Death to America.''

We should also remember that the Iranian Quds forces were the source of the most lethal improvised explosive devices that were responsible for the deaths of hundreds of our servicemembers in Iraq.

Why would we ever agree to lift the embargo on the sales of conventional weapons that could endanger our forces in the region?

Let me now turn to the issue of the enforcement of the agreement by posing the obvious question: Will Iran abide by the agreement and the corresponding U.N. Security Council resolution or will it cheat? Despite being a signatory to the U.N. Charter, Iran has repeatedly violated or ignored the United Nations Security Council resolutions aimed at curbing its nuclear program.

In 2006, the U.N. Security Council passed a resolution prohibiting Iran from enriching uranium. What happened? Iran cheated. It has literally thousands of centrifuges spinning to enrich uranium. Multiple U.N. Security Council resolutions require Iran to cooperate fully with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the IAEA, and to come clean on what is known as the possible military dimensions of its nuclear activities to understand how far Iran has progressed toward developing a nuclear device and to have a verified baseline to evaluate future nuclear-related activities. What happened?

Iran cheated. Not only did it never report to international arms control experts about the experiments at its military installation at Parchin, where Iran is suspected of developing detonators for nuclear devices, but also Iran sanitized buildings at Parchin in a manner that the IAEA has described as likely to have undermined the agency's ability to conduct effective verification. Remarkably, according to public reporting, Iran has continued these sanitation activities while Congress was holding hearings on the agreement this summer.

In 2010, the U.N. Security Council adopted another resolution requiring Iran to cease any activities related to ballistic missile activities capable of delivering nuclear weapons. What happened?

Iran cheated. It launched ballistic missiles in July 2012. Given this history, there is no question in my mind that Iran will try to cheat on the new agreement and exploit any loophole in the text or in the implementing Security Council resolution that was, by the way, as the chairman has pointed out, adopted before Congress even had a chance to vote on the agreement. Given Iran's history of noncompliance, one would think an ironclad inspection process would be put in place. Sadly, that is far from the reality of this agreement.

Let me make four points about how Iran can stymie inspections. First, throughout the term of the agreement, Iran has the authority to delay inspections of undeclared sites. Those are the sites where inspectors from the IAEA believe that suspicious activities are occurring. Inexplicably the JCPOA establishes up to a 24-day delay between when the agency requests access to a site and when access is granted. The former Deputy Director General for Safeguards at the IAEA notes that 24 days is sufficient time for Iran to sanitize suspected facilities and points out that past concealment activities carried out by Iran in 2003 left no traces to be detected. This is a long way from the anytime, anywhere inspections that should have been part of this agreement given Iran's sorry history.

Second, no American or Canadian experts will be allowed to be part of the IAEA inspection team unless these countries reestablish official diplomatic relations with Iran. I recognize that the IAEA has many highly qualified experts, but the exclusion of some of the most highly skilled and experienced experts in the world does not inspire confidence.

Third, and most outrageous, according to press reports, the Iranians themselves will be responsible for the photographs and environmental sampling at Parchin, a large military installation where nuclear work is suspected to have been conducted and may still be underway. IAEA weapons inspectors will be denied physical access to Parchin. Note that I said ''according to press reports.'' That is because the actual agreement between the IAEA and Iran is secret and has been withheld from Congress.

As a member of the Intelligence Committee, I have been briefed on the agreement, but like every other Member of Congress, I have been denied access to the actual document despite how significant this issue is. The actual text matters because of Iran's repeated efforts to exploit loopholes and particularly in light of press reports on what is in that document.

Fourth, Iran is not required to ratify the Additional Protocol before sanctions relief is granted, if ever. The Additional Protocol allows the IAEA permanent inspection access to declared and suspected nuclear sites in a country in order to detect covert nuclear activities. Ratification of the protocol would make the AP permanently and legally binding in Iran.

Mr. President, 126 countries, including our country, have already ratified the Additional Protocol. Yet the agreement negotiated by the administration only requires Iran to ''seek ratification'' of the Additional Protocol 8 years from now—in the 8th year of the agreement—and to comply with its terms until then. If Iran's past behavior is any guide, Iran may never ratify the Additional Protocol and thus be subject to its permanent, legally binding inspection regime.

To prevent Iran from cheating, the administration has repeatedly pointed to the prospect of an immediate snapback of sanctions as the teeth of the agreement. I will be surprised if they work as advertised. First, the rhetoric on the snapback of sanctions is inconsistent. On the one hand, the administration says the United States can unilaterally cause the international sanctions to be reimposed. At the same time, the administration repeatedly warns us that the sanctions regime is falling apart. Which is it?

Second, Iran has already made explicit in the text of the agreement that the imposition of any sanctions will be treated as grounds to restart its nuclear program. Included in the JCPOA is this clear statement: ''Iran has stated that if sanctions are reinstated in whole or in part, Iran will treat that as grounds to cease performing its commitments under this JCPOA in whole or in part.'' In effect, Iran has given advance notice that if the United States or any of its partners insist on reimposing sanctions, Iran can simply walk away from the deal. Given their investment in the deal, I am very skeptical that any of the P5+1 countries will be willing to take that action.

After the United Nations Security Council endorsed this agreement on July 20, the Iranians actually released a statement saying they may reconsider its commitments if new sanctions impair the business and trade resulting from the lifting of nuclear sanctions, ''irrespective of whether such new sanctions are introduced on nuclear-related or other grounds.''

Let's think about the implications of that for a moment. The Iranians are saying a sanction is a sanction is a

sanction, and Iran appears ready to resume its nuclear activities if any sanctions are reimposed, even if the purpose is nonnuclear, even if the purpose is to halt Iran's financing of terrorists groups.

That means, if the United States reimposes a sanction in response to the Iranians continuing to finance, train, arm, and equip terrorist groups all over the world, Iran, the foremost exporter of terrorism, according to our own Director of National Intelligence, can just walk away from the agreement we are being asked to approve.

Third, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service, the agreement states that sanctions would not be applied ''with retroactive effect to contracts signed between any party and Iran or Iranian entities prior to the date of application.'' This grandfathering clause will create an immediate rush of businesses to lock in long-term business contracts with Iran. Iranian Foreign Minister Zarif assured Iranian lawmakers that the swarming of business for reinvesting their money is the biggest barrier to the reimposition of sanctions, and he is right.

The State Department insists that each case will be worked on an individual basis, but there is no guarantee that any case, much less every case, will be resolved in the short time period necessary.

There are alternatives to the deeply flawed agreement reached in Vienna. While I recognize that it would be difficult, the fact is, the administration could renegotiate a better deal. As Orde Kittrie, the former lead State Department attorney for nuclear issues, recently noted in the Wall Street Journal, the Senate has required changes to more than 200 treaties that were ultimately ratified after congressional concerns were addressed.

This is not unusual. For example, the 1997 resolution of ratification regarding the multilateral Chemical Weapons Convention included 28 conditions inserted by the Senate. The treaty was ultimately ratified and currently is in force in 191 participating nations, including Iran and the United States. Similarly, the Senate insisted that the Threshold Test Ban Treaty with the Soviet Union have additional provisions strengthening compliance measures before it was ratified.

Of course, one of the problems with this agreement is that it is not in the form of a treaty, which precludes the Senate from inserting reservations, understandings, or declarations. But that does not mean this agreement cannot be renegotiated, and there are so many precedents for side agreements or renegotiations of treaties themselves—more than 200 times.

Another alternative to this agreement would be to further wield our unilateral financial and economic power against those conducting business with key Iranian entities. Juan Zarate, the first Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorist Financing and Financial Crimes, testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee:

> We can't argue in the same breath that ''snapback'' sanctions as constructed offer a real Sword of Damocles to be wielded over the heads of the Iranians for years while arguing that there is no way now for the United States to maintain the crippling financial and economic isolation which helped bring the Iranians to the table.

Every country and every business would have to choose whether to do business with a nuclear Iran or with the United States. I am confident that most countries and most businesses would make the right choice.

Despite these options, the administration negotiated a pact in which its redlines were abandoned, compromised, or diluted, while the Iranians held firm to their core principles.

The Iranians have secured the following if this agreement moves forward: broad sanctions relief, a U.N.-blessed domestic uranium enrichment capability, international acceptance of Iran as a nuclear threshold state, international acceptance of its indigenous ballistic missile program, the lifting of the arms and the ICBM embargoes, repeal of all previous U.N. Security Council resolutions, and removal of the Iranian nuclear issue from the U.N. Security Council agenda.

Accordingly, I shall cast my vote for the motion of disapproval. I believe Iran will bide its time, perfect its R&D on advanced centrifuges, secure an ICBM capability, and build a nuclear weapon as the JCPOA is phased out.

It is time for Congress to reject the JCPOA and for the administration to negotiate a new agreement, as has been done so many times in the past when the Senate raised serious concerns. The stakes are simply too high and the risks too great for us to do otherwise.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak in morning business for 5 minutes.

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

REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT JOE GLINIEWICZ

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, there are many brokenhearted people today in the small town of Fox Lake, IL. They are mourning the loss of Lieutenant Charles Joseph Gliniewicz. His friends and family called him Joe. At work they called him GI Joe. That all-American nickname was an admiring tribute to Lieutenant Gliniewicz's nearly 30 years of service to the U.S. Army, the Army Reserves, and to his appearance and demeanor.

At age 52, Lieutenant Gliniewicz was fit and strong. He stood ramrod straight. He wore his hair high and tight like a drill sergeant. But the physical characteristic people mention most about Lieutenant Gliniewicz was his smile.

Everyone knew GI Joe in Fox Lake, IL. He served on the town's police force for 32 years. He was supposed to retire at the end of last month, but he stayed on just 1 more month to ensure the smooth transition of a volunteer youth program to which he devoted thousands of hours over nearly 30 years.

A week ago today, September 1—the day that would have been Lieutenant Gliniewicz's first day of retirement—he was shot and killed in the line of duty. It was 8 o'clock in the morning. Lieutenant Gliniewicz was driving down a road lined with open fields and abandoned-looking businesses when he spotted three men who raised suspicion. He radioed the police dispatcher that he was going to pursue them on foot. The dispatcher asked if he needed help. Lieutenant Gliniewicz said: Sure, send them. When backup officers arrived 3 minutes later, they couldn't find him. A few minutes later, they found Lieutenant Gliniewicz 50 yards from his patrol car. He had been fatally shot.

Law enforcement agencies are still searching for the three men responsible. They have only a very sketchy description: three men, two White, one Black.

In the days that followed the murder, hundreds of law enforcement officers poured into Fox Lake in Lake County. They were joined by members of just about every major law enforcement agency, all people can think of, including the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the FBI, and even the Secret Service. Dozens of officers suffered heat exhaustion as they searched the woods and swamps. They are still searching today for his killers. We all want to see them brought to justice swiftly.

Lieutenant Gliniewicz was married for 26½ years to his wife Melodie. They call her Mel for short. They were parents of four sons ranging in age from early twenties to their teens. One of his sons serves in the U.S. Army.

The day after Lieutenant Gliniewicz's murder, hundreds of local folks turned out for a rally in Fox Lake to show their love for him and his family. It would just break your heart to see pictures of Melodie Gliniewicz and her four now fatherless sons smiling through their anguish, trying to support each other and their grieving neighbors.

Folks in Fox Lake said that Joe Gliniewicz loved his town and he was always the first to volunteer at whatever local administration needed help with an event. One resident told the local newspaper:

> Everyone in town knew who he was. Whether you were on a first-name basis or knew his rank, you knew he was a great guy.

This resident added:

> Just being involved in his community, he took pride in it. This is where he lived, and it's what he fought to protect. He took great pride in making the town of Fox Lake the place it is.

Lieutenant Gliniewicz was a volunteer with the Special Olympics and a lot of other groups. The organization he was closest to was the Fox Lake Police Department Explorers, a group

who mentors young people who want to aspire to law enforcement. Joe Gliniewicz established Fox Lake's Explorer Post No. 300 nearly 30 years ago. Over the years, he has seen hundreds of explorers in training get into law enforcement and the military. His death is felt so deeply by these young people, by Lieutenant Gliniewicz's family, friends, and neighbors, and by his brothers and sisters in blue not only in Fox Lake but throughout Illinois and across America.

Lieutenant Gliniewicz was the first on-duty officer fatally shot in Lake County, IL, since 1980 and the third law enforcement fatality in Illinois this year, according to the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. According to the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, firearms-related deaths of law enforcement officers in the United States are down 24 percent this year compared to the same period last year, January 1 to September 8. There were 34 last year and 26 this year. While that downward trend is good news, even one police officer killed in the line of duty is way too many.

In Fox Lake and in towns across America, countless families have replaced the lightbulbs on their front porches with blue lightbulbs to show their support for their local police.

Yesterday, on Labor Day, there was a memorial service at the high school for Lieutenant Gliniewicz. They packed it with law enforcement officials from all over—not just Lake County, IL, but the Midwest and across the Nation. It was an 18-mile funeral parade or funeral caravan that went off to the cemetery afterward—18 miles long—and it was filled with admirers and friends and people standing on the roads with homemade signs.

Lieutenant Gliniewicz really made a difference in people's lives. It is sad to lose him. When we reflect on the great contribution he made to his community, to his county, to my State of Illinois, and to our Nation, it is with heartfelt gratitude that we say to his family: We are by your side.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, as have all of our colleagues, I have been traveling around my State over the last few weeks listening to my constituents and trying to understand what their concerns are. I have to tell my colleagues that Washington is not in high repute. People sense the country is heading in the wrong direction. They have entrusted us with the way to navigate that, and they feel as though we have not succeeded in getting our country back on the right track. I know that when it comes to security issues—and of all the issues the Federal Government deals with, national security is the only one we can't delegate to someone else. It is our No. 1 responsibility as a Federal Government. State government can't do it. Local government can't do it. We can't do it for ourselves, so we depend on the Federal Government to make sure our Nation is safe and secure, which is a precondition for all of the other liberties and privileges we enjoy.

As part of the roundtables and visits I had, I took part in one in Houston, TX, where we addressed a wide variety of issues, but the No. 1 issue that came up was the Iranian nuclear deal. There is no issue more compelling or concerning to this particular group of folks or my constituents back home than the President's deal with Iran because people recognize that Iran is a state sponsor of international terrorism, and what this does is it paves the way to them getting bigger and more lethal weapons.

They are also very concerned, as they should be, that this deal requires us to trust an adversary who has done nothing to earn it. I know the President has said there is no trust involved, but in the absence of trust, one would at least think there would be adequate verification mechanisms.

Of course, I know Secretary Moniz has disavowed his earlier comments about anytime, anywhere inspections, and we then learned that there is this convoluted process of 24 days' notice and some arbitration before the IAEA will gain access to some sites and then, as the Associated Press reported, the sidebar deals, which, if these reports in the public domain are accurate, would basically require Iran to inspect itself.

The reason people are so anxious and concerned about this is there is no doubt about that. Their concerns are well taken, but I think of all the things that concern my constituents and the people I talked to during August about this deal, it is Iran's long history of supporting terrorism, including attacks on the United States and our allies.

It is no exaggeration to say the Iranian regime has American blood on its hands, and it has had for many years. Former Secretary of State and National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice put it well when she said: Iran has been the country that has, in many ways, been kind of a central banker for terrorism. It is Iran that has been conducting these proxy wars against Israel, the United States, and our allies since the regime came into power as a result of the revolution in 1979.

Even President Obama and his National Security Advisor Susan Rice admitted earlier this summer that the Iranian Government could use the $100 billion in cash they are going to get as a result of sanctions relief to help fund terrorist attacks, to help fund these terrorist groups.

Here is what the President said. I guess he has resigned himself to it. He said: ''The truth is that Iran has always found a way to fund these efforts.'' Well, that does not make me feel any more at ease, nor should it make any of our allies feel any more at ease about Iran and its intentions and what it will do with these funds that will be relieved from sanctions. That does not even address the million barrels of oil a day which now Iran will be able to ply to markets all around the world and the revenue they will be able to generate from that.

The President may believe that there is nothing we can do about Iran funneling money to terrorist groups that seek to attack us and our allies, but we cannot afford to just shrug our shoulders with indifference. That seems to be what the President's reaction is: Well, Iran has always done it and they will do it with this money. But he acts as if there is nothing he nor we can or should do about it. Iran's history of bankrolling terrorist activity deserves our attention and should be the focus of this deal, and it should be a major consideration as we proceed to assess the merits of this nuclear arrangement and vote on a resolution of disapproval.

I wish to pause a minute just to tell the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, not just because he is sitting next to me but because it is true, that I admire and appreciate his leadership through this very convoluted maze we have had to proceed down until we have gotten to this point. But how ironic would it be that after the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, working with the ranking member and getting a vote of Congress and a signature of the President allowing a resolution of disapproval—how ironic would it be if a partisan filibuster blocks an up-or-down vote on that resolution of disapproval. It is just shocking to me, but that is what the minority leader, Senator REID, and indeed the President of the United States himself apparently are talking about—blocking a vote on the resolution of disapproval that they cooperated in crafting and that bears the President's signature, that process by which that is to play out.

But, again, that is another reason people get so disgusted with what they see in Washington—because they feel there is no accountability. People get away with whatever they can. There is no right and wrong anymore. There are no rules that apply to everyone evenly and evenhandedly. There is no—in the words above the Supreme Court of the United States—there is no ''equal justice under the law.'' It does not seem to apply.

Well, just digressing a moment and talking again about this threatened partisan filibuster of the resolution of disapproval—and again I hope and pray our colleagues across the aisle, the 41 who have said they will vote against the resolution of disapproval, I hope they will reconsider if they are even thinking about a partisan filibuster of the resolution itself and not even getting to the resolution of disapproval.

They have every right to vote according to their conscience and as they believe they should vote on the resolution of disapproval, but the idea of blocking a vote by a filibuster—it just

strikes me as reckless and irresponsible, especially in light of this: I mentioned this to the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee a few moments ago, but I will come back to it because I find it so shocking.

A few days ago in the Wall Street Journal, there was a discussion or actually a report from the Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the Supreme Leader of Iran, who declared Thursday—it said in this story of September 3—that the Iranian Parliament would have the final word on the deal. It says the Parliament speaker delivered a similar message to reporters in New York later in the day, saying he supports the deal which would lift crippling economic sanctions on Iran in return for curbs on the country's nuclear activities. The speaker of the Iranian Parliament said the agreement needs to be discussed and it needs to be approved by the Iranian Parliament. There will be heated discussions and debates.

I would hate the fact, if it was to occur—and I hope it does not—that the Iranian Parliament would have a more open, accountable, and democratic process than the Senate. I hope we do not head down the road of a partisan filibuster, no matter how this resolution turns out. It would be a mistake, it would be a self-inflicted wound to the Senate and to the respect which we would like to garner from the American people.

They would see this as business as usual, and I think it would add to their disgust. I hope Members, as they return to Washington today and as we begin to debate this deal, I hope they will recall—and let me, just in a brief few minutes, refresh some of their collective live memories about Iran's long history of terrorism against the United States and our allies. I actually had a chance last week when I was in Dallas, TX, to discuss this matter with a gentleman named Rick Kupke in Dallas, TX. He actually lives in Arlington, TX, right between Fort Worth and Dallas.

But Rick was a former U.S. Foreign Service officer. He has learned firsthand how the Iranian regime targets and attacks Americans because he was the last American captured in 1979 at the U.S. Embassy in Iran during the Iranian hostage crisis. He was one of dozens of Americans held in captivity for 444 days under the constant threat of death. But many will also remember two other terrorist bombings that occurred in 1983 that targeted American citizens. One blew up the U.S. Embassy in Beirut and the other blew up the U.S. Marine barracks at Beirut International Airport. Combined, these bombings killed more than 250 American citizens, including 8 Texans, 7 of them marines and another a soldier.

It is well known and documented that these attacks were perpetrated by the terrorist group Hezbollah under the direction of the Iranian regime. That is how the Iranian regime does its dirty work. It does it through proxies, not directly but through proxies like Hezbollah.

Iran, while it has denied any involvement in these attacks, does not shy away from celebrating these bombings that have killed hundreds of Americans. In 2004, a little more than 20 years after the bombings, the Iranian Government erected a monument—a monument in its capital to commemorate the ''martyrs'' who carried out those attacks.

Later in 1985, Hezbollah, together with another terrorist group, hijacked a Trans World Airlines flight, holding hostages and beating its passengers for 2 weeks. More than half of those passengers were American citizens, including a group of six U.S. Navy sailors, one of whom was murdered.

In 1996, a bombing on a housing complex in Saudi Arabia was linked to Iranian officials that resulted in the death of 19 U.S. servicemembers, wounding more than 500.

More recently, the Defense Department has acknowledged that during Operation Iraqi Freedom, at least 500 Americans died at the hands of Shiite militias who were equipped by Iran with different types of lethal weapons. It became well known that the explosively formed penetrators, which melted the armor used to shield Americans and our allies in Iraq, were produced by the Iranian Government, and the Quds Force trained people to use those against Americans and our allies.

Then, right here in our Nation's Capital just 4 years ago, Iranian officials were implicated in a plot to assassinate the Saudi Ambassador to the United States. That plot reportedly included plans to bomb the Israeli Embassy in Washington as well. That is a staggering list of aggressions against the United States and our allies, both at home and abroad since the Iranian regime came to power in 1979.

I don't have the time right now to discuss the Iranian fingerprints on the havoc being wreaked in the Middle East, from Yemen to Syria, to Iraq. In all the major hotspots of the world, Iranian fingerprints are all over these activities. Of course, Iran has long sponsored militant groups on Israel's borders, which have attacked Israel with rockets, hundreds of rockets and terrorism.

In southern Lebanon, Iran funds and supplies Hezbollah, which threatens Israel's northern border, against which Israel went to war in 2006. In Gaza, on Israel's southwestern border, Iran has long sponsored Hamas. Particularly as Iranian-Hamas relations have frayed in recent years, Iran has sponsored the Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

Suffice it to say that over the years, Iran has sown chaos across the Middle East, attacking the United States and our allies, while publicly celebrating the death of Americans in Tehran. So with this regime's long history of aggression against the United States and its allies, I find it troubling that the President characterizes any thoughtful questioning of the merits of this deal as akin to warmongering. That is what the President has said: If you don't like this deal, the alternative is war. To which I would say: Wrong, Mr. President. The alternative to this deal is a better deal.

According to the President's twisted logic, those who are skeptical of this same Iran, which I have described has time and time again demonstrated its aggression against the United States and which has articulated its principle opposition to this deal—the President would characterize the critics of this deal as the real belligerents encouraging war. In fact, he went so far as to say that Republican opponents of this deal—he has not said this yet about the opponents of this deal who are members of his political party, but he has about Republicans, that those who share the concerns are ''making common cause'' with Iranian hardliners who chant ''Death to America.''

Well, this debate and this vote are simply too important for it to degenerate into partisanship. I know this is something the Senator from Tennessee feels very strongly about. He has tried to elevate the debate and to work in a bipartisan way to bring us to this vote on a resolution this week.

I hope we don't follow the President down this low road of partisan rhetoric, which actually only serves to distract us from examining the deal and identifying the true character of the regime that we are somehow making common cause with and hoping against hope that they won't continue at some point to break out and pursue those nuclear weapons.

This is not like the Soviet Union. This is not Ronald Reagan negotiating with the Soviet Union. This is a theocratic regime that is led by an Islamic extremist who has American and other allied blood on his hands and makes no bones about it.

So this debate needs to help the American people find the answer to this crucial question. I think it boils down to this: Will this deal make America and our allies safer? I think that ultimately is the question.

As we prepare to vote on this resolution of disapproval, I hope that we will have a civil, enthusiastic, and spirited debate, as the speaker of the Iranian Parliament said they will have in their body, and we will be able to openly and honestly discuss different points of view. That is the Senate is supposed to be—a place where that can happen and where it should happen. The American people deserve that kind of debate, not a partisan filibuster that cuts off the debate prematurely and tries to hide accountability for the ultimate outcome on the resolution of disapproval.

I look forward to that spirited debate, and I hope any thought that any of our colleagues might have had about engaging in a partisan filibuster of this important resolution will fade quickly from their minds.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

REMEMBERING ALISON PARKER AND ADAM WARD

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I rise today for a sad occasion, and that is to remember the lives of two Virginians, Alison Parker and Adam Ward, the journalists who were gunned down on live TV in Roanoke, VA, just a couple of weeks ago, as they covered a local news story.

There was a third victim in that shooting, Vicki Gardner, the president of the local chamber of commerce at Smith Mountain Lake, who is recovering. She was released from the hospital today, but she still has a long recovery ahead of her.

We saw during the summer a set of these tragedies in Roanoke, VA, my wife's hometown, in Charleston, SC, in Lafayette, LA, and in Chattanooga, TN. My friend, the Senator from Tennessee, is on the floor.

In Virginia, the shooting in Roanoke, which was carried out on live television, was horrific in itself, but it also was horrific because it brought up a lot of bad memories. The Roanoke community is within about 25 miles from Virginia Tech, where the horrible shooting happened in 2007 that killed 32 people and wounded dozens of others.

I spoke on the Senate floor in April on the eighth anniversary of that shooting. I talked, as is my habit to do in April, about the lives of those who lost their lives but also about some who survived and what they are doing today. I am saddened to be here because it is just another example of a horrible shooting in my Commonwealth. It is also sad because we really haven't made any progress in this body since I came to it in terms of trying to address this issue.

There is a lot of work to be done—legislative and otherwise—to try to address the growing litany of these horrific crimes, which deeply scar our own psyche and, frankly, I think, portray a picture of who we are as a nation to the rest of the world that is not accurate about who we are. I am going to introduce a bill that I think can help us address it. It is not the end-all solution because there isn't a single solution. But I am going to talk a little bit about Alison and Adam, and then I wish to talk about the bill.

Alison and Adam worked on a show on WDBJ, the ''Mornin'' program. They were sort of hometown heroes. Not only were they popular because they worked for the station, they were both from the hometown. Roanoke is where my wife grew up. I am very, very familiar with the wonderful Roanoke community. They both interned at WDBJ when they were in college. They were passionate members of this journalistic profession, and they were just starting on these great careers.

Alison Parker grew up in Martinsville, which is just up the road from Roanoke, about a 45-minute drive. She played the trumpet and French horn in high school. She graduated from James Madison University. When she was at James Madison, she interned at WDBJ. They loved her work, and they gave her a recommendation.

Her first job was not there at WDBJ, but it was in North Carolina. But as soon as she could move from North Carolina back to Virginia, that is what she did. She came back to her hometown station. She covered all kinds of news and human interest stories, including a recent piece on child abuse that was a very powerful one. Her colleagues describe her as ''proactive'' and ''wise beyond her years.'' She met her boyfriend, whom she was planning to marry, while working at WDBJ.

Adam Ward went to Salem High School. Salem is the city that adjoins Roanoke. He graduated in 2007 and played football on two State championship football teams. Teachers there describe him as ''vivacious,'' ''kind,'' ''giving,'' ''respectful,'' and ''genuine.'' He had passion for Virginia Tech, the local college. He started to go to Tech football games with his dad when he was 3 years old. He interned also at WDBJ when he was a communications student at Tech.

His colleagues remembered him as somebody willing to get the image that reporters need. We all know in this line of work the guys behind the camera are so important to it. They make the on-camera talent shine, and that was the way Adam was. He loved to play tricks on the on-camera talent, kind of tweak them and make them not get above their station in life, but he was a wonderful guy.

He found love at the station too. He had become engaged to a producer at the station who sadly was watching in the station the day that the footage of him being killed was shown, which shocked the world.

I really feel for these families. I know we all do. You couldn't have watched that without having a feeling, even if you were a thousand miles away from the Ward and Parker families.

I remember having said to the Virginia Tech families this: It would be presumptuous of me, and so I am not going to say I know what you have lost, because I don't know what you have lost. But when you hear about these people, I do feel like I have a sense of what the world lost, I have a sense of what the community lost. I don't know what the parents and the siblings lost, but you kind of have a sense when you hear about these people from those at WDBJ, the Roanoke community, the community of journalists. You kind of have a sense of what we lost as a society when they were killed.

I should just say a word. Since 2002, Vicki Gardner has worked at the Smith Mountain Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce. It is a major tourism area in Virginia, a State park. It is a feature that was created by a hydroelectric dam, and they were celebrating its 35th anniversary. She was deeply involved in the planning.

Again, she was badly wounded. She has described maneuvering around to try to duck bullets as she was shot in her back. She has had a couple of operations, but, thank God, she has been released to go home today, and we are thinking about her too.

I said the shooting opened a lot of old wounds in Virginia, and especially in this community, sadly, because Virginia Tech is so close. When I spoke on the floor in April, I talked about two of these young people, Colin Goddard and Lily Habtu, who survived that shooting. Just think of the effect upon their lives 8 years later, as they deal with injuries that continue to be a challenge, and they deal with the horrible memories of that day. That was probably one of the most scarring events in modern history in Virginia. Everybody knows where they were, and everybody knew somebody connected to it.

We have revisited the cycle of shock, then anger, then calls for change, then wondering what the right changes were, and sympathy for the families. But we haven't really changed, and I would just humbly submit that I think there are things that we can do—reasonable things we can do that will bring some accountability. It will not eliminate these instances. It is beyond our power to eliminate evil. We cannot do that. We have to be humble about it. But in every area we work on, we can work in this body with the thought that we can do things that will make situations better and that will promote incremental improvements.

RESPONSIBLE TRANSFER OF FIREARMS ACT

Mr. President, I wish to speak about a bill that I am going to introduce called the Responsible Transfer of Firearms Act. As we all know, current Federal law prohibits nine categories of people from getting weapons. Probably the most known are convicted felons, people who have been adjudicated mentally ill and dangerous, and people who are under domestic violence prevention orders.

This is a bipartisan Federal law. Categories have been added over time in a bipartisan way by the House and the Senate. As far as I know, there is bipartisan support for this provision because you never see bills introduced to eliminate these categories of what I will call prohibited persons. These are people whom many in Congress—bicamerally and bipartisanly—have determined should not possess weapons.

Now, the problem is a whole lot of those people do get weapons because folks either give or sell them to them.

What is the current law with respect to giving or selling a weapon to somebody who is prohibited?

The current law basically is kind of a no-responsibility law. You are criminally liable if you give or sell a weapon to somebody who is in those nine prohibited categories, but you are only criminally liable if you knew or should have known that they were prohibited. I practiced law for a while. That makes prosecution virtually impossible, because somebody will give somebody a

weapon or sell it to them and then they will say: Well, I didn't know he was a felon. I didn't know he had been adjudicated mentally ill or dangerous.

There is no obligation on behalf of the seller. Now, we have put obligations on sellers all the time—affirmative duties and obligations—but in this area, we don't put an obligation on the part of a seller other than a registered and licensed gun dealer, who must go through a background check. We don't put any kind of obligation on anybody to do even minimal, reasonable steps to make sure that somebody is lawfully able to possess a weapon.

So what the Responsible Transfer of Firearms Act would do is it would revise the current formula. The current formula does have a liability for sellers but only under an elevated standard that really is almost impossible to meet. We would amend the Federal code, not to change the nine categories—those are the same—not to change the punishments for selling or transferring to them—that would stay the same—but we adjust the responsibility. It is a responsibility and accountability act.

So if you are putting a weapon in somebody's hands, either selling it or transferring it, you have to take ''reasonable steps'' to determine that the recipient is not prohibited from having that weapon. ''Reasonable steps'' is included in the statute—just those words. We don't say: You can only do that by showing one of the following five things. You can take any reasonable steps you think are necessary, but you have to take reasonable steps.

That is what this change in law would do. If you cannot show satisfaction to a court that you have taken reasonable steps, then you will be liable for putting the weapon into somebody's hands whom the Federal Government has said is not able to possess such a weapon.

This shift from the current framework would promote accountability and responsibility. Why should we let a seller just casually put a firearm into the hands of somebody who is prohibited by law from having it? Why should we do that? Why shouldn't there be some minimal accountability for a seller who is putting a weapon in the hands of somebody who has been determined not able to possess a weapon?

We put burdens on sellers. This is not a precise analogy, but if you go in and try to buy beer in a place, you are going to get carded. Why is that? Well, because we have put an affirmative burden on the sale of alcohol so that the seller has to make some effort to determine that the recipient is not prohibited from having it. We do the same thing with tobacco. There are other laws that put burdens on sellers as well, and this a minimal one—take reasonable steps.

To me the lives of some of these people who have been gunned down in those horrible crimes are just worth it. Let's just take reasonable steps. The reasonable steps won't solve all the cases, but it will help keep weapons out of the hands of those whom we have determined, in this body, shouldn't have them.

I close and just say this: Of course, we have to be humble enough to acknowledge there is no one solution to the epidemic of gun violence nor is there a complete solution to it. There is nothing that we can do that will eliminate the possibility that we could wake up tomorrow and see the same thing on TV. Human beings will do evil things. That is not going to change. That is not going to be eliminated by what we do here.

But what we do as legislators in legislation is basically believe—and if we didn't believe this, we wouldn't be in this body—that as we legislate, we can improve situations. We cannot eliminate the possibility, but we can improve it. We can make it less likely that one of these prohibited individuals will get a weapon in their hands and use it against others.

So I just conclude where I started.

Alison and Adam were wonderful people. This is a community that is still really grieving. What compounds grief in my experience—not as a legislator but as a person—what compounds and deepens grief is a sense of hopelessness. Wow, this horrible thing happened. We have had this horrible loss, and there is nothing we can do about it. That tends to turn grief into despair and depression.

Sadly, I was Governor when the shooting at Virginia Tech took place, and I had to deal with 32 families and more who had been injured, and the broader community was hurting so much. When you have gone through an experience—and we see this in our own personal life because everybody has had grief in their own personal lives. If you go through an experience where there is a lot of grief and loss and you feel that it is pointless or there is nothing you can do to improve it or transform it into something better or improve it so that maybe somebody else won't have to suffer through the same experience, that tends to take grief and turn it into something even more damaging—despair and hopelessness. I think one of the things we are called to do as legislators in situations where there is grief is to show there is some hope we can improve, because I believe we can improve. I have seen too many instances legislatively and in the lives of people that we can improve and we can get better, and as a nation we need to get better on this issue. This bill won't do it all, but I think it will be a sensible way to get better and to show those who are suffering and maybe even despairing under this epidemic of gun violence that we are not just going to accept it and sink deeper into despair and grief, but grab on to it and try to make improvements.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. AYOTTE). The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I rise today to discuss the Iran nuclear deal. We are here today because several months ago Senators CORKER and CARDIN, the respective chair and ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee worked out an agreement to allow us to have this debate voted on here in the Senate, and there were 98 votes in support of allowing a vote on the Iranian nuclear agreement. In fact, it went to the President's desk, and the President then signed it into law. That set in place a process, which is where we end up today.

I certainly hope our colleagues who voted for this allow us to have that debate. It is an important debate. It has serious consequences for America's national security interests, and it certainly is something that shouldn't be minimized in any way. The American people need to have their voices heard in this discussion, which will take place if we are allowed to get on that resolution here in the U.S. Senate.

So I would hope that our colleagues on the other side—there was some discussion I read reporting of statements made by the President or by members of his administration, statements made by some of our colleagues here that perhaps they might block us from even proceeding to this resolution. I think that would be a big mistake. It would be a tragic outcome with respect to something that is this important to America's national security. It certainly is something which the American people deserve and have a right to have their voices heard.

So I am looking forward to this discussion. I hope throughout the course of the next few days we will have a chance to air this out because it is clear that one of the greatest threats to our national security is the possibility of a nuclear-armed Iran and a nuclear arms race in the Middle East.

Unfortunately, President Obama's Iran nuclear deal, which is really a nuclear concessions deal, increases rather than decreases that possibility.

There are numerous reasons to be concerned about a nuclear-armed Iran. Iran is the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism. That is well documented. It has been talked about a lot. Iran actively supports Hezbollah and Hamas, both of which pose an immediate threat to our ally Israel.

Iran incites regional instability, supporting the Houthis in Yemen and the Assad regime in Syria. Iran continues to commit human rights abuses against its own people, and Iran has a history of taking extreme measures to hide its nuclear enrichment program from the international community.

In response to Iran's nuclear activities 9 years ago, in 2006, the U.N. and the United States began to impose sanctions on Iran's nuclear enrichment

program. These sanctions were dramatically increased in 2010. The sanctions targeted Iranian businesses and financial institutions as well as members of Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps or IRGC, who were responsible for killing hundreds of Americans and froze Iranian assets that would have been used by Iran to support terrorism throughout the region. This had a tremendous impact, effectively bringing Iran to its knees.

Thanks to the pressures the sanctions exerted on Iran's economy, Iran's leadership was under immense pressure to negotiate with the United States and its allies. In 2013 Iran agreed to engage in talks regarding its nuclear program. However, soon after Iran agreed to come to the negotiating table, the Obama administration inexplicably began making concession after concession, with Iran giving up very little in return. The result—a weak deal that is highly unlikely to stop Iran from becoming a nuclear power.

We have already heard from many of my colleagues why this agreement is a bad deal. Once this deal goes into effect, right off the bat Iran will have access to roughly $140 billion, which even President Obama and Secretary Kerry acknowledge would be partly used to finance terrorism. The deal will also increase access to conventional weapons, allowing Iran to defend its nuclear infrastructure from military strike. By lifting the ban on ballistic missiles, Iran will be able to purchase a delivery system capable of carrying a nuclear warhead well beyond the confines of the Middle East. The deal will also allow Iran to continue its research and development into advanced centrifuges, permitting Iran to modernize its enrichment infrastructure and reducing the breakout period for a nuclear weapon to a few weeks instead of months.

The outcome of this agreement will be a more prosperous, better armed, more dangerous Iran, exerting its regional influence and continuing to sponsor terror. All of that will be achieved without Iran violating the terms of the agreement.

However, if Iran does decide to cheat, this deal will make that more possible. To begin with, for suspicious sites not currently on the list of Iran's nuclear facilities, Iran gets 24 days' notice before inspections can take place. Even more concerning, however, is the information leaked recently that the secret International Atomic Energy Agency agreement with Iran will allow Iran to provide its own soil samples to inspectors from enrichment sites such as the facility at Parchin. Think about that. The regime which has broken these agreements in the past and cheated in the past—again, well documented—will be able to furnish its own soil inspections.

Unfortunately, instead of acknowledging this when it was raised in committee, Secretary Kerry took on the role of apologist for Iran, defending the deal by saying that private agreements with the IAEA are the norm. However, if the leaked information regarding soil samples is correct, this calls into question the entire credibility of the inspections regime. For this reason and many others, I strongly oppose President Obama's nuclear arms concession agreement with Iran, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do the same.

By rejecting this agreement, we can negotiate a better deal—one that will actually stop Iran's nuclear program and prevent Iran from getting a nuclear bomb. It is unfortunate that when we have the majority of the American people clearly opposing this deal that the President is not only willing to veto their opposition but to call doing so a victory.

I would like to expand a little bit of detail on some of the national security concerns with this nuclear agreement with Iran.

Since the Iran agreement was first announced in July, the Obama administration has repeatedly stated that we should at least give this deal a try, arguing that if Iran breaks its side of the agreement and pursues a nuclear weapon, we will have the same military options down the road that we have today. However, that is not true. We will not have the same options in the future that we have today. Right now, if a situation arose where Iran entered a breakout period and was pursuing a nuclear weapon, the United States or our allies in the region could conduct a targeted air strike on Iran's enrichment facilities.

For example, if we knew that Iran was using its nuclear enrichment facility at Fordow to enrich weapons-grade uranium, we could utilize our air superiority with bunker-buster bombs. Obviously, we would prefer to avoid a military strike, but if needed, we have that option, and Iran knows this.

However, under this agreement, in 10 years' time, Iran will have faster, far more efficient centrifuges that can operate in significantly smaller facilities that can be placed deeper underground with increased levels of fortification, making a military strike much more complex.

Right now Iran is using IR–1 centrifuges, which are basically 1960s technology; but under this agreement, starting around year 8, Iran can begin testing IR–6 and IR–8 centrifuges. In fact, as stated in page 10 of Annex 1, after the agreement has been in place for 8½ years, Iran can construct up to 30 IR–6 centrifuges and 30 IR–8 centrifuges. Why is this so significant? IR–6 and IR–8 centrifuges are far more advanced and estimated to be up to 15 times more efficient than the IR–1 centrifuges that they are using today. By increasing the efficiency of the enrichment process, Iran can significantly reduce the breakout period that is necessary to create a bomb.

On page 17 of Annex 1 of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, under the section titled ''Centrifuge Manufacturing,'' the agreement states that at the end of year 8:

> Iran will commence manufacturing of IR–6 and IR–8 centrifuges without rotors through year 10 at a rate of up to 200 centrifuges per year for each type.

The administration has repeatedly asserted that even if we destroyed Iran's enrichment facilities with an air strike, we can't turn back time and erase Iran's nuclear enrichment know-how.

While that may be true, we absolutely can and should prevent Iran from increasing its nuclear expertise, but this deal doesn't do that. Instead, it ensures Iran's knowledge will increase by solidifying its ability to develop more advanced centrifuges. Because these IR–6 and IR–8 centrifuges are so much more efficient in speeding up the uranium enrichment process, they will make it far easier for Iran to conceal and protect its nuclear program.

Referring once again to the facility at Fordow, when Fordow was first constructed, it was built to contain 3,000 IR–1 centrifuges, which meant that the facility had to be significant in size. IR–8 centrifuges, however, are estimated to be 15 times more efficient than the IR–1 centrifuges used at Fordow, which means that by using IR–8 centrifuges, Iran could replicate the enrichment capability of a facility like Fordow with a building containing not 3,000 centrifuges, but only 200 centrifuges. Such a facility can be the size of a house. By reducing the size of the facilities by this magnitude, Iran could build many Fordows in multiple locations, hiding them more easily and putting them deeper underground. Such facilities could be built within existing mines, making them extremely difficult to find.

As mentioned before, this agreement guarantees Iran will have the manufacturing capacity it needs to build these advanced centrifuges. Even within the parameters of this agreement, Iran could manufacture 200 IR–6 centrifuges and 200 IR–8 centrifuges per year starting around year 8. Since Iran would already have the manufacturing capacity for building IR–8 centrifuges, it would merely need to ramp up the production beyond the terms of the agreement and in a short period of time it could have operating enrichment facilities in multiple locations throughout the country. By the time these violations had been discovered and conformed, the advanced centrifuges would likely be in place, and Iran would have likely enough enriched uranium for a bomb.

But there is much more to it than that. Currently, according to publicly available sources, Iran's air defense capabilities consist of domestically produced, short-range surface-to-air missiles and Russian made, longer range SA–2 and SA–5 surface-to-air missiles, as well as a few Chinese CSA–1s. These systems are vulnerable to electronic countermeasures and pose very little

threat to American or even Israeli aircraft.

However, that is not where Iran's air defenses will be in 10 years. Under this agreement, the ban on conventional weapons sales to Iran will be lifted after 5 years. Russia has already agreed to sell Iran four batteries of S–300 vehicle-launched surface-to-air missiles. Depending upon the sophistication of these S–300 missile systems, they may be able to engage aircraft up to 200 miles away.

As we saw last month with Iran unveiling its new solid-fuel missiles, Iran's domestic military infrastructure will not remain static. Over the next decade, as Iran acquires more and more increasingly advanced weapons systems, its area denial capability will make airstrikes even more difficult. Will a future American President, therefore, have the same military options that we have today, as President Obama and Secretary Kerry claim? The answer is no.

We will still have military options available to us, but the calculus for carrying out a targeted airstrike will be much different down the road. Therefore, it is not realistic for President Obama to claim that future Presidents will have the same military options against Iran we have today. And the more the realistic possibility of a military strike decreases, the more likely Iran will be to violate the terms of the agreement and go after a bomb.

In 10 years' time, under this agreement, our best hope for Iran not attaining a nuclear weapon will be the Iranian Government voluntarily deciding it doesn't want one. That is not something I am willing to bank on.

Madam President, I also want to speak for a moment about Iran's support for terrorism and the idea put forward by President Obama that Iran will spend most of the soon-to-be-acquired economic wealth on its own economy. Even if we assume Iran's military spending remains what it is today as a percentage of Iran's budget, what would that mean going forward?

Well, there are many estimates on how much Iran spends on its military. Some experts put the figure at around $10 billion per year, while others estimate the figure to be closer to $15 billion or even higher. In addition, of the amount spent on Iran's military, about 65 percent is spent on Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps—the IRGC.

In the first year of this agreement, between unfrozen assets and increased revenue from oil sales, Iran is expected to see an initial influx of around $140 billion. Now, using conservative numbers, if Iran's military spending stayed the same in this coming year as a percentage of GDP, it would increase to almost $15 billion, with $9.5 billion going to the IRGC.

One of the main national security concerns we have regarding the IRGC is that Iran uses it to support terrorist organizations. Iran is the main supporter of Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza, both of which have provoked conflicts with Israel in recent years.

In addition, Iran's support of instability in the region is well known, with the Iranian Government providing funding to the Houthis in Yemen and military assistance to Assad in Syria. Many of our own casualties in Iraq were the result of Iranian-made bombs provided to insurgents by the Iranian Quds Force.

Last summer, the missiles being launched at Israel out of Gaza were primarily imported from Iran. It is no wonder Israel has been so opposed to this deal.

Even the Iron Dome system, which proved so successful during the last Israeli-Palestinian conflict, can be overwhelmed if enough missiles are fired at once. And now Iran, a country bent on Israel's destruction, is going to see a huge increase in military spending.

Even the Quds Force commander, Qassem Suleimani, the man responsible for supplying Iraqi insurgents with bombs that killed U.S. soldiers, will see United Nations and European Union sanctions lifted as a result of this deal.

President Obama keeps arguing that the danger of a nuclear-armed Iran far outweighs the short-term impact of Iran's increased support for terrorism. As we have discussed, I don't think this agreement prevents Iran from getting a nuclear bomb. But even if my colleagues disagree with me on that point, are we really willing to trade the lives of our allies in the short term to try to achieve this goal? That is not a risk I am willing to take.

In urging my colleagues to vote against this deal, I would also like to speak for just a moment about what would happen if Congress is able to stop this deal?

The President keeps saying a ''no'' vote on this deal will lead to war. Well, that is unrealistic and a clear attempt by the President to garner support for the agreement by stoking people's fears.

Iran is very aware of its own military limitations, and it knows what the outcome of such a war would be. For Iran, in the short term, a much more realistic response would be for it to try to keep its side of the agreement in an attempt to gain United Nations and EU sanctions relief. However, despite this attempt, the United States could double down on the U.N. sanctions that were in place prior to the December framework and threaten to use secondary sanctions against foreign businesses who wish to do business with Iran.

Given the size of the U.S. economy compared to Iran, this is a powerful deterrent. Since Iran's economy is already hurting, maintaining sanctions would provide more leverage for the P5+1 to get a better deal.

However, another plausible outcome following congressional rejection of the deal would be for Iran to try to capitalize on congressional disapproval by seeking to divide Russia and China from the West to undermine the multilateral sanctions regime. Iran could try to achieve this by implementing certain commitments from the agreement but not others.

But even if China and Russia wish to do business with Iran, they both still have an incentive to try to achieve the original goal of the negotiations. It is not in China's interest for a nuclear-armed Iran to cause greater instability with global energy prices, and Russia doesn't want an Islamist regime in its backyard, which is prone to regional conflicts, acquiring nuclear weapons capabilities.

These scenarios I am describing have already been echoed by a chorus of experts who have pointed out the flaws in this agreement and offered alternatives. The vote this week is not—is not—a choice between supporting a bad deal or going to war. The vote this week is an opportunity to reject a bad deal in order to achieve a better outcome.

That is what we ought to be doing, and I hope we get the chance to get on this resolution and that we have the chance to get a full debate here in the Senate where the people's voices can be heard. I hope when it is all said and done, Members here in the Senate will come to the same conclusion I and many of my colleagues have, which is that this is a bad deal for our country, it is a bad deal for our allies in the region, and there is a much better outcome that can be achieved if the Senate will reject this bad deal and get us back to negotiations where we can achieve a better outcome.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF ROSEANN A. KETCHMARK TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Roseann A. Ketchmark, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 30

minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form.

The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the time during the quorum call be equally divided.

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

Mr. BLUNT. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, today we are going to vote on the nomination of Roseann Ketchmark. She has been nominated to be a Federal district judge in the Western District of Missouri. Now, this is only the sixth judicial nominee that we have voted on since the Senate Republicans took over the majority 8 months ago, so less than 1 a month. In fact, if we continue at this rate the Republican majority has established, the Senate this year will confirm the fewest number of judges in more than a half century—resulting in a judicial vacancy crisis. I am concerned because the Senate Republican leadership has refused to schedule timely confirmation votes for consensus judicial nominees which, I think, demonstrates an astounding neglect of the needs of our independent third branch, which borders on contempt.

I am proud to be a lawyer. I have practiced both in the criminal and civil bars and served as a prosecutor. I have appeared before many different courts. I look at the men and women who have been on our courts, and I say: Here is an example of the way the judicial system should be—something every country in the world wants to emulate. But now, we are treating that third branch almost with contempt—with partisan contempt—and that is going to hurt the whole of the Federal judiciary.

When Senate Democrats were in the majority, we worked hard to reduce the number of judicial vacancies to just 43—the lowest level since this President took office. This was accomplished through the unyielding efforts of then-Majority Leader REID and Senate Democrats, who prioritized filling judicial vacancies so that our independent judiciary would be sufficiently staffed. Our success in reducing the number of judicial vacancies to such a level in 2014 was remarkable, given that we had begun the year with over 90 vacancies and the fact that Senate Republicans filibustered every single judicial nominee.

Throughout President Obama's tenure, we have seen Senate Republicans consistently prioritize partisan politics over the Senate's constitutional duty of advice and consent. Their relentless obstruction over the last 6 years has resulted in an unacceptable number of vacancies—often hovering close to or exceeding 90. By the end of last year, the Senate made progress in reducing judicial vacancies to 43, but now we are seeing those gains reversed due to the Republicans' refusal to even schedule confirmation votes this year. In the 8 months since Republicans have been in the majority, judicial vacancies have increased by more than 50 percent. If Republicans keep on this dangerous course, we are heading to a judicial vacancy crisis. This is made worse by the fact that the number of Federal court vacancies deemed to be ''judicial emergencies'' by the non-partisan Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts has increased by 158 percent since the beginning of the year. There are now 31 judicial emergency vacancies that are affecting communities across the country.

I am going to show a couple of things. Republicans campaigned last year on the promise they would govern responsibly if they won the majority, but instead they have created divisive issues that play openly to their political base. One needs to look no further than the recent show vote to defund critical health services for women.

I was in Vermont all last month. Everywhere I went—especially rural Vermont, where it is so difficult and so essential to get health care to women—they are asking: Why do the Republicans want to cut off the health care for women in rural parts of our country? Rather than spending 2 days in an unnecessary political exercise, the Senate should have voted to confirm the many judicial nominees pending on the calendar. In fact, rather than pushing bills to strip funding from local law enforcement for obeying the rules on immigration enforcement, we should be confirming judges to ensure our entire criminal justice system works for everyone.

Let's give one example. The last 2 years of President Bush's tenure in office, the Democrats controlled the Senate. By this time, we had confirmed 26 of his judges. Now, with exactly the same situation, with Republicans controlling, they have only allowed five judges. What we did as Democrats for President Bush, we put through five times as many judges as Republicans have for President Obama. What you are seeing actually is we are going to politicize the Federal courts.

Supporting and strengthening our Federal judiciary is not a Democratic or Republican priority; it is a fundamental and constitutional duty of the Senate that we all must share. In fact, the Senate Republican leadership's decision to shirk this body's constitutional duty of advice is doing the most harm to States with at least one Republican Senator. Of the 67 current vacancies that exist, 48 of them—or more than 70 percent—are in States with at least one Republican Senator. Texas, for example, has nine judicial vacancies. Seven of those nine are considered judicial emergencies. Incredibly, one of those district court positions has been vacant for over 4 years. A Fifth Circuit position in Texas has been vacant for more than 3 years. Pennsylvania and Alabama face similar crises. They have six and five current vacancies, respectively. Federal courts in several other States are grappling with extended vacancies. They desperately need to be filled.

The length of time that some of these vacancies have remained unfilled is staggering. In Texas, none of these vacancies currently have nominees because the Texas Senators have been slow in providing recommendations to the President. A similar pattern can be seen with the Alabama vacancies, where two of the positions have been vacant for over 2 years, and another has remained vacant for over 1½ years.

In Pennsylvania, there are six current vacancies and five nominees pending. Senate Republicans should be trying to move these nominees as expeditiously as possible. Of great concern is the treatment of Judge Luis Felipe Restrepo, who will fill an emergency vacancy on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Judge Restrepo was unanimously confirmed 2 years ago by the Senate to serve as a district court judge in Pennyslvania. I have heard no objection to his nomination, yet it took 7 months just to get him a hearing in the Judiciary Committee.

Judge Restrepo has strong bipartisan support from both Pennsylvania Senators, and he was voted out of the Judiciary Committee unanimously by voice vote. Once confirmed, Judge Restrepo will become the first Hispanic judge from Pennsylvania to serve on this court and only the second Hispanic judge ever to serve on the Third Circuit. No Senate Democrat opposes a vote on his nomination. Senate Republicans are the only thing holding up his nomination. I hope the Republican Senator from Pennsylvania will implore his leadership to bring this highly qualified nominee up for a vote. The continued delay of Judge Restrepo is a poor reflection on this body.

In the Western District of New York, located in Buffalo, there is not a single active Federal district judge, even though it has one of the busiest caseloads in the country. And there are more criminal cases than in Washington, DC, Boston, Cleveland, and they don't have a single active judge because Republicans will not allow a vote, up or down, even though they have the majority. If you don't like the judge, you vote them down. They will not even allow a vote. I should note that the highly qualified nominee to serve in Buffalo was voted unanimously out of the Judiciary Committee. They will not allow them to have a vote on the Senate floor.

Look at this, how we brought vacancies down when we controlled the Senate, and now look at how they shoot up when the Republicans control the Senate. It makes no sense at all. In fact, as

I said earlier, the Republican-controlled Senate allowed confirmation votes on just five judges—one, two, three, four, five. They have taken vacations, recesses, long weekends, and leave early—but we don't have time to vote on judges, which are normally unanimous votes anyway.

We are going to vote on the sixth today. Whoop-de-i-ay. Good for us. My goodness gracious. It hasn't been this way before. As I said, when I was chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, in the last 2 years of President Bush's term, I had put through 26 judges by now. The Republicans have only allowed five judges. This kind of partisanship is really wrong. In fact, it is on pace to be the lowest in recent history.

President Eisenhower had 47 judges confirmed in his last 2 years in office; President Reagan had 85 judges confirmed his last 2 years in office; President Clinton had 73 judges confirmed his last 2 years in office; and President George W. Bush had 68 judges confirmed his last 2 years in office. This is a clear double standard that is being applied to President Obama's nominees.

Republicans can provide some real leadership if the majority leader would go ahead and allow for a vote on all 14 of the judicial nominees pending on the Executive Calendar. All of these nominees have bipartisan support and were voted out of the Judiciary Committee by voice vote. Five of them would fill judicial emergency vacancies, including Judge Restrepo of Pennsylvania. Others would fill judicial emergencies in California, New York, and Tennessee. And the five nominees to the U.S. Court of Federal Claims have now been pending before the full Senate for a year or more.

Today we are voting on the nomination of Roseann Ketchmark to fill a judicial vacancy in the Federal district court in the Western District of Missouri. She has spent her entire 25-year legal career as a prosecutor on both the State and Federal levels. Since 2001, Ms. Ketchmark has served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Missouri. During her time in the U.S. Attorney's Office, Ms. Ketchmark has served in supervisory and management capacities as both the First Assistant U.S. Attorney and as the Executive Assistant Attorney. She began her legal career as an Assistant Prosecutor in Kansas City, MO, at the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, and subsequently joined the Platte County Prosecutor's Office in Platte City, MO, as a First Assistant Prosecutor. Ms. Ketchmark has the bipartisan support of her two home State Senators, Senator MCCASKILL and Senator BLUNT. She was voted out of the Judiciary Committee by voice vote more than 4 months ago. She has a strong background as a criminal prosecutor and I will support her nomination.

The majority leader has spoken recently about his desire to avoid another Republican-led government shutdown. I agree, the American people deserve something better than obstructionist shutdowns. While the focus has been on the threat of Republicans shutting down the government over women's health services, the Senate Republicans have virtually shut down the judicial confirmation process. It is harming our justice system in the short and long term.

I have spoken to a number of Republican Senators who realize this is wrong. These are the same Senators who came to me at the time of President Bush and asked: Can you move these judges, even though you are in charge? And I said, of course, we will. Some have come sheepishly and said: We are sorry we didn't return the favor. What I say is reverse course; I urge Senate Republicans to reverse course and realize the short-term partisan decisions are undermining the ability of the judicial system to serve our communities.

Tonight's vote to confirm a district court nominee from Missouri is long overdue. I urge the Senate Republican leadership to schedule votes for the remaining 13 consensus judicial nominees on the Executive Calendar. They could all be done tomorrow morning in half an hour's time.

I have been in the Senate longer than any Member of this body. I have been here in the majority and the minority, numerous times in both. I have been here with Republican Presidents and Democratic Presidents, with the Republican leaders——

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. LEAHY. I see nobody else seeking recognition. I ask unanimous consent for another 3 minutes.

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

Mr. LEAHY. I have been here with both Republican and Democratic leadership of this body, Republican and Democratic Presidents. I have never, in 41 years, seen the Federal judiciary treated in such a cavalier, mean-spirited and, I would say, irresponsible fashion. I know most Senators want to do the right thing. Let's start doing it. This Third Branch of government should be treated with respect. If you have a person who is not competent who is nominated, then vote them down, but if they are competent, let's have a vote on it. Let's not have this.

You are not going to find good men and women to agree to serve on the Federal bench if they think they are going to be delayed for partisan reasons for a year or more at a time. We can do better. We are all proud of our Federal judiciary. It is the best in the world, but this kind of partisanship could turn it into one of the worst in the world. This Senator does not want to see that happen.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GARDNER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Roseann A. Ketchmark, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri?

Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DAINES). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 96, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 263 Ex.]

YEAS—96

Alexander	Fischer	Murphy
Ayotte	Flake	Murray
Baldwin	Franken	Nelson
Barrasso	Gardner	Paul
Bennet	Gillibrand	Perdue
Blumenthal	Graham	Peters
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Booker	Hatch	Reed
Boozman	Heinrich	Reid
Boxer	Heitkamp	Risch
Brown	Heller	Roberts
Burr	Hirono	Rounds
Cantwell	Hoeven	Sanders
Capito	Inhofe	Sasse
Cardin	Isakson	Schatz
Carper	Johnson	Schumer
Casey	Kaine	Scott
Cassidy	King	Sessions
Coats	Kirk	Shaheen
Cochran	Klobuchar	Shelby
Collins	Lankford	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Sullivan
Corker	Lee	Tester
Cornyn	Manchin	Thune
Cotton	McCain	Tillis
Crapo	McCaskill	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Vitter
Donnelly	Menendez	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Enzi	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Feinstein	Murkowski	Wyden

NOT VOTING—4

Cruz	Rubio
Markey	Udall

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

The Senator from South Dakota.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. I thank the Presiding Officer.

CELEBRATING LABOR DAY AND AMERICAN WORKERS

Mr. BROWN. President Lincoln said:

> It has so happened in all ages of the world, that some have labored, and others have, without labor, enjoyed a large proportion of the fruits. This is wrong, and it should not continue.

Early in President Obama's term, I printed out that quote and handed it to him because it underscores to me the value of labor and the wealth that labor creates for our country, our society, and for those workers and their families. I gave the President that quote because it is my hope that all of us as elected officials remember how important it is that we stand up for workers, organized and unorganized, labor union and nonlabor union members.

It is important to stand up for the workers who have built this country. They laid down the railroad tracks that move people and products across the country. They work on shop floors. They innovate as they labor. They toil in mines. They dug the coal that would power our trains and our factories. These workers built our strong middle class and they continue to be the backbone of our economy.

Over the past month, as many of us did in our States, I visited factory floors across Ohio. At each stop, I witnessed the ingenuity and dedication of workers. Last Thursday I visited All American Clothing in Arcanum, OH. It is a family business and a classic American success story. In 2002, Lawson Nickol worked for a blue jeans manufacturing company. He watched as his company outsourced more and more of its operations, more and more of its production to other countries. Lawson Nickol was appalled as he saw coworkers and friends losing their jobs all the way down the supply chain of this company. He knew he had to do something.

He left his job and he founded All American Clothing Company in Darke County, a rural county west and north of Dayton, OH. He started making jeans in Arcanum, OH.

The first few years were difficult. The company survived on family savings, taking financial risks, working long hours, and having a little bit of luck. But 13 years later, All American is proof that you should never bet against American workers. The jeans aren't only made in Ohio; they are made in other places all over this country. The company is growing. The company expanded in 2012 with the help of a $150,000 low-interest CDBG development loan. Its products are 100 percent American made and support Ohio jobs.

Lawson's business is a family affair. His son, B.J. Nickol, is a co-owner and company president. B.J. told me that ''it is not about greed for us. It is about giving people jobs and making a decent living.''

Travel across Ohio and across the country, and you will find more companies like All American thriving on the talent, tenacity, and hard work, blood, sweat, toil, and tears of American workers.

I visited an Airstream plant in Shelby County and a Continental ContiTech plant in St. Mary's. I toured the Honda Logistics North America plant in East Liberty and the GE Testing Facility in Peebles. I attended the grand opening of the Hart Schaffner Marx suit facility in Brooklyn, OH, a suburb of Cleveland.

I wear this suit today, made in Cleveland, OH, by union workers in a Hugo Boss plant. Since then that plant has been sold to Hart Schaffner Marx, which is opening its production right now. When I visited that plant in my Hugo Boss suit and talked about the fact that this suit had been made at this plant with 150 unionized workers, a worker walked up to me and said, ''Senator,'' and she touched me on the chest and said, ''I made that pocket.'' All of these operations are flourishing because of Ohio workers.

While our workers support our economy, we are not doing enough to support them. Too often workers have no paid sick leave, no paid family leave, and no overtime pay.

President Obama is taking important steps to help working families. New overtime rules would expand overtime pay so that 40 percent of salaried workers would be eligible. Think of it this way. A worker—an employee who is the shift manager on the second shift at a fast-food restaurant who is classified as management may be making only $30 or $35,000 a year. They work that worker more than 40 hours a week. Yet that worker gets no overtime because that worker is classified as supervisory. That is wrong. Under the President's plan, the rule he passed down, 160,000 more Ohioans will earn overtime pay for the work they are already doing at their place of business.

This week the administration announced that Federal contractors will be required to provide up to 7 days of paid sick leave each year. It will mean 300,000 Americans working on Federal contracts will be able to stay home if they get sick or take a day off to care for a sick child. It means they are less likely to show up to work when they might infect somebody else with the illness they have, so everybody is more productive. These are important steps, but there are limits to Executive action.

Too many workers are left without paid sick leave, without maternity leave, without overtime pay, without predictable work schedules. Too many women still earn less than men for the same work. The President, through Executive action, can solve some of this, as he should, as he is given power by Congress to do, but we need legislative action.

Previous generations of workers fought for the protections we take for granted: child labor laws, workplace safety protections, unemployment insurance. They fought in union halls, they organized in union halls and church basements. They demanded a government that respects the dignity of work, that passes laws recognizing the decency and dedication of workers.

After decades of attacks on our unions, laws are often the only protections workers have. Fifty years ago, one in three workers was a member of a union—one-third of workers were members of unions. Now that number is 1 in 10. That is why action from this body is needed more than ever. Workers, when they are organized, when they have a union, are protected so they are paid the overtime they earn. They are protected often with provided sick leave and maternity leave. They are protected because of their union from injury in the workplace.

Because not as many people belong to unions today—that is why we need to pass the Healthy Families Act, we need to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, we need to pass the Schedules That Work Act, and we need to pass the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act. This is action we can take today in celebration of Labor Day that would make a tremendous difference in the lives of American workers who built this economy.

This past weekend, we celebrated Labor Day with picnics and barbecues and time spent with families, we issued statements honoring American workers. Let's not just honor them with words, let's honor them with deeds. Let's move forward in a way that puts labor, that puts the American worker front and center.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNIZING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS'S ACQUISITION OF THOMAS JEFFERSON'S PERSONAL LIBRARY

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, this year is the 200th anniversary of one of the wisest decisions Congress ever made. In 1815, Congress acquired the entirety of Thomas Jefferson's personal library to

replace Congress's library, which was burnt by the British Army the previous year.

I would like to take a few moments to recognize this anniversary and to focus on the good work one small Library of Congress program does today.

Though the Library of Congress was established in 1800, for the first 15 years of its existence it was mainly a law library. It was not until the acquisition of Jefferson's personal library that the Library became the broad repository of knowledge that it is today. Some Members of Congress opposed the idea of buying Jefferson's entire library, which included books in many languages, and on a variety of topics, including science, math, philosophy, and religion. However, Thomas Jefferson famously replied, ''I do not know that it contains any branch of science which Congress would wish to exclude from their collection; there is, in fact, no subject to which a Member of Congress may not have occasion to refer.'' Fortunately, this view won the day, and today the Library contains an unparalleled number of items from every branch of knowledge, making it the largest library in the world.

Forever growing, the Library of Congress receives 20,000 new items every day. However, only about half are kept for the Library's permanent collection. It is the program designed to bridge that divide which has grown to touch so many Oregonians, as well as regular folks around the country.

The Library of Congress's Surplus Books Program takes the books not needed for the Library's collections and provides them to schools, libraries, and nonprofit institutions around the country. Each week, staff from my office are able to select books, box them up, and send them to Oregon.

One recipient in Oregon has been the new library in Halsey, OR. Halsey is a small town, but the community has come together to build a fantastic new library. I have been able to send them several hundred new books to help them grow and diversify their collection. I expect to be able to send them hundreds more, thanks to the Library of Congress's Surplus Books Program.

I would be remiss if I failed to recognize Joseph Maher, acquisitions specialist and librarian for the Surplus Books Program. Mr. Maher almost singlehandedly runs the program and often goes above and beyond to identify books for particular organizations. Mr. Maher works to find a good home for each of the books, while simultaneously balancing the needs of the many congressional offices, schools, universities, and Federal agencies that select books from the program. He works tirelessly knowing that the books they send around the country are going to make a positive impact on many lives.

Reading sparks creativity, learning, passion, and imagination, and the Library of Congress continues to help ignite it. I could not be more pleased to see communities in Oregon benefitting from this program.

CONGRATULATING KATIE ROTH

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to congratulate a constituent and a great friend of mine, Katie Roth of West Des Moines. This summer Katie was named the 2015 Woman Business Owner of the Year, presented by the Business Record.

In the spring of 2005, Katie, who is never shy to take on a challenge, opened her own staffing agency and has built it from the ground up. Ten years later, Portico Staffing has thrived under her exceptional leadership, business savvy, and highly regarded reputation as a people person. Katie knows how to build relationships and find opportunities needed to grow a business. Along the way, she has helped countless Iowa employers and job-seekers find one another. You might say she is a perfect matchmaker. For the last decade, Katie has worked hard to carve out a slice of the American dream by owning and growing her own business. She knows it comes with sacrifice and risk. And she has worked hard to make her dream come true. Katie is a great mentor and role model for the next generation. She shows that perseverance and persistence pay off. Always on the job, whether networking in the community or listening to her clients, Katie makes good connections happen. And that is a good thing for job seekers and employers looking to hire and grow their business.

Katie was nominated by her peers for consideration of this prestigious award. It is no surprise to me that my fellow Iowans would sing her praises. Without hesitation, I endorse Katie's selection as the 2015 Business Owner of the Year. I have had the pleasure of knowing Katie Roth since 1980 when she joined my first campaign for the U.S. Senate. Always a tireless worker, I have enjoyed watching Katie thrive and succeed throughout the years. A loving wife and mother, Katie is fiercely loyal and Barbara and I hold her in our highest regard.

Barbara and I extend our congratulations to Katie Roth for this well-deserved honor. We wish her the very best as she blazes the trail for many years to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE GREATER KANSAS CITY CRIME STOPPERS

• Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, as co-chair of the Senate Law Enforcement Caucus, I call to the attention of my colleagues an effective public-private partnership that was pioneered by the Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers.

This partnership, which empowers citizens to assist law enforcement on behalf of public safety, has been a model for the Nation, and beyond.

Crime Stoppers is separate from the police emergency phone system or other standard methods of contacting police, as it allows a member of the community to provide anonymous information about criminal activity. In 1982, the Kansas City Crime Commission launched a hotline for anonymous tips—Crime Stoppers. That first year, 30 tips came in, clearing 8 cases.

Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers emerged as a top program, earning global recognition. In 1999, Sergeant Craig Sarver of the Kansas City Police Department was named International—Crime Stoppers—Coordinator of the Year.

An innovator, Sergeant Sarver nurtured an idea that has evolved into a common tool for law enforcement.

In the summer of 2002, 19-year-old Ali Kemp was murdered in the pump house at a community swimming pool near Kansas City. Her father, Roger Kemp, suggested to police and the local office of Lamar Advertising Company that billboards could help find the killer.

Eventually, a tip generated by donated billboards helped resolve this case. A suspect was arrested in Connecticut, tried, and convicted.

Since then, ''wanted'' billboards have led to arrests in more than 20 murder cases in the Kansas City area. Sarver, who retired in 2008 after 33 years on the force, cites two reasons why billboards help generate solid tips for police.

First, he says, is the frequency of the message. Tipsters have said they had seen ''wanted'' billboards multiple times before they shared tips. Second is the emphasis on anonymity, important to those who fear retribution, according to Sergeant Sarver.

Now this tactic—to feature a tip line number on billboards along with a suspect's photo—is a common tool for law enforcement. In 2007 in Philadelphia, the FBI starting using donated electronic ''digital'' billboards to help find fugitives. The FBI calls these high-tech signs ''force multipliers.'' Tips generated by digital billboards have resolved 53 FBI cases.

State and local police also rely on billboards to communicate with the public. After two inmates escaped prison in upstate New York in early June, New York State Police activated 50 digital billboards in four states.

Near St. Louis, a motorist opened fire on an Illinois State trooper during a traffic stop on June 23. The trooper was not injured, but the shooter fled. In southern Illinois, the District 11 State Police office is located near Mid America Outdoor Advertising in Collinsville, IL. Shortly after police asked Mid America for help, the suspect's photo appeared on a digital billboard along a high-traffic interstate en route to St. Louis. The suspect was arrested by the end of the week.

In Elyria, OH, the sheriff says 12 fugitives have been arrested thanks to tips prompted by digital billboards. Lorain County Sheriff Phil R. Stammitti describes these long-sought individuals as ''very hard to locate.''

Neil Mahan, the retired police chief from Janesville, WI, says billboards help police apprehend suspected criminals and deliver other information to the public. ''For example,'' he wrote in The Police Chief magazine, ''an elderly female suffering from Alzheimer's disease wandered away from family at a local shopping mall and was found by a citizen using the digital billboard information. When spring floods along the Rock River posed significant danger to the public, billboards were used to post warnings about the danger.''

In conclusion, we know that public safety is enhanced when citizens are empowered to help law enforcement. I commend the Kansas City Crime Commission and Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers for their contributions in advancing a new communications tool that aides the cause of safety.●

RECOGNIZING THE JOHN R. ELLIOTT HERO CAMPAIGN FOR DESIGNATED DRIVERS

● Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, today I am honored to recognize the John R. Elliott HERO Campaign for Designated Drivers on the occasion of their 15th anniversary.

The John R. Elliott HERO Campaign for Designated Drivers was created in 2000 following the tragic death of Navy ENS John R. Elliott in a drunk-driving related crash.

The campaign's mission is to prevent drunk driving-related crashes and deaths through the use of designated drivers. That mission has been a significant success across New Jersey, with many drivers citing the John R. Elliott HERO Campaign as a reason why they choose to serve as designated drivers.

Over the last 15 years, the organization has grown from a small group from Southern New Jersey, to an organization nationally recognized by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the National Commission Against Drunk Driving for its efforts.

The effects of the John R. Elliott HERO Campaign have gone beyond the Southern New Jersey region. Seven States across our Nation have adopted the HERO Campaign as their designated driver model in an effort to decrease drunk driving fatalities. The HERO Campaign has also partnered with the New York Giants, the Philadelphia Phillies, and other professional sports franchises in their mission to promote the use of designated drivers. These partnerships do not include the thousands of individuals across our Nation who have also registered as designated drivers at concerts and sporting events as a pledge to the HERO campaign.

The John R. Elliott HERO Campaign for Designated Drivers was instrumental in the passage of John's Law, enacted in 2005, which gave States $145 million in highway grant incentives for establishing car impoundment laws for drivers suspected of drunk driving.

The tragic circumstances surrounding Navy ENS John R. Elliott's crash have turned into a long history of meaningful accomplishments across not only New Jersey, but across our Nation. It is my hope that the legacy of John R. Elliott will live on and expand across our country.

I applaud the efforts of the John R. Elliott HERO Campaign for Designated Drivers and thank them for their efforts in making our roads safer across our country by promoting the use of designated drivers.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF L. MASON CAPITANI

● Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the 50th Anniversary of L. Mason Capitani CORFAC International. It is a pleasure to commemorate this wonderful milestone in the history of a family-owned Michigan business.

Founded by L. Mason Capitani in 1965, L. Mason Capitani was a one-man operation until his son, Mason E. Capitani, joined the company. Mason displayed an affinity for industry, which helped the company blossom into the full-service brokerage and property management firm it is today. Mason E. still serves as the company's chairman, but a third generation of the Capitani family—Jason Capitani and Mason L. Capitani—are now managing most of the day-to-day operations of L. Mason Capitani.

Mason E. Capitani credits tenacity and careful planning as two of the keys to L. Mason Capitani's success over the past five decades. From its modest beginning, the company has grown into a global organization, with a reach that extends far beyond the State of Michigan. The company has followed a careful path of natural growth, where an honest understanding of its strengths and weaknesses, as well as the dynamics of a global market, have allowed L. Mason Capitani to thrive in a volatile industry.

The success of L. Mason Capitani is rooted in more than diligent planning. It is a reflection of the company's dedication to customer service, as well as its commitment to supporting a knowledgeable and talented workforce. The brokers, agents, and support staff at L. Mason Capitani are encouraged to provide high-quality customer service without jeopardizing their ethics, integrity, or dignity. An emphasis on integrity has allowed L. Mason Capitani to build relationships based on trust and experience. As a family business, its employees understand the company's success and the family's reputation are inseparable.

I applaud the employees of L. Mason Capitani for demonstrating the hard work and dedication to service required for 50 years of success. Family businesses like L. Mason Capitani are the main drivers of the economy in Michigan and across the United States. L. Mason Capitani is well aware of its role in supporting economic opportunity and quality of life in communities across the State of Michigan, including Detroit, where the company embraces the opportunity for it to grow while contributing to efforts to rebuild one of America's great cities.

Again, I congratulate L. Mason Capitani CORFAC International on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary. I appreciate its contributions to quality of life and economic vitality throughout the State of Michigan and wish it and its employees many more decades of success.●

REMEMBERING JOSEPH SCANLON

● Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, Rhode Island recently lost a good man and dedicated public servant. Joseph Scanlon, from Tiverton, passed away on August 24 with his family at his side. For all of us who knew him, this was very sad news.

Joe wore many hats during the course of his life. He served in the U.S. Army in the Korean war. He represented his hometown of Tiverton in the Rhode Island General Assembly. He worked for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island for 10 years and was a member of the board of directors of Home Loan Investment Bank. He was active in local civic and charitable organizations, like the Fogarty Foundation, the Catholic Charity Fund, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and the Rhode Island Heart Association, just to name a few. These items alone make for quite an impressive résumé.

But Joe will always be remembered for his service as administrative aide to the late U.S. Congressman Fernand St. Germain. For nearly three decades, Joe ran the Congressman's office in Rhode Island. During that time, Joe created an office which focused on helping constituents in their dealings with the Federal Government. Joe's work was and remains the gold standard for congressional offices and reflects Joe's deep-seated commitment to the people of Rhode Island.

In this time of partisanship and rancor, it is good to honor Joe's dedication to a simple goal: helping people. Joe seemed to like everyone he met, and he went out of his way to steer power of government to helping people, one by one, as he learned of their difficulties. He was a master of his craft.

Although it might not get as much attention as other aspects of the job, helping constituents navigate through their government is one of the most important roles we play as Members of Congress. Federal bureaucracy can be difficult, overwhelming, and frustrating. We can't seek special treatment, but we can ask questions and demand accountability, helping to cut the redtape that often stands in a constituent's way.

Joe knew the questions to ask and the people to call. He worked tirelessly with his staff. He returned calls and wrote letters promptly and exhausted

every option available to the constituent. Joe truly cared about Rhode Island and its people. And he got results.

Joe was very helpful to me in my run for Senate in 2006. After my election, I sought Joe's advice as I set up my office in Rhode Island. He gave generously of his time and expertise, and many, if not all, of his words of wisdom are in use in my office today. I will always be grateful to him for that.

I will also be grateful for his friendship through the years, and I will miss him dearly.

I send my condolences to Joe's beloved wife, Jeannine; his children, Deborah, Stephen, and Susan; and the entire Scanlon family. Rhode Island was fortunate to have had such a committed, energetic, and selfless citizen.

Godspeed, my friend.●

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

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 RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 6, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS) has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 212. An act to amend the Safe Water Drinking Act to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of algal toxins in drinking water, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1138. An act to establish certain wilderness areas in central Idaho and to authorize various land conveyances involving National Forest System land and Bureau of Land Management land in central Idaho, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1531. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide a pathway for temporary seasonal employees in Federal land management agencies to compete for vacant permanent positions under internal merit promotion procedures, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2131. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 83 Meeting Street in Charleston, South Carolina, as the ''J. Waties Waring Judicial Center''.

H.R. 2559. An act to designate the ''PFC Milton A. Lee Medal of Honor Memorial Highway'' in the State of Texas.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the enrolled bills were signed on August 6, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

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–2533. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 15–074); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2534. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 15–028); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2535. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 15–039); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2536. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 15–034); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2537. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 15–044); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2538. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Suspension of Community Eligibility'' ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA–2015–0001)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2539. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Butte County Air Quality Management District, Feather River Air Quality Management District, and San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District; Correction'' (FRL No. 9931–19–Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2540. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Definitions of Low Pressure Gas Well and Storage Vessel'' (FRL No. 9931–76–OAR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2541. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; State of Wyoming; Interstate Transport of Pollution for the 2006 24-Hour PM2.5 NAAQS'' (FRL No. 9932–05–Region 8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2542. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; State of Colorado; Interstate Transport of Pollution for the 2006 24-Hour PM2.5 NAAQS'' (FRL No. 9932–04–Region 8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2543. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Arizona; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Lead (Pb) and the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)'' (FRL No. 9926–72–Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2544. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Georgia; Atlanta; Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard'' (FRL No. 9932–20–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2545. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Florida; Miscellaneous Changes'' (FRL No. 9932–25–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2546. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Alabama, Mississippi and South Carolina; Certain Visibility Requirements for the 2008 Ozone Standards'' (FRL No. 9932–30–Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2547. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Washington'' (FRL No. 9932–21–Region 10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2548. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Iowa; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference'' (FRL No. 9926–85–Region 7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2549. 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; Airbus Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–0086)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2550. 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; Airbus Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–0679)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2551. 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; Airbus Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0748)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2552. 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; Airbus Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0011)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2553. 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; ATR–GIE Avions de Transport Regional Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–1986)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2554. 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; The Boeing Company Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0926)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2555. 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; The Boeing Company Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0428)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2556. 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; The Boeing Company Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–1052)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2557. 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; The Boeing Company Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0572)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2558. 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; The Boeing Company Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0778)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2559. 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; The Boeing Company Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0921)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2560. 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; The Boeing Company Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0339)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2561. 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; The Boeing Company Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0780)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2562. 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–2015–2563)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2563. 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–2015–2957)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2564. 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–2014–0570)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2565. 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–2015–0088)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2566. 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–2014–0524)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2567. 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–2014–0569)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2568. 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; Bell Helicopter Textron Inc. Helicopters'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–2906)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2569. 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; Bell Helicopter Textron Inc. Helicopters'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0499)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2570. 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; Dassault Aviation Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–1988)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2571. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Kaman Aerospace Corporation (Kaman) Helicopters'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0758)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2572. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives;

Honeywell International Inc. Turboprop Engines'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2006–23706)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2573. A communication from the Management and Program Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; M7 Aerospace LLC Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–2435)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2574. 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; PILATUS Aircraft Limited Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–1177)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2575. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Pratt and Whitney Turbofan Engines'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–1127)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2576. 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; Piper Aircraft, Inc.'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–2434)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2577. 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; GA 8 Airvan (Pty) Ltd Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–1123)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2578. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Przedsiebiorstwo Doswiadczalno-Produkcyjne Szybownictwa 'PZL–Bielsko' Sailplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–0951)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2579. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Various Transport Category Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–2962)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2580. 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; General Electric Company Turbofan Engines'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–0165)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2581. 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; Turbomeca S.A. Turboshaft Engines'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0164)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2582. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class B Airspace; New Orleans, LA'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2015–2219)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2583. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Dyersburg, TN'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0968)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2584. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Campbellsville, KY'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2015–0458)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2585. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Greenville, SC'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2015–0044)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2586. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class E Airspace; Headland, AL'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2015–0046)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2587. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revocation of Class D and Class E Airspace; Independence, KS'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0565)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2588. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment and Amendment of Class E Airspace; Bremerton, WA'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2014–1067)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2589. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class E Airspace; Defuniak Springs, FL'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2015–0045)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2590. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace, Revocation of Class E Airspace; Salem, OR'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2014–1069)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2591. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Modification of Restricted Areas R–4501A, R–4501B, R–4501C, R–4501D, R–4501F, and R–4501H; Fort Leonard Wood, MO'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0640)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2592. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (23); Amdt. No. 3650'' (RIN2120–AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2593. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Part 95 Instrument Flight Rules; Miscellaneous Amendment No. 521'' (RIN2120–AA63) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2594. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (22); Amdt. No. 3647'' (RIN2120–AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2595. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to

law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (54); Amdt. No. 3648'' (RIN2120–AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2596. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (6); Amdt. No. 3649'' (RIN2120–AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2597. 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; Pacific Ocean Perch in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XE064) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2598. A communication from the 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; Groundfish Fishery by Non-Rockfish Program Catcher Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Western and Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XE064) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2599. 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; Squids in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XE072) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2600. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fisheries'' (RIN0648–BD64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2601. 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; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Trimester Total Allowable Catch area Closure for the Common Pool Fishery'' (RIN0648–XE073) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 20, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2602. 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; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; 2015 Atlantic Bluefish Specifications'' (RIN0648–XD742) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2603. 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; Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; Closure of the Mid-Atlantic Access Area to General Category Individual Fishing Quota Scallop Vessels'' (RIN0648–XE084) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2604. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries'' (RIN0648–XD079) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 20, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2605. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; North Atlantic Swordfish Fishery'' (RIN0648–XE005) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 5, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2606. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries'' (RIN0648–XE007) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 26, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2607. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''International Fisheries; Pacific Tuna Fisheries; 2015 Bigeye Tuna Longline Fishery Closure in the Eastern Pacific Ocean'' (RIN0648–XD972) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 20, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2608. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Bigeye Tuna Catch Limits in Longline Fisheries for 2015'' (RIN0648–BF19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 26, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2609. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Regional Framework Amendment'' (RIN0648–BE40) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2610. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States; Highly Migratory Species Fisheries; Recreational Fishing Restrictions for Pacific Bluefin Tuna'' (RIN0648–BE78) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 26, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2611. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Acetic Acid; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9930–20–OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 11, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2612. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fludioxonil; Pesticide Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9930–06–OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 11, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2613. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Hexythiazox; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9931–30–OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 11, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2614. A communication from the Associate Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Cranberries Grown in States of Massachusetts, et al.; Revising Determination of Sales History'' (Docket No. AMS–FV–14–0091; FV15–929–1 FR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 12, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2615. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Asian Longhorned Beetle Quarantine Areas in Massachusetts and New York'' (Docket No. APHIS–2015–0016) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 11, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2616. A communication from the Associate Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops—Import Regulations; Changes to Reporting Requirements to Add Electronic Form Filing Option'' (Docket No. AMS–FV–14–0093; FV15–944/980/999–1 FR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 12, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2617. A communication from the Associate Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Processed Raspberry Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Late Payment and Interest Charges on Past Due Assessments'' (Docket No. AMS–FV–14–0042) received during adjournment of the Senate in

the Office of the President of the Senate on August 20, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2618. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Limitations on Terms of Consumer Credit Extended to Service Members and Dependents; Final Rule'' (RIN0790–AJ10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 20, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2619. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Contracts or Delivery Orders Issued by a Non-DoD Agency'' ((RIN0750–AI63) (DFARS Case 2014–D014)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2620. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Contractor Personnel Supporting U.S. Armed Forces Deployed Outside the United States'' ((RIN0750–AI45) (DFARS Case 2014–D023)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2621. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Use of Military Construction Funds'' ((RIN0750–AI52) (DFARS Case 2014–D006)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2622. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Acquisition of the American Flag'' ((RIN0750–AI51) (DFARS Case 2014–D005)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2623. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Network Penetration Reporting and Contracting for Cloud Services'' ((RIN0750–AI61) (DFARS Case 2013–D018)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2624. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Item Unique Identification Prescription Correction'' ((RIN0750–AI65) (DFARS Case 2014–D021)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 21, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2625. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Richard P. Mills, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2626. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General David R. Hogg, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2627. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of two (2) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general or brigadier general, as indicated, in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2628. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half) in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2629. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Methane Sulfonic Acid; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9931–07–OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2630. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Lavanduly Senecioate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9930–16–OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2631. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Data Requirements Rule for the 2010 1-Hour Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard'' (FRL No. 9930–18–OAR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2632. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of items not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2633. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Loans in Areas Having Special Flood Hazards'' (RIN3064–AE27) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 4, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2634. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to operation of the Exchange Stabilization Fund (ESF) for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2635. A communication from the Chair of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Annual Report to Congress on the Presidential $1 Coin Program''; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2636. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of a national emergency declared in Executive Order 13222 with respect to the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2637. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the continuation of the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13396 on February 7, 2006, with respect to Cote d'Ivoire; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2638. A communication from the Secretary, Division of Trading and Markets, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Registration Process for Security-Based Swap Dealers and Major Security-Based Swap Participants'' (RIN3235–AL05) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 11, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2639. A communication from the Secretary, Division of Corporate Finance, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pay Ratio Disclosure'' (RIN3235–AL47) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 11, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2640. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Loans in Areas Having Special Flood Hazards; Final Rule'' (RIN3133–AE40) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 12, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2641. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Chartering and Field of Membership Manual'' (RIN3133–AE31) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 12, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2642. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Housing Administration (FHA): Updating Regulations Governing HUD Fees and the Financing of the Purchase and Installation of Fire Safety Equipment in FHA-Insured Healthcare Facilities'' (RIN2502–AJ27) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 20, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2643. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Derivatives'' (RIN3133–AD90) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 20, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2644. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Russian Sanctions Addition to the Entity List to Prevent Violations of Russian Industry Sector Sanctions'' (RIN0694–AG66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office

of the President of the Senate on August 20, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2645. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''2015–2017 Enterprise Housing Goals'' (RIN2590–AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2646. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revision of Freedom of Information Act Regulation'' (RIN2501–AD57) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2647. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2648. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a final report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13617 of June 25, 2012, with respect to Russia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2649. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendments to the Export Administration Regulations: Removal of Special Comprehensive License Provisions'' (RIN0694–AG13) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 26, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2650. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of items not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2651. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Clothes Washers'' ((RIN1904–AC97) (Docket No. EERE–2013–BT–TP–0009)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 11, 2015; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–2652. A communication from the Administrator, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''The Availability and Price of Petroleum and Petroleum Products Produced in Countries Other Than Iran''; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–2653. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Definitions and Standards for Grid-Enabled Water Heaters'' ((RIN1904–AD55) (Docket No. EERE–2015–BT–STD–0017)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 11, 2015; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–2654. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to Auxiliary Installations, Replacement Facilities, and Siting and Maintenance Regulations'' ((RIN1902–0128) (Docket No. RM12–11–003)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 11, 2015; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–2655. A communication from the Departmental Privacy Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Privacy Act Regulations; Exemption for the Indian Arts and Crafts Board'' (RIN1090–AB10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 26, 2015; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–2656. A communication from the Deputy Chief of the National Forest System, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the final map and boundary for the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River in Oregon, added to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–2657. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for External Power Supplies'' ((RIN1904–AD36) (Docket No. EERE–2014–BT–TP–0043)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 25, 2015; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–2658. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''OMB Sequestration Update Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2016''; 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.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of August 5, 2015, the following reports of committees were submitted on August 28, 2015:

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment.

S. 1251. A bill to implement the Amendment to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, as adopted at Lisbon, Portugal on September 28, 2007 (Rept. No. 114–120).

S. 1315. A bill to protect the right of law-abiding citizens to transport knives interstate, notwithstanding a patchwork of local and State prohibitions (Rept. No. 114–121).

By Mr. ISAKSON, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1493. A bill to provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2015, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114–122).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany H.R. 1531, A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide a pathway for temporary seasonal employees in Federal land management agencies to compete for vacant permanent positions under internal merit promotion procedures, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114–123).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1137. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, and the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act to make improvements and technical corrections, and for other purposes.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 36

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 36, a bill to address the continued threat posed by dangerous synthetic drugs by amending the Controlled Substances Act relating to controlled substance analogues.

S. 298

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 298, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide States with the option of providing services to children with medically complex conditions under the Medicaid program and Children's Health Insurance Program through a care coordination program focused on improving health outcomes for children with medically complex conditions and lowering costs, and for other purposes.

S. 417

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 417, a bill to encourage spectrum licensees to make unused spectrum available for use by rural and smaller carriers in order to expand wireless coverage.

S. 520

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 520, a bill to amend the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act to reauthorize the Act.

S. 559

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of

S. 559, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Education from engaging in regulatory overreach with regard to institutional eligibility under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

S. 626

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 626, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to cover physician services delivered by podiatric physicians to ensure access by Medicaid beneficiaries to appropriate quality foot and ankle care, to amend title XVIII of such Act to modify the requirements for diabetic shoes to be included under Medicare, and for other purposes.

S. 741

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 741, a bill to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program of awarding grants to owners or operators of water systems to increase the resiliency or adaptability of the systems to any ongoing or forecasted changes to the hydrologic conditions of a region of the United States.

S. 804

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 804, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to specify coverage of continuous glucose monitoring devices, and for other purposes.

S. 843

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 843, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S. 890

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 890, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide consistent and reliable authority for, and for the funding of, the Land and Water Conservation Fund to maximize the effectiveness of the Fund for future generations, and for other purposes.

S. 928

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) were added as cosponsors of S. 928, a bill to reauthorize the World Trade Center Health Program and the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 993

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 993, a bill to increase public safety by facilitating collaboration among the criminal justice, juvenile justice, veterans treatment services, mental health treatment, and substance abuse systems.

S. 1126

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1126, a bill to modify and extend the National Guard State Partnership Program.

S. 1135

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1135, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for fairness in hospital payments under the Medicare program.

S. 1150

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1150, a bill to provide for increases in the Federal minimum wage.

S. 1239

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1239, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act with respect to the ethanol waiver for the Reid vapor pressure limitations under that Act.

S. 1333

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1333, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to exclude cannabidiol and cannabidiol-rich plants from the definition of marihuana, and for other purposes.

S. 1375

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1375, a bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States.

S. 1504

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1504, a bill to prohibit employers from requiring low-wage employees to enter into covenants not to compete, to require employers to notify potential employees of any requirement to enter into a covenant not to compete, and for other purposes.

S. 1512

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1512, a bill to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition.

S. 1562

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1562, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 1608

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1608, a bill to protect the safety of the national airspace system from the hazardous operation of consumer drones, and for other purposes.

S. 1631

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1631, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify certain provisions relating to multiemployer pensions, and for other purposes.

S. 1659

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1659, a bill to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to revise the criteria for determining which States and political subdivisions are subject to section 4 of the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1812

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1812, a bill to protect public safety by incentivizing State and local law enforcement to cooperate with Federal immigration law enforcement to prevent the release of criminal aliens into communities.

S. 1830

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1830, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1832

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1832, a bill to provide for increases in the Federal minimum wage.

S. 1833

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1833, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the child and adult care food program.

S. 1836

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1836, a bill to provide for a moratorium on Federal funding to Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc.

S. 1842

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1842, a bill to ensure State and local compliance with all Federal immigration detainers on aliens in custody and for other purposes.

S. 1844

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1844, a bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to provide for voluntary country of origin labeling for beef, pork, and chicken.

S. 1852

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1852, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure health insurance coverage continuity for former foster youth.

S. 1856

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1856, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for suspension and removal of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs for performance or misconduct that is a threat to public health or safety and to improve accountability of employees of the Department, and for other purposes.

S. 1878

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1878, a bill to extend the pediatric priority review voucher program.

S. 1886

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1886, a bill to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009 and for other purposes.

S. 1919

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1919, a bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to protect rights of conscience with regard to requirements for coverage of specific items and services, to amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit certain abortion-related discrimination in governmental activities, and for other purposes.

S. 1932

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1932, a bill to provide States with flexibility to use Federal IV–E funding for State child welfare programs to improve safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for all children who need child welfare services.

S. 1944

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1944, a bill to require each agency to repeal or amend 1 or more rules before issuing or amending a rule.

S. 1955

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1955, a bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide for equitable allotment of land to Alaska Native veterans.

S. 1957

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1957, a bill to require the Attorney General to provide State officials with access to criminal history information with respect to certain financial service providers required to undergo State criminal background checks, and for other purposes.

S. 1966

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1966, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require alternative options for program delivery.

S. 1981

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1981, a bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prohibit the use of consumer credit checks against prospective and current employees for the purposes of making adverse employment decisions.

S. 1982

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1982, a bill to authorize a Wall of Remembrance as part of the Korean War Veterans Memorial and to allow certain private contributions to fund the Wall of Remembrance.

S. RES. 108

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 108, a resolution commemorating the discovery of the polio vaccine and supporting efforts to eradicate the disease.

S. RES. 237

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 237, a resolution condemning Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army for continuing to perpetrate crimes against humanity, war crimes, and mass atrocities, and supporting ongoing efforts by the United States Government, the African Union, and governments and regional organizations in central Africa to remove Joseph Kony and Lord's Resistance Army commanders from the battlefield and promote protection and recovery of affected communities.

S. RES. 242

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 242, a resolution celebrating 25 years of success from the Office of Research on Women's Health at the National Institutes of Health.

S. RES. 245

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 245, a resolution designating the week beginning September 13, 2015, as ''National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week''.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2640. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, amending 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.

SA 2641. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2640 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, supra.

SA 2642. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2641 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the amendment SA 2640 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, supra.

SA 2643. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, supra.

SA 2644. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2643 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, supra.

SA 2645. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, supra.

SA 2646. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2645 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, supra.

SA 2647. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2646 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the amendment SA 2645 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2640. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, amending 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; as follows:

Strike line three and all that follows and insert:

That Congress does not favor the agreement transmitted by the President to Congress on July 19, 2015, under subsection (a) of section 135 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2160e) for purposes of prohibiting the taking of any action involving any measure of statutory sanctions relief by the United States pursuant to such agreement under subsection (c)(2)(B) of such section.

SA 2641. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2640 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, amending 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; as follows:

At the end add the following.

''This Act shall take effect 1 day after the date of enactment.''

SA 2642. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2641 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the amendment SA 2640 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, amending 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; as follows:

Strike ''1 day'' and insert ''2 days''.

SA 2643. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, amending 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; as follows:

At the end add the following.

''This Act shall take effect 3 days after the date of enactment.''

SA 2644. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2643 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, amending 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; as follows:

Strike ''3'' and insert ''4''.

SA 2645. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, amending 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; as follows:

At the end add the following.

''This Act shall take effect 5 days after the date of enactment.''

SA 2646. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2645 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, amending 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; as follows:

Strike ''5'' and insert ''6''.

SA 2647. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2646 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the amendment SA 2645 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 61, amending 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; as follows:

Strike ''6'' and insert ''7''.

CELEBRATING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Small Business Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 243.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 243) celebrating the 35th anniversary of the Small Business Development Centers of the United States.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 243) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of August 5, 2015, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand appointments were made during the adjournment of the Senate, and I ask they be stated for the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 106–286, appoints the following Member to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: the Honorable BEN SASSE of Nebraska.

The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 96–114, as amended, appoints the following individual to the Congressional Award Board: David Schiappa of Maryland.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2015

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Wednesday, September 9; 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; that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of H.J. Res. 61, with the time until 12:30 p.m. equally divided between the two leaders or their designees; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings; finally, that the time from 2:15 p.m. until 7 p.m. also be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees and that the time from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. be controlled by the Democrats and the time from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. be controlled by the majority.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:25 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, September 9, 2015, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

THE JUDICIARY

CLARE E. CONNORS, OF HAWAII, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII, VICE SUSAN OKI MOLLWAY, RETIRING.

STEPHANIE A. GALLAGHER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND, VICE WILLIAM D. QUARLES, JR., RETIRING.

MARY S. MCELROY, OF RHODE ISLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND, VICE MARY M. LISI, RETIRING.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EDWARD L. GILMORE, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE DARRYL KEITH MCPHERSON, TERM EXPIRED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. MICHAEL E. FLANAGAN

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. DAVID W. SILVA II

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. PHILIP R. SHERIDAN

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. TIMOTHY J. LABARGE

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. KRISTAN L. K. HERICKS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. JODY J. DANIELS

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

KYLE J. WELD

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MATTHEW P. TARJICK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JONATHAN S. ACKISS
CORNELIUS L. ALLEN, JR.
JONATHAN E. ALLEN
REGAN J. ALLEN
JACQUELINE E. BAIRD
CHRISTOPHER W. BAKER
KAREN A. BAKER
PATRICK J. BAKER
JACKSON L. BALL
THERON P. BALLARD
JEROME K. BARNARD
CHRISTOPHER P. BARTOS
RICHARD T. BASYE
PAUL B. BEDNAR
JASON A. BERDOU
DANIEL J. BIDETTI
WALTER M. BIELECKI
BOYD R. BINGHAM
CHAD J. BLACKETER
RON L. BLANCH
BRYAN A. BLITCH
DANGELO A. BLOUNT
JAMES E. BLUMAN
THOMAS R. BOLAND
FREEMAN T. BONNETTE
ALFRED S. BOONE
JOSEPH M. BOROVICKA
PETER C. BOYER
HENRY C. BROWN
MIRYAM D. C. BRUNSON
PAUL F. BUSHEY
PETER A. CAGGIANO II
SHAWN M. CALVERT
JOSIEL CARRASQUILLOMORALES
JEFFREY P. CHAMBERLAIN
MARTIN J. CHEMAN
MICHAEL C. CHERRY
JASON C. CHRISTENSON
STEPHEN L. CHRISTIAN
ERIC P. CHRISTIANSEN, JR.
HEATHER J. CLANCY
JAMES G. CLARK
WILLIAM J. CLARK
ERIC S. CLARKE
JOHN D. CLEMONS
JARED L. CLINGER
ANDY R. CLINKSCALES
FRANKIE C. COCHIAOSUE
KIM M. COHEN
ADAM J. COLLINS
JAMES D. COOK
ARMANDO V. CORRAL
CHRISTOPHER COURTLAND
BRIAN M. COZINE
DANA E. CROW
STEPHEN M. CROW
LANCE J. CULVER
SHERMOAN L. DAIYAAN
KENNETH R. DARNALL
PAUL R. DAVIS
LARRY R. DEAN
VICTOR M. DIAZ III
MICHAEL D. DOLGE
BRIAN T. DONAHUE
JOHN C. DOSS
AMY E. DOWNING
GERALD J. D. DUENAS
THERESA L. ELLISON
PATRICK C. EVANS
BRYAN J. FENCL
GREGORY A. FEND
KIMBERLY A. FERGUSON
DAWN M. FICK
ALAIN G. FISHER
MARC J. FLEURANT
CASSANDRA N. FORRESTER
MISTI L. FRODYMA
ALEXANDER GARCIA
OMAR GARCIA
VINCENTE GARCIA
CHAE GAYLES
JAMES J. GEISHAKER
MATTHEW M. GOMEZ
ERIC M. GOULDTHORPE
JOSEPH A. GRANDE, JR.
JESSIE K. GRIFFITH III
ADAM M. GRIM
STEVEN D. GUTIERREZ
THOMAS W. HAAS
TODD C. HANKS
SCOTT E. HELMORE
BROOK E. HESS
LUCAS S. HIGHTOWER
CHRISTOPHER M. HILL
ROBERT T. HOFFMAN
DAVID L. HOSLER
JOHN A. HOTEK
JAMES E. HOWELL III
CHRISTOPHER S. HOWSER
MICAH R. HUTCHINS
ANGELA B. HYSON
JEFFREY J. IGNATOWSKI
SEAN P. IMBS
JEFFREY J. JABLONSKI
FENICIA L. JACKSON
CHARLES V. JAQUILLARD
SEANA M. JARDIN
BRIAN L. JETER
CHRISTOPHER D. JOHNSON
LARRY P. JOHNSON
DAVID W. JONES
RONALD M. JONES
VERNON L. JONES, JR.
MICHAEL T. JORDAN
JENNIFER S. KARIM
MICHAEL T. KIM
BRIAN M. KNIERIEM
STEPHEN T. KOEHLER
CODY W. KOERWITZ
ANDREW T. KOSCHNIK
WILLIAM R. KOST
THOMAS D. KRUPP
MATTHEW L. KUHNS
WESLEY J. KWASNEY
WILLIAM E. LAASE
HEATHER D. LABRECQUE
JUAN C. LAGO
BARRCARY J. LANE
TYRONNE G. LASTRAPES
JOEL K. LEFLORE
CLAIRE LINDLEY
CARLOS A. LOCK
JAMES T. LOCKLEAR
CHRISTOPHER S. LOWERY
JEFFREY L. LUCOWITZ
THOMAS R. LUTZ
BRIAN W. MACK
CARMELO T. MADERA
STEPHEN MAGNER
MICHAEL R. MAI
PATRICK M. MAJOR
ANTHONY P. MARANTE
JESSE R. MARSALIS
RICHARD J. MARSDEN
KATIE E. MATTHEW
ROLAND L. MATTHEWS
JULIE A. MAXWELL
RAMIRO MAYA, JR.
ASUERO N. MAYO, JR.
MARLON MCBRIDE
SHANNON T. MCCRORY
CHRISTOPHER S. MCLEAN
DANIELLE R. MEDAGLIA
JONATHAN W. MEISEL
MICHAEL K. MEUMANN
ANDREW J. MEYERS
JASON L. MILES
MARVIN B. MILLAR
SAMUEL R. MILLER
ZACHARY T. MILLER
JEFF R. MILNE
DAVID A. MITCHELL
KEITH C. MIXON
FAMARLON L. MOBLEY
LATASHA L. MOODYLOVE
CHRISTOPHER L. MOORE
RICHARD B. MOORE
SHANE A. MORRIS
JOHN A. MOTT
JESSICA L. MURNOCK
DEREK S. NEAL
RANDALL W. NEWMAN
MICHELLE D. NHAMBURE
SHAWN M. OBRIEN
ROSENDO PAGAN
PHILBERT J. PALMORE
MATTHEW C. PAUL
ANTHONY J. PETE
KEVIN D. PIERCE
MARTIN P. PLYS, JR.
KEVIN A. POOLE
EUGENE T. PORTER
PHILLIP B. POTEET
STEVEN POWER
MATTHEW A. PRICE
RHEA M. PRITCHETT
ANDRES R. RAMIREZ III
ELDRED K. RAMTAHAL
LUKE RICHARDS
SEAN R. RICHARDSON
MICHAEL K. RILEY
JAMES R. RITCH
DOMINGOS S. ROBINSON
LEON L. ROGERS
ORLANDO R. ROJASBANREY
GEORGE W. ROLLINSON
GILBERTO C. ROLON
ANGEL R. ROSADOPADILLA
JOSEPH L. ROSEN
CHRISTOPHER M. ROZHON
DINA D. RUCK
THOMAS H. RUTH III
JESSICA M. SALGADO
SHAWN D. SANBORN
MICHAEL A. SANSONE
DONALD C. SANTILLO
NATHAN R. SAWYER
JOHN M. SCHMITT
DENNIS L. SHELDEN
ERIC L. SHEPHERD
JASON L. SHICK
JESSICA A. SHUEY
SAMSON T. SIDER
STEPHANIE R. M. SIMMONS
BRUCE A. SKRABANEK
ALLEN M. SLITER
JOHN K. SNYDER
PIERRE A. SPRATT
SHANNON V. STAMBERSKY
RONALD H. STEWART, JR.
JOHN B. STRINGER, JR.
DOMINIC J. TANGLAO
DAVID L. TAYLOR, JR.
FRANYATE D. TAYLOR
MICHAEL J. THIESFELD
DAVID L. THOMPSON
STEPHEN A. THORPE
JOHN S. THYNG
MIGUEL A. TORRES
ANDRE L. TOUSSAINT
ANITA R. TREPANIER
TIMOTHY S. TROYER
THOMAS J. TROYN
DENNIS J. UTT
BERNARD D. VANBROCKLIN
CHRISTOPHER K. VENTERS
WILLIAM H. VICK, JR.
CLAUDE E. WALKER
DAMON K. WALKER
BARRY L. WALSH, JR.
JEREMY H. WEESTRAND
DONNA L. I. WELCH
MATTHEW R. WESTERN
ANTHONY K. WHITFIELD
CARL D. WHITMAN, JR.
DENNIS F. WILLIAMS
TERRENCE A. WILLIAMS
ANTHONY L. WILSON
GORDON L. WILSON
MELVIN E. WRIGHTSIL
MICHAEL D. WROBLEWSKI
JENNIFER R. ZAIS
D011349
D011462
D011538
D011859
D012121
D012472
D012659

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MICHAEL H. ADORJAN
JOHN M. AGUILAR, JR.
MATTHEW J. ALDEN
JOSEPH E. ANDERSON
JAKUB H. ANDREWS
OKERA G. ANYABWILE
LANCE D. AWBREY
CHARLES R. AYERS
MARK A. G. AYSON
THOMAS A. BABBITT
MICHAEL J. BANCROFT
REBEKAH L. BARNES
PALOMA C. BEAUSOLEIL
CRAIG R. BENDER
WAYNE L. BLAS
THOMAS J. BLOOMFIELD
TODD A. BOOK
CRYSTAL X. BORING
DAVID M. BORNN
BRETT J. BOSTON
ANASTASIA BRESLOWKYNASTON
ROBERT E. BREWER
JAMES B. BRINDLE
MICHAEL A. BROCK
BYRON J. BROWN
JEANETTE P. A. BROWN
JOSEPH G. BRUHL
THOMAS E. BURNEY, JR.
JASON E. BURNS
MALCOLM S. BUSH
STEVEN R. CALDER
SILAS J. CALHOUN
CHARLES H. CANON
KEVIN K. CARLILE
WILLIAM E. CARRUTH
EDWARD M. CERER, SR.
PETER C. J. CHARBONNEAU
SCOTT T. CHILDERS
MELVIN A. CHISOLM
JOSEPH C. CHRETIEN
ROBERT H. CHUNG
HEATHER A. CLEVENGER
CHRISTOPHER L. CLINE
MARK A. COBOS
JASON R. CODY
CRAIG C. COLUCCI
JENNIFER J. COLVIN
CLAYTON L. COMBS
JOSHUA J. CONNER
STEPHEN F. CORTEZ
RUSSELL M. CORWIN
JAMES A. COVINGTON, JR.
GEORGE W. COWLES III
GEOFFREY B. CRAFTS
THERESA K. E. CROSS
MICHAEL E. CUSHWA
JOHN H. DABOLT IV
RICHARD J. DANGELO
BRIAN L. DAVID
RICHARD A. DAVILA, JR.
BRIAN R. DAVIS
ROBERT A. DEES
RAYMOND G. DELUCIO
ANDREW C. DERMANOSKI
BRENDON K. DEVER
TYPHANIE Y. DIAL
RICHARD M. DIXON, JR.
INDIRA R. DONEGAN
JULIA M. DONLEY
MICHAEL B. DORSCHNER
GABRIEL R. DOWNEY II
JONATHAN T. DRAKE
BRIAN P. DUNN
DAMON J. M. DURALL
DENTON L. DYE
CHRISTOPHER I. EASTBURG
HEINZ EDER
JAMES T. EDWARDS, JR.
ELIAS L. EL ORM
ADAM W. ENNIS
JAMES R. ENOS
DARIUS D. ERVIN
DEVIN H. ESELIUS
CRAIG L. EVANS
LEE A. EVANS
REGINALD K. EVANS
NEIL C. EVERINGHAM
BENJAMIN J. FERNANDES
CHANTAL A. FIELDMAN
JASON C. FINCH
JEREMY J. FINN
JAMES C. FINOCCHIARO
DANIEL R. FITCH
GREGORY B. FITCH
STANLEY FLORKOWSKI
NORA L. FLOTT
ERIC S. FOWLER
BRIAN D. FRULAND
CHAD W. FURNE
SUSAN M. GALICH
KEVIN W. GARFIELD
BENJAMIN T. GATZKE
HEATH A. GIESECKE
KEITH M. GIESEKE
EVANS L. GILLIARD
MATTHEW D. GIOVANNI
STACY H. GODSHALL
GARY J. GOLUBSKI
JASON A. GONZALES
MIGUEL A. GONZALEZQUINONES
NATHAN K. GOODALL
BENNETT GREEN
CASON S. GREEN
DANIEL S. GREEN
MATTHEW R. GREGORY
JOHN C. GRISWOLD
JOSIAH T. GROVER
PATRICK B. GROW
DOUGLAS B. GUARD
ERIC H. HAAS
JASON B. HAIGHT
DAVID L. HALL
TODD J. HAMEL
ALISON M. HAMILTON
SCOTT P. HANDLER
DAVID B. HANSEN
JENNIFER H. HARLAN
JEREMY D. HARTUNG
BRIAN P. HAYES
DAVID C. HAZELTON
ELIZABETH J. HELLAND
JAMES R. HENRY
ALEXCIE A. HERBERT
JANET L. HERRICK
DOUGLAS C. HESS
DUSTIN G. HEUMPHREUS
CAROL M. HICKEY
ULEKEYA S. HILL
CHRISTOPHER S. HOBGOOD
JAMES M. HOFFMAN II
JARED A. HOFFMAN
CHARLES D. HOOD
TIMOTHY A. HUNT
RICHARD A. HUNTER
PATRICK J. O. HUSTED
DANIEL P. HUYNH
TIMOTHY A. HYDE
ZACHARY P. HYLEMAN
ZACHARY T. IRVINE
CHRISTOPHER J. IWAN
MATTHEW R. JENSEN
CHRISTOPHER L. JOHNSON
CRAIG W. JOHNSON
LONNIE D. JOHNSTON
PAUL D. JOHNSTON
BRYAN G. JUNTUNEN
JEFFREY M. KALDAHL
BRANT E. KANANEN
CRISTIAN A. KEELS
CURTIS J. KELLOGG
JULIE A. KELLUM
ROY D. KEMPF
JOEL P. KLEEHAMMER
MATTHEW E. KOPP
ADAM M. KORDISH
ANDREW M. KOVANEN
CHRISTINA J. KRETCHMAN
JUSTINE S. KRUMM
JOSEPH R. KRUPA
KRISTOFER H. KVAM
STEVEN J. LACY
VINCENT C. LAI
JEFFREY J. LAKNER
KYLE W. LANDS
JAMES F. LAWSON
PATRICK Y. K. LEE
MICHAEL D. LOVE
CHRISTOPHER J. LOWRANCE
QUAN H. T. LU
JOSE A. LUGOPEREZ
BRIAN P. LUTI
POLARIS X. LUU
THANG V. LY
CAMILLE L. MACK
JAVIER MADRIGAL
NATHAN M. MANN
PHILLIP G. MANN
KYLE B. MARCRUM
ERIC J. MARION
NATHAN D. MARTIN
ANGELICA R. MARTINEZ
MICHAEL C. MAYS
BRIAN A. MCCALL
CHRISTOPHER S. MCCLURE
KEVIN J. MCCULLAGH
MICHAEL E. MCINERNEY
SHAWN P. MCMAHON
PATRICK B. MCNEACE
TIMOTHY T. MEASNER
THOMAS H. MELTON II
MARC T. MEYLE
ROBERT Y. MIHARA
JANIS C. MIKITS
CHRISTOPHER J. MILLER
ERIC W. MILLER
ANGEL I. MIRANDA
BOUNYASITH MITTHIVONG
WILLIAM C. MOODY
LOUIS A. MORRIS
TIMOTHY J. MORROW
GREGORY W. NAPOLI
MICHAEL P. NEEDHAM
SCOTT J. NELSON
DAVID L. NEWELL
HAC D. NGUYEN
JACOB P. NINAS
RYAN C. NOMURA
MARGARET A. NOWICKI
ROBERT A. NOWICKI
DAVID P. OAKLEY
TIMOTHY S. OBRYANT
SHERRY K. OEHLER
BRIAN W. OERTEL
JOSEPH E. OHANLON III
IRVIN W. OLIVER, JR.
ELLIOT H. OLMSTEAD
EDWARD ORTIZVAZQUEZ
JAMON B. OSBORNE
RAMON J. OSORIO
STERLING J. PACKER
ROMEL C. PAJIMULA
RAFAL PANASIUK
PETER A. PATTERSON
GREGORY J. PAVLICHKO
CARLOS PENA, JR.
ROBERT C. PERRY, JR.
FOLDEN L. PETERSON, JR.
ERNEST S. PETROWSKY
MICHAEL A. POE
JOHN F. POPIAK
KARLA J. PORCH
PHILLIP D. PORTER
JEREMIAH K. PRAY
DAVID J. PRICE
JEFFREY A. PROKOPOWICZ
MANUEL F. PULIDO
GABRIEL J. RAMIREZ
ANGELA E. REBER
JOHN M. REEDER
THOMAS R. RENNER
BLANCA E. REYES
ISMAEL REYES
KRISTINA L. RICHARDSON
KEVIN T. RILEY
MELISSA A. RINGHISEN
BART C. RITCHEY
ANDRE G. RIVIER
KILLAURIN O. ROBERTS
DANIEL H. ROBINSON
THEODORE M. RODILL, JR.
SHANE A. ROPPOLI
MATTHEW R. RUCKMAN
BRADLEY S. RUDDER
ANDREW M. RUIZ
TIMOTHY D. RUSTAD
MICHAEL S. RYAN
JIMMY C. SALAZAR
JESSE L. SANDEFER
BENJAMIN F. SANGSTER
HERIBERTO SANTIAGOACEVEDO
MICHAEL A. SAPP
RACHEL E. SARLES
TIMOTHY M. SAWYER
KENNETH A. SCERBO
TINA M. SCHOENBERGER
PATRICK M. SCHOOF
LLOYD D. SCOTT
MICHAEL B. SHATTAN
RYAN L. SHAW
PAUL E. SHERMAN
JOHN W. SHERMER
JOSEPH J. SHIMERDLA
RYAN C. SHIPLEY
ELDRIDGE R. SINGLETON
DENNIS B. SLATON
DAVID J. SMITH
MATTHEW B. SMITH
SCOTT A. SMITSON
HOWARD M. SMYTH
MELISSA A. SOLSBURY
ISAAC M. SOUTH
JAYSON R. SPANGLER
ROBERT J. SPIVEY
JULIAN P. STAMPS
DANIEL R. STANTON III
ROTUNDA K. STOKES
MICHAEL A. STONE
CECIL A. STRICKLAND
TISSA L. STROUSE
JORDON E. SWAIN
JOHN SYERS
WILLIAM C. TAYLOR
MICHAEL J. TEMKO
JOSHUA W. THIBEAULT
CHRISTOPHER J. THOENDEL
LESLIE W. THOMPSON
ALAN W. THROOP
STANLEY O. THURSTON
ANTHONY L. TINGLE
STEVEN L. TINGLEY
THOMAS E. TOLMAN
CATARINA J. TRAN
PAUL E. TROY
WILLIAM E. TURNER
AUGUSTUS O. TUTU, JR.
JEFFREY B. VANSICKLE
KEITH S. VANYO
ALEXANDER S. VINDMAN
RYAN K. WAINWRIGHT
KEITH W. WALTHALL
MARK E. WARDER
ALAN R. WARMBIER
DENNIS D. WATTERS, JR.
JAMES R. WEARE
KEITH B. WEIDNER
JAMES W. WELCH
BRIAN S. WESTERFIELD
SHAWN E. WHITMORE
JARROD P. WICKLINE
CHRISTOPHER M. WILKINSON
FREDRICK O. WILLIAMS
PAUL M. WILLIAMS
NORMAN L. WILSON II
LISA L. WINEGAR
CLIFFORD M. WOODBURN
WILLIAM C. WRIGHT
JUN Y. YI
MATTHEW C. YIENGST
WILLIAM T. YOUNG
DOUGLAS W. ZIMMERMAN
D002999
D011942
D012030
D012034
D012047
D012183
D012283
D012292
D012622

G001139
G001378
G010029
G010052
G010108
G010299
G010301
G010310

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MATTHEW T. ADAMCZYK
DEVON F. ADKINSON, JR.
MATTHEW J. ALBERTUS
GREGORY K. ALEXANDER
NATHAN G. ALLARD
KELLY T. ALLEN
TERRENCE J. ALVAREZ
JUSTIN C. AMBURGEY
RUSSELL J. AMES
BENJAMIN L. ANDERSON
JASON G. ANDERSON
SPENCER M. ANDERSON
JAMES E. ARMSTRONG III
JOHN M. AUTEN III
VICTOR M. BAEZAN III
ANDREW J. BAKER
JOHN L. BAKER, JR.
MICHAEL L. BANDY
JEROME A. BARBOUR
AARON D. BARREDA
JEFFREY J. BARTA
MARK A. BARTON
MARK E. BATTJES
SHAWN M. BAULT
RICHARD E. BAYLIE
DANIEL K. BENSON
MICHAEL R. BERRIMAN
ANTHONY J. BIANCHI
JOHN D. BISHOP
RHETT A. BLACKMON
SCOTT R. BLANCHARD
CHARLES D. BOVEY III
MARTIN J. BOWLING
KEVIN B. BOWMAN
DONALD T. BRAMAN
JESSIE J. BREWSTER
AARON D. BRIGHT
NICOLE A. BROOKS
MATTHEW M. BROWN
JAMES L. BROWNING
MARK A. BRZOZOWSKI
TROY C. BUCHER
NICHOLAS T. BUGAJSKI
WILLIAM BURDEN
REED A. BURGGRABE
JEFFERY T. BURROUGHS
CRAIG W. BUTERA
KARL R. BUTLER
CHAD W. CALDWELL
PEDRO A. CAMACHO III
CHRISTOPHER D. CARPENTIER
BARRY S. CARTER
KEITH L. CARTER
JOHANNES E. CASTRO
LARRY D. CASWELL, JR.
DONALD L. CHERRY, JR.
MATTHEW B. CHITTY
LAURENCE J. CHRISTIAN
STEPHEN L. CLOWER
CHRISTOPHER H. CLYDE
CLINTON R. CODY
DAVID S. COLLINS
XAVIER COLON
MICHAEL R. CONDON
KATE M. H. CONKEY
DAVID M. CONNER
JOSEPH F. CONNOLLY III
CHRISTINA N. COOK
JAMES P. COOK
WILLIAM F. CORYELL
THOMAS B. CRAIG
JARED A. CRAIN
MARK J. CROW
AUSTIN S. CRUZ
BRENDAN J. CULLINAN
AARON J. CULP
JOE D. CURTIS
KRISTEN N. DAHLE
TODD M. DANIELS
DAVID P.T. DAVID
HENRY B. DAVIS IV
JOHN B. DAVIS III
VICTOR D. DEESE
CHRISTOPHER J. DEMURE
KIRBY R. DENNIS
ETHAN P. DIAL
JEFFREY P. DIMARZIO
ETHAN J. DIVEN
AARON B. DIXON
STEPHEN G. DOBBINS
THOMAS P. DONATELLE
WILLIAM J. DOUGHERTY
KENNETH M. DWYER
JONATHAN G. ELIAS
AARON C. ELLIOTT
ROBERT L. ELLIOTT
CHRISTOPHER M. ELLIS
JOSEPH E. ELSNER
DANIEL C. ENSLEN
CHARLES E. ERGENBRIGHT
FRANK J. FAIR
DENNIS W. FAULKNER
WHITNEY O. FEES
BRIAN A. FERGUSON
TIMOTHY J. FERGUSON
JOHN V. FERRY
MICHAEL C. FIRMIN
JUDDSON C. FLORIS
MICHAEL J. FOOTE
CHARLES A. FORD
MICHAEL J. FORTENBERRY
THOMAS J. FOURNIER
GREGORY R. FOXX
DAVID C. FREEMAN
REID E. FURMAN
ANTERRIO C. GAINWELL
JOHN D. GARCIA
SEAMUS P. GARRETT
DANIEL A. GATES
TIMOTHY D. GATLIN
ROGER A. GAVRILUK
CASEY T. GEIST
MICHAEL J. GEORGE
JOHN G. GIBSON
ERIC J. GILGE
ANTHONY F. GIORDANO
COREY A. GIVENS
THOMAS A. GOETTKE
JONATHAN P. GRAEBENER
DAVID J. GRAHAM
PAUL M. GRANT
PETER M. GRAY
CHARLES A. GREEN
BRANDON S. GRIFFIN
TERRY D. HAHN
DANIEL S. HALL
LARRY C. HALSEY
BRET M. HAMILTON
JOSEPH R. HAMMOND
CHRISTOPHER C. HAMMONDS
ALAN M. HAMMONS
JODY D. HANSEN
WILLIAM G. HANSEN
RYAN M. HANSON
ELLIOTT R. HARRIS
JAMES J. HART
JONATHAN P. HARVEY
JAMES P. HARWELL
JIMMY L. HATHAWAY
BEAU A. HENDRICKS
JAMES H. HITE IV
MATTHEW B. HOLMES
BRIAN A. HOOKS
MATTHEW D. HOPPER
JOHN P. HORNING
KRISTOPHER H. HOWELL
WILBUR W. HSU
NATHAN M. HUBBARD
TIMOTHY P. HUDSON
DON P. HURSEY
BRANDON J. IKER
BRIAN A. JACOBS
TIMOTHY R. JAEGER
COREY M. JAMES
ERIC M. JANKOWSKI
MATTHEW J. JEMMOTT
EDGAR A. JIMENEZ
CAYTON L. JOHNSON
ERIC B. JOHNSON
RICHARD B. JOHNSON
TRACY D. JOHNSON
BRYAN C. JONES
CULLEN A. JONES
HUGH W. A. JONES
KENNETH R. JONES
KIRK J. JUNKER
JOSEPH A. KATZ
JAMES B. KAVANAUGH
DANIEL P. KEARNEY
COLLIN K. KEENAN
JIM D. KEIRSEY
MATTHEW F. KELLY
RYAN C. KENDALL
DANIEL R. KENT
ADAM R. KEOWN
JEFFREY J. KERSEY
KEVIN J. KEY
BRYAN R. KILBRIDE
NGAN M. KIM
ADISA T. KING
CHRISTOPHER J. KIRKPATRICK
ERIK A. KJONNEROD
CHRISTOPHER D. KLEIN
SAMUEL W. KLINE
JONATHAN S. KLUCK
ANDREW J. KNIGHT
RYAN T. KRANC
ERIC V. KREITZ
JAMES L. KRUEGER
KWENTON K. KUHLMAN
SCOTT A. KUTSCHER
JASON J. LAGEMAN
MATTHEW A. LANDRUM
CONNIE M. LANE
SHOSHANNAH B. LANE
JARRED M. LANG
NEAL J. LAPE
EDWARD B. LAROSA
EDUARDO J. LARUMBE
IAN J. LAUER
JASON C. LAUER
HARRIS T. LAWRENCE III
JOSEPH E. LEACH
ALEXANDER R. LEE
MARK D. LEHENBAUER
ANDREW J. LENNOX
NATHAN L. LEWIS
CHRISTOPHER D. LHEUREUX
STEWART C. LINDSAY
CHARLES M. LINGENFELTER
DENNIS O. LOCKHART
MICHAEL T. LOFTUS
JOHN F. LORY
BRADLEY S. LOUDON
HARVEY R. LOWELL
SEAN P. LUCAS
KENT M. MACGREGOR
SIMON A. MACIOCH
AMANDA L. MACWHIRTER
TOD T. MARCHAND
ERIC W. MARHOVER
CHRISTIAN M. MARIANI
WILLIAM J. MARM
BRYAN M. MARTIN
LINDSAY R. C. MATTHEWS
RYAN G. MAYFIELD
SEAN M. MCBRIDE
MARGARET L. MCGUNEGLE
STEVEN B. MCGUNEGLE
GEORGE C. MCINGVALE III
MATTHEW P. MCQUILTON
GLENN C. MCQUOWN III
DAVID O. MCRAE
BRIAN H. MEHAN
NICHOLAS O. MELIN
ERIC G. MELLOH
ANN M. MEREDITH
CHRISTOPHER J. MIDBERRY
STEPHEN P. MIDKIFF
WILLIAM J. MILLER
TRAVIS W. MILLS
TROY A. MILLS
MICHAEL L. MINCE
DANIEL D. MITCHELL
GEORGE A. MITROKA III
JEFFREY D. MIX
CASEY M. MOES
BRYAN M. MOFFATT
NATHAN A. MOLICA
HECTOR A. MONTEMAYOR
TOMAS I. MOORE
BENJAMIN L. MORALES
DAVID W. MORGAN
KENNETH S. MORLEY
JOHN A. MORRIS III
SHELDON A. MORRIS
JAMES M. MOSS
KYLE T. MOULTON
KEVIN J. MOYER
CHRISTOPHER MUGAVERO
JAMES E. MULLIN III
ZACHARY J. MUNDELL
NEIL J. MYRES
BRADLEY S. NELSON
KURT L. NELSON
PATRICK R. NELSON
JOHN T. NEWMAN
PATRIC A. NICHOLS
CECIL C. NIX IV
TOM M. NOBLE
CHRISTOPHER S. NUNN
BRIAN A. OBERG
THERESE L. OBIDINSKI
JOHN H. OBRIEN IV
DAVID J. OHEARN
JEFFREY S. PALAZZINI
ANDY J. PANNIER
KENT W. PARK
JEROME A. PARKER
KEVIN M. PAYNE
JAMES H. B. PEAY IV
MICHAEL M. PECINA
JASON E. PELLETIER
TIMOTHY N. PETERMAN
JASON A. PIERI
NORMAN L. POLLOCK
MICHAEL A. PORCELLI
AARON M. POULIN
KEVIN R. PUGH
GREGORY G. RALLS
CHAD M. RAMSKUGLER
MATTHEW S. RASMUSSEN
ARIC J. RAUS
TRAVIS J. RAYFIELD
JOHN A. REDFORD
CHRISTOPHER E. REICH
STEPHEN A. RESCH
LISA T. REYES
JOSHUA R. RICHARDSON
RANDY R. RIKER
TYWANA D. ROBINSON
KENNETH P. ROCKWELL
STACY E. RODGERS
EDUARDO D. RODRIGUEZ
TIMMY L. ROSE
DAVID B. ROWLAND
AARON J. SADUSKY
GREGORY SAKIMURA
KEVIN A. SALGE
JASON V. SAMA
DAVID R. SANDOVAL
BRIAN R. SAUL
BRIAN D. SAWSER
ADAM M. SAWYER
MICHAEL A. SCHAAD
VICTOR H. SCHARSTEIN
NICHOLAS C. SCHENCK
DEREK I. SCHMECK
RYAN L. SCHROCK
DAMON T. SCHWAN
KHIRSTEN T. SCHWENN
JAMES H. SCOTT III
SEANEGAN P. SCULLEY
JUAN C. C. SEGURA
AARON C. SESSOMS
JUSTIN J. SHAFFER
DEVAN J. SHANNON

SHERRI L. SHARPE
ROBERT M. SHAW
COURTNEY A. SHORT
DAVID E. SHORT
SCOTT F. SIEGFRIED
DAVID N. SIMMS
SCOTT C. SINCLAIR
ANDREW M. SLACK
ADAM P. SMITH
DEREK A. SMITH
RONALD C. SMITH
SCOTT C. SMITH
WILLIAM H. SNOOK
HYOKOOK SONG
MATTHEW C. STANLEY
ROBERT C. STANTON, JR.
ANDREW C. STEADMAN
PERRY O. STIEMKE
JOHN C. STROH III
GREGORY M. STROUD
RACHEL D. V. SULLIVAN
SHAWN D. SUMTER
BRIAN E. SUPKO
JOHNNY R. SUTTON III
JEREM G. SWENDDAL
SCOTT F. SWILLEY
NATHAN E. SWINDLER
GABRIEL A. SZODY
JONATHAN P. TACKABERRY
BENJAMIN A. TAYLOR
KEVIN R. TAYLOR
RICHARD P. TAYLOR
FRANK TEDESCHI
JOSHUA P. THIEL
ISRAEL A. THOMPSON
MASON D. THOMPSON
ERIC L. TISLAND
JASON M. TODD
WILLIAM J. TOLBERT
JASON C. TOOLE
VICTOR J. TORRESFERNANDEZ
ERIC A. TRESCHL
GREGORY E. TURNER
ROBERT E. UNDERWOOD III
JAMES W. UPTGRAFT II
JULIAN T. URQUIDEZ
ALBERT A. VIGILANTE, JR.
ANDREW K. VISSER
ROGER P. WALESKI, JR.
STEPHEN C. WALKER
RUFUS D. WATSON
CHRISTOPHER J. WEHRI
SCOTT D. WENCE
JOSEPH E. WESTERMAN
MARCUS C. WHITE
SONJA L. WHITEHEAD
BRETT A. WIERSMA
ANDREW J. WIKER
JOHN M. R. WILCOX
JAMES M. WILES
CHARLES M. WILLIAMS
ARLIN R. WILSHER III
CHAD J. WITHERELL
MARTIN A. WOHLGEMUTH
BRYAN T. WOODY
MATTHEW T. WORK
FREDRICK J. WRIGHT, JR.
CHRISTOPHER T. YOUNG
BRION D. YOUTZ
JAMES A. ZANELLA
JONATHAN S. ZIMMER
JAMES E. ZOIZACK
D003114
D004286
D010085
D010375
D010646
D011051
D012327
D012380
D012386
D012387
D012593

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major

GREGORY I. KELTS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

STEPHEN H. COOPER
DAVID L. JOHNSON
JOHN P. MAIER
DOUGLAS P MARTIN
JENNIFER R. MITCHELL
MICHAELLE M. MUNGER
RYAN T. PACE
DAVID G. WORTMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

LESLEY A. WATTS

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ENRIQUE R. ASUNCION
VERNON D. BIBY
ROBERT C. CARR
CAROL Y. CHEEK
LOWELL C. CORPUZ
CLINTON FORD
TIMOTHY J. SAXON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

CHRISTIAN J. AUGER
MICHAEL T. AUGUSTYN
JOHN F. CASILIO
JONATHON K. CHARFAUROS
BRIAN W. CHRISTNER
PETER J. A. DANCEL
DANE C. ELLES
EDWARD A. FOSSON
DANIEL J. B. GUTIERREZ
KATHRYN A. GUTIERREZ
THOMAS D. HALLAM
CARL A. HANSEN
HEATHER M. HESS
MICHAEL R. HIGHTOWER
WESLEY J. HOWARD
JOSEPH L. IACOVONE
MATTHEW J. LENZER
KIMBERLY I. MAZUR
SETH T. MCGUIRE
JAMES B. MCKELVIE
RONNIE A. MOJZIS
RACHAEL M. MUSSER
ROSS A. PENROD
AUSTIN A. RASBACH
JASON R. RAY
CHRISTOPHER A. SANDMEL
TYLER R. SCHARAR
JASON A. SCHECHTER
JAMES O. SHAMBLEY
RAFAEL E. SUAZO
ROBERT M. SYRE
SHAWN E. TALLEY
RYAN W. THRUN
RUSSELL B. TORGESEN
TERRENCE G. WHITE
BRYAN K. WILSON
BILLY D. WOODWARD
CHESTER J. WYCKOFF

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

CARA M. ADDISON
EMILEE K. BALDINI
KRISTI H. BAO
BRYAN C. BARLETTO
RONISHA T. BEASLEY
TIMOTHY D. BERGSTROM
NATASHA T. BODE
JESSICA J. BURRELL
CHRISTINA R. CAETANO
THERESA J. CHAMP
ANDREW S. CLAYTON
ROSS S. ERICSON
KYLE FRALICK
NICOLAUS C. GRUESEN
PAUL T. HOCHMUTH, JR.
LATHAM T. HUDSON
TODD E. HUTCHINS
PATRICK O. JACKSON
MICHAEL E. JONES
NICHOLAS J. KADLEC
DANIEL B. LEARY
JENNIFER L. MYERS
AUDREY M. NICHOLS
LEAH A. OBRIEN
JASON A. PFEIL
ZACHARY W. PRAGER
MATTHEW T. RECTOR
CHRISTOPHER M. REINTJES
MARK W. RICHARDSON
BRIAN F. ROACH
JASPREET K. SAINI
JULIE SHERMANDUMAIS
URSULA M. C. SMITH
JEREMY L. SNELLEN
MALACHY J. SOLLER
MATTHEW R. SONN
BENITA E. STENTIFORD
LEA E. SUAREZ
PAUL H. THOMPSON
AARON D. WALDO
KEVIN M. WALKER
ALEXANDER H. WANN
DAVID W. WARNING
JOEL A. WHITE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

OLUWAFADEKEMI N. ADEWETAN
RICHARD D. BARTOL III
JARED C. BECK
ERIC L. BISCHOFF
STEPHEN R. BLACK
ROBERT J. BLOCK
MICHAEL A. BOHMAN
JOSEPH G. R. BOICE
BRANDON K. CALLAWAY
KARL M. CHANDLER
ALAN H. S. CHEN
ANTHONY Y. S. CHIA
JAMES C. COMINSKY
THOMAS G. COOPER
PRESTON M. CRIDDLE
TRACY A. DANTONIO
CAITLIN D. DARCEY
ROHIT K. DAVE
HAI A. M. DOAN
KRISTEN M. ESTRADA
BRIAN D. EVANS
KENNETH K. H. FAN
AMANDA A. FIX
STUART C. FRY
WILLIAM H. GALLAGHER
JOHN M. GREEN III
KARSTEN J. HAIN
JAMES M. HAWKINS
TAWFIQ N. HAZBOUN
BRENT M. HIEBERT
ANDREW J. HOPPE
PATRICK A. HUNTER
STEPHEN B. HUTTON
SHIN J. KIM
JIMMY H. KU
YALE A. LEE
ERIK J. LIGAS
JAMES C. M. LISH
LANDON E. LUDWICK
CHRISTOPHER P. MALY
RICHARD A. MCKINNEY, JR.
KRISTINA B. MENDOZA
EVAN P. MOODY
ALEXANDER D. PAUL
DAVID G. QUINTERO
MONICA L. RANCOURT
NICOLE M. REDDOUT
JENNA M. REDGATE
OSCAR A. RODRIGUEZRAMOS
NICHOLAS K. RORICK
BLAKE M. ROSACKER
GRANT R. RUTHERFORD
JAMES A. SHAUL
KELLY B. SLICHTER
VINCENT J. SLOVAN
JEFFREY T. SMITH
DOUGLAS D. STEFFY
WALTER D. THAMES
JUSTIN I. WATSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

FREDERIC ALBESA
CHRISTOPHER L. ALLEN
ALEX F. G. AMPER
IAN E. BARR
JENNIFER M. BIBY
HEATHER M. BOWMAN
CHRISTOPHER M. BUCHANAN
JASON P. BUONVINO
REYNALDO R. CABANA III
DON C. CADE
LUPEI CHOU
MICHAEL J. COLLINS
SHELLEY CONYERS
VAUGHN B. COOPER
MARK A. COWANS, JR.
SHANNON M. DANIELS
HEIDI M. DAVIS
JAMES A. DAVIS
CHARLES M. DEIBLER
JUSTIN T. DEVOE
RYAN P. DIPAOLO
MICHAEL B. DIPROSPERO
REBECCA R. DREMANN
CRAIG T. DZIEWIATKOWSKI
DAVID C. EGGERS
MALCOLM L. ELLIOTT
MELISSA S. FLYNN
JARON Z. GOLDSTEIN
MELISSA A. GONZALES
JEREMY A. GRENNAN
DEEANN K. GUNNELLS
MARK A. GUNTER
ADAM L. HAMILTON
BRIAN H. HAYS
NATHAN T. HAYWARD
EDWARD W. HERBERT IV
LUKE J. HODGES
ALEJANDRA HOLCH
STEVEN A. HOLLAND
RYAN Z. HUGHES
MICHAEL D. KEY
JONATHAN M. KRENZ
MICHAEL D. LABBE
RAYMOND J. LANCLOS III
QUENTIN E. LEASE
SOHNHWA LEE
JEFFREY D. LEGG
JASON P. MARKS
CATHERINE L. MCCLURE
ANDREW S. MIKESELL
HOWARD A. MILLIGAN
JOSHUA M. MILLNER
STEPHANIE C. MONTANO
JASON A. MONTS
BENJAMIN G. MUNIZ III
BRENT E. NIVEN
RAYMOND D. OBRIEN
JOHN A. OLABODE
ROEL K. OROZCO
ISAAC J. ORTMAN
STEAVE W. PHANN

MATTHEW C. POSS
RENAE J. RENKEN
JOHN J. RENQUIST
LEANNE R. RILEY
PETER J. RIVERA
WILLIAM D. M. ROMPS
MANUEL ROSAS
FADI J. SACRE
CHRISTOPHER M. SANDS
NARCISO M. SANGLE III
MATTHEW J. SCHAEFER
JAN D. SCHOTMAN
JOHN R. SECRIST
SARAH S. SIRKIN
GINA M. SLABY
CINDY SUAREZVILLAFANE
JOHN R. SUMNER
PURIPHAT SURARUJIROJ
SEAN M. TETER
MICHAEL B. VALLE
TROY R. WEIDENMILLER
KURT A. WELDAY, JR.
JACOB T. WHITELEY
JAMES R. WHITWORTH, JR.
DANTE E. WILLIAMSON
EDWARD P. WINDAS
TIMOTHY J. WINN
FRANZ J. YU

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

MARICAR S. ABERIN
CHERIE T. AYALA
JOHN B. AYLSWORTH
KENNETH D. BARBER
KATHLEEN K. BAUTISTA
SHERI M. BENJAMIN
CARLTON W. BENNETT III
NICHOLE D. BENSON
TOMMIE R. BIRGE
ANGELINA D. BRANNON
ELYSE M. BRAXTON
TRACEY L. BURNEY
JASON R. CARMICHAEL
SARAH K. CERTANO
RAQUEL CHAMBERS
JOHN P. CHIONG
ESTHER M. COLBERT
TANYA M. COPPA
GRACIANA E. CRAWFORD
ANNISSA L. CROMER
NICOLE CUTHBERTSON
ANGELA R. DAVENPORT
KAREN E. DOWNER
ANTHONY P. DURAN, JR.
SARA R. EDMONDSON
JESSICA R. FAHL
MICHELLE L. FINLEY
ROBERT D. GIBSON
APRIL A. GILBRECH
DANIELLE M. GRADY
KEVIN T. GUTIERREZ
SAMUEL I. HARRIS
EMILY S. HESS
NARDA P. HEYWOOD
CHRISTINE D. HIGGINS
JAMES P. HINES
ANTONY N. HOPSON
MIRANDA R. HORNE
KAYLA R. HORTON
SARAH C. HULEY
DOUGLAS T. JOHNSON
SONDRA L. JOLLY
THOMAS J. KANNON
ERIN L. KERR
MEGAN L. KING
CANDICE N. KLINE
KATHLEEN E. KOSTKA
AMY D. KRAMER
LANI A. KUHLOW
SHANE I. LATIMER
NATHAN J. LEE
TAIKO LESTER
ANDY G. LUM
JENNIFER R. LYND
CHRISTOPHER A. LYNN
KONSTANCE C. MACKIE
CHARLIE O. MANALANSAN
CAMERON F. MATHIE
RICKY R. MCCALLISTER
SHELLY K. MCCARTER
DAVID R. MCDONALD
MATTHEW M. MOORE
RACHEL M. NADOLSKY
DEREK L. OWENS
JENNY L. K. PAUL
JESSIE N. PERALTA
SHEILA PHILLIPS
DESIRAE N. PIERCE
JACKIE L. PONCE
JACQUELINE E. PRICE
CHASITY Y. REID
JASON A. REID
AUTUMN J. RIDDELL
REBECA S. RODRIGUEZ
LUIS A. RODRIGUEZFONSECA
FRANCISCO J. RODRIGUEZSOSA
MELISSA J. ROSLONIEC
SHEREE A. SCOTT
BETSY M. SEITZ
DOMENIQUE K. SELBY
KRISTEN M. SKINNER
SASHA Y. SMITH
CHRISTOPHER E. STEADMAN
REBECCA L. STRONG
LAUREN T. SUSZAN
RIE H. TAMAYO
LAURA A. TATE
BEVERLY J. TORRES
SCHADAQ TORRES
WILLIAM C. WESTBROOK
MALINDA V. WILFORD
CARDIA M. WILSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

JAMES P. ADWELL
MOLLY A. AVERY
TANYA N. BATES
JEREMY O. BIEHN
HENRY L. BIRD
GREGORY W. BOGGS
MICHEAL P. BOWERS
CLIFTON D. BUTLER
KIRSTEN M. CARLSON
MARY E. CAVA
STEPHANIE C. CLAPPER
ASHLEY N. CLARK
DOUGLAS E. COLE, JR.
WALTER J. COLVIN, JR.
RACHEL W. P. CONDON
TRAVIS W. COOK
BRENNAN D. COX
TARA J. DARIANO
RICHARD J. DELINSKY
SONJA M. DIAZSEVILLA
RYAN K. DIPARISI
PATRICK J. DOUGHERTY
STEPHEN M. EGGAN
MATTHEW R. ENGLISH
MICHAEL L. FISHER
JASON S. GALKA
LINDA C. GALLUS
GREGORY D. GENTRY
MARISSA L. GREENE
KAYREEN K. GUCCIARDO
MARC D. HAINES
FRANCIS J. HARAN III
LINDA D. HAVENS
HEATHER C. HENDRIXHOLMES
MACEDONIO M. HERRERA
CHRISTINE HOBBS
DEREK B. HOFFMAN
DARCI E. HOOK
MEGAN I. HORVATH
BRIAN A. HOWARD
ALAN D. HUBER
BRITTANY J. JANSEN
AMANDA L. JIMENEZ
JOSHUA I. KEIL
BRENNA S. KELLY
MICHAEL R. KIMBRELL
CHRISTOPHER R. KUNTZ
CARLOS A. LINOMONTES
ERIC S. LITZENBERG
STEPHANIE M. LONG
WILLIAM P. MARTIN, JR.
BETH M. MATTESON
AMY E. MCARTHUR
JENNIFER J. MCLAUGHLIN
GREG F. R. MENDOZA
CASSANDRA G. MONTALVO
SHAWN M. MORRIS
ADELEKE O. MOWOBI
FRANKLIN E. J. MUHAMMAD
ANNE R. MURRAY
KEITH D. NEMEROFF
HEATHER M. NEUMEYER
ROBERT P. B. NEVINS
DAVID NORIEGA
JACOB N. J. NORRIS
DONALD T. ORDINARIO
MICHAEL D. OWEN
JOHN D. PAVLICA, JR.
KATHERINE E. PIERCE
BRIAN L. PIKE
BRETTSON W. PLATTE
ERICA L. POOLE
LUKE P. QUEBEDEAUX
DAVID W. QUEEN
CHRISTOPHER T. RAGSDALE
ROXANNE M. RAU
HEATHER A. REDDING
KAIA T. ROBINSON
STEPHEN E. ROGERS
KATHLEEN C. ROONEY
GARY M. ROSONET
ANDREW C. RUTLEDGE
JILL M. SALLIS
NICHOLAS C. SCHAAL
SCOTTIE E. SMITH
KWAJA G. SNAER
KRISTIN L. SOMAR
MICHAEL W. TERRENZI
DAWN M. TORRUSIO
CHRISTOPHER J. UDELL
JOEL A. VALDEZ
DAVID P. VARNEY
WILLIAM J. WALDERS
ROBERT C. WARD
THOMAS G. WARNER, JR.
DAVID L. WHEELER, JR.
KEVIN R. WHITMYER
JANNIFER L. WICK
JESSICA N. WOODY
JASON E. WRIGHT
MARTIN R. WRIGHT
HAO XIE
ADAM L. ZEILER
MARESA C. J. ZENNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

RICHARD R. ABITRIA
CHANTAL N. AFUHLEFLORE
HAYDAR M. ALEID
DANIEL B. ALGERT
LESLEY P. ALGERT
WILLIAM C. ANDERSON
CODY C. ARMSTRONG
KESTUTIS A. AUKSTUOLIS
DAVID F. AURIGEMMA
KRISTEN D. AURIGEMMA
MARY M. BAILEY
NEAL J. BAKER
ANGELO B. BAQUIR
MATTHEW P. P. BAUER
TERRENCE D. BAYLY
JEREMY E. BENJAMINSON
DANIELA J. BERMUDEZ
MICHELLE C. BILBAO
BENJAMIN D. BONI
JEROMY T. BOUCHER
ELISE C. BRANDON
MARIE E. BROCK
TAYLOR A. BROWN
TIMOTHY P. BRUCE
KERRY L. BUCKLEY
RYAN T. BUCKLEY
SARAH B. BUCKLEY
SUSAN A. BULLARD
PATRICK J. BURBANODELARA
MATTHEW D. BURGESS
NATHAN H. BUTLER
WILLIAM J. BUTLER
AMELIA H. BUTTOLPH
WILLIAM E. BYLUND
KRISTOPHER E. CARTER
KRISTI L. CASSLEMAN
ALLEN D. CHANG
BENJAMIN B. CHI
GRANT K. COCHRAN
GEOFFREY J. COLE
RICHELE L. CORRADO
PAUL CRIPE
CHRIS A. CRUZ
NICHOLAS A. DARLING
CHRISTOPHER A. DAVIS
DANIEL J. DEAN, JR.
DEREK L. DEBOER
JOHN B. DEGEUS
ANDREA F. DELACRUZ
VICTORIA M. DEREVIANKO
NICHOLAS W. DIGEORGE
BRIGHAM L. DOUGLAS
STEVEN ELEK IV
JENNIFER K. ENGKULAWY
JOHN K. EVANS II
SARA K. FAUGHT
KAYCEE R. FIASEU
RADU FILIPESCU
LYNN M. FLOWERS
STEPHANIE M. FOFI
SAMUEL D. FRASIER
MICHELE M. GAGE
KAREN G. GANACIAS
ALEJANDRO J. GARCIASALAS
BETHANY K. GAYLORD
JUDITH C. GENEROSO
JOHN W. GILLESPIE
LUKE A. GILMAN
JONATHAN R. GOWER
JENNIFER N. GRAHAM
TATIANA M. GREENE
ALEX A. GUTWEILER
SEAN P. HAIGHT
KENT M. HALL
ERIN R. S. HAMERSLEY
TODD G. HASTINGS
HEATHER N. HAUCK
NIELS M. HAUFF
MAE W. HEALY
NATHAN J. HEMERLY
ANDREW D. HENEBRY
SADIE M. HENRY
EVAN M. HODELL
MARSHALL M. HOFFMAN
PATRICIA E. HOGAN
KEVIN T. HOLLEMAN
JAMON A. HOLZHOUSER
ANKUSH K. JAIN
MICHELLE D. JARDONAITES
JENNIFER L. JASKIEWICZ
LING JING
MICHAEL W. JOHNS
BIANCA C. KARRIS
DI KHOO
IULIANA KILIMENTMIHAILEANU
DANIEL P. KUCKEL
SCOTT A. KUNKEL
CASEY E. LAFFERTY
JOSEPH E. LAGREW II
ERIC C. LARSEN
SCOTT M. LAWSON
JOSEPH A. LE
TUVIEN LE
BLAIR C. LEE
BENJAMIN J. LEHMANN
WILLIAM A. LEWIS
KATHRYN A. LIPSCOMB
MATTHEW C. LOMELI
LANCE A. LOPEZ

JOSEPH O. LOPREIATO
CHRISTOPHER S. LOVE
HEATHER K. MAK
PAUL G. MALIAKEL
ANDREW E. MANCUSIUNGARO
RODOLFO E. MANOSALVA
JOSEPH P. MARQUARDT
MICHAEL T. MARSHALL
MARY B. MARUSZAK
MANOJ MATHEW
JEAN G. MATHURIN
JOHN C. MATTINGLY
ROBERT I. MCCLURE
JEREMY D. MCCULLOUGH
JOHN C. MCDONNELL IV
LESLEY A. MCPEAK
JONATHAN M. MELZER
NICOLE J. MEUNIER
ERIC B. MICHEL
SHANNON S. MICHEL
MICHAEL J. E. MONSON
BEAU J. MUNOZ
DAVID E. MYLES
JESSICA L. NAFF
CARLOS A. NAVARRO
MIKAL J. NELSON
MARIA L. NIEVES
BRENDAN S. OBRIEN
OLAMIDE J. OLADIPO
ERIK J. OLSON
TODD G. OSBORNE
JAMIE K. OVERBEY
STEFFANIE M. OWENS
AARON G. PANNIER
CHRISTOPHER R. PARTOVI
PHILLIP R. PERRINEZ
ALEXANDRA V. PERRY
BRANDON R. PETERSON
MICHAEL F. POWERS
MICHAEL A. PROKOP
WILLIAM J. REYNDERS
NOLEN F. ROBERSON
CHRISTOPHER D. RODEN
WARREN L. ROSS
MATTHEW C. RUSSELL
TODD M. RUTTENBERG
GABRIEL F. SANTIAGO
JONATHAN M. SARDINA
SCOTT J. SASOVETZ
JESSE T. SCHONAU
STEPHENIE A. SCULLY
DANIEL B. SEEGER
ERIK E. SHANAHAN
JOSEPH F. SIEBENALER
JOSEPH A. SIEGEL
BRETT P. SIMMONS
JACOB E. SINGER
CHRISTOPHER D. SKEEHAN
JENNIFER L. SMITH
RYAN W. SNOW
ANA L. SOLIS
PETER L. SONE
ADAM G. SONGER
MATTHEW V. SPEICHER
GREGORY R. STAEHELI
CHRISTOPHER J. STANGE
VLAD V. STANILA
ROBERT E. STAPLETON
LEITH J. STATES
HELEN M. STEELE
LORETTA L. STEIN
KRISTI K. STONEGARZA
MICHAEL S. STRATTON
INES H. STROMBERG
PAUL C. TALISE
JACOB M. TAYLOR
BRIAN TOUPIN
RUTH A. TREVINO
IAN C. UBER
JASON M. VALADAO
KARI L. WAGNER
SCOTT C. WAGNER
KENNETH B. WAITE, JR.
JAMES D. WALLACE
JOHN C. WALSH
ADAM T. WATERMAN
JAMES W. WESTBROOK
ANN V. WHEELAN
JONATHAN D. WILDI
JESSICA A. WILSON
KEVIN F. WILSON
MICHAEL E. WOLF
BRYAN E. WOOLDRIDGE, JR.
DAVID J. ZELINSKAS

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

MICHELLE D. CARTER

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING–NAMED PERSONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE TO BE CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

KRESHNIK ALIKAJ, OF CALIFORNIA
MICHELLE ANGULO, OF PENNSYLVANIA
KATIE WILTROUT APPLEGATE, OF VIRGINIA
ALICIA M. ARENDT, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DIEGO A. ARIAS, OF NEW JERSEY
CHRISTOPHER N. ASHCRAFT, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ZACHARY SAMUEL AUERBACH, OF VIRGINIA
MADELEINE THERESA BEARD, OF VIRGINIA
ELIZABETH MARY ANN BENNION, OF UTAH
JULIA ANNE BENSON, OF WISCONSIN
CLARETHA BILLINGSLEA, OF VIRGINIA
XAVIER JONATHAN BILLINGSLEY, OF TEXAS
ROBERT R. BLAKELY III, OF VIRGINIA
LAUREN A. BLEAKNEY, OF DELAWARE
JASON Z. BRAINER, OF MICHIGAN
JEREMY K. BRANSON, OF VIRGINIA
CASEY M. BRASWELL, OF VIRGINIA
DIANA G. BRAUN, OF NEW YORK
RYAN MARIE CALDWELL, OF NORTH CAROLINA
DANIEL MICHAEL CAPONE, OF PENNSYLVANIA
KATHRYN R. CARNEY, OF PENNSYLVANIA
JESSICA NICOLE CARRILLO, OF TEXAS
MORGAN E. CASSELL, OF WASHINGTON
CHRISTOPHER JONATHAN CHENG, OF VIRGINIA
JOEL WILLIAM CHRISTENSEN, OF UTAH
CARLY L. COHEN, OF PENNSYLVANIA
OSVALDO VIDALY COLON-TORRES, OF VIRGINIA
KHATIJAH SUZANNA COREY, OF CALIFORNIA
JULIE ANN CURRY, OF VIRGINIA
SHARON MICHELLE CYR, OF ILLINOIS
KEITH THOMAS DEVEREAUX, OF VIRGINIA
KELLY MARIE RAIN DODGE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JAMES HARRIS FINDLEY, OF ILLINOIS
LINNETTE D. FRANCO, OF GEORGIA
MICHELE L. GAMMARIELLO, OF VIRGINIA
MELINDA GATTO, OF VIRGINIA
DANIEL TEKA GETAHUN, OF MINNESOTA
RAJANI MARY GHOSH, OF MARYLAND
JUDITH DIANE GLASS, OF PENNSYLVANIA
DANIEL ALLAN GRIFFITHS, OF VIRGINIA
BENJAMIN JOHN GROB–FITZGIBBON, OF VIRGINIA
HERMES RAFAEL GRULLON, OF NEW YORK
JUSTIN RANDALL HALPERN, OF NEW JERSEY
ADAM R. HENNINGS, OF MINNESOTA
DONNA MELYZA HERNANDEZ, OF CALIFORNIA
BENJAMIN P. HINES, OF VIRGINIA
JOHN ISAAC HOUSTON, OF NEW JERSEY
AARON AKIRA ISAKI, OF HAWAII
KENYA JORDANA JAMES, OF NEW YORK
BRITTNEY NICOLLE JOHNSON, OF MARYLAND
SAMANTHA A. JORDAN, OF VIRGINIA
SARAH E. KAHNT, OF TEXAS
TARYN NOHEA KAILI, OF HAWAII
BRIAN C. KELLY, OF CALIFORNIA
MADELINE LOUISE KOCH, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CHRISTINE LAHENS, OF MASSACHUSETTS
CANDICE MELINDA LAPLANTE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JEFFREY HOWARD LARSON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
SARAH A. LEIGHTON-BRADLEY, OF VIRGINIA
ROBYN NICOLE LUFFMAN, OF MISSOURI
ETHAN DONOVAN LYNCH, OF KENTUCKY
MARCOS A. MADRID, OF VIRGINIA
JENNIFER MAITNER, OF VIRGINIA
BENJAMIN C. MALLETT, OF VIRGINIA
CRISTIAN NOEMI MARTINEZ-LUSANE, OF CALIFORNIA
NOLAN PATRICK MASTERSON, OF VIRGINIA
ROBERT WILLIAM MCGHEE, OF TEXAS
MICHAEL JOSEPH MCGUIRE, OF VIRGINIA
WILLIAM L. MCILWAIN IV, OF OHIO
MICHAEL JOHN MCMULLAN, OF VIRGINIA
MEGAN ELIZABETH MCPHEE, OF MASSACHUSETTS
DAVID ALEJANDRO MENDEZ, OF CALIFORNIA
NATHAN MARK MILLER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
NAAKOSHIE A. MILLS, OF NEW YORK
JAKE THOMAS MINER, OF CONNECTICUT
MENAL GAURISHANKER MODHA, OF VIRGINIA
JACQUELINE MAE MOORE, OF TEXAS
SARAH KYLER MOORE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
UMAR MOULTA-ALI, OF MARYLAND
AMAURY MUNOZ, OF NEW YORK
DARLENE M. NOBLE-ZINZER, OF VIRGINIA
KRISTIN MOODY O'GRADY, OF OREGON
JAMES ROBERT O'LEARY, OF VIRGINIA
AUTUMN KELLY PATTERSON, OF PENNSYLVANIA
PATRICK J. PATTERSON, OF VIRGINIA
SAMUEL PAYAN, OF TEXAS
JOSEPH ALAN PEARCE, OF VIRGINIA
STEPHANIE R. PATTERSON PEREZ, OF VIRGINIA
PATRICK J. PRATT, OF TENNESSEE
EVAN ROBERTS PRICE, OF VIRGINIA
CHRISTOPHER D. PRITCHETT, OF GEORGIA
JESSE N. RAMIREZ, OF VIRGINIA
STEFAN H. REISINGER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MAI VAY RETTENMAYER, OF CALIFORNIA
CYRUS FARROKH REVAND, OF VIRGINIA
AMANDA MARISSE ROACH, OF NEW JERSEY
ASHTON E. ROBISON, OF TEXAS
WILLIAM D. ROWE, OF VIRGINIA
MELISSA M. SANDOVAL, OF NEW YORK
THOMAS HAMILTON SANTORO, OF NEW YORK
MONICA LORRAINE SAWYER, OF COLORADO
DANIEL R. SINGER, OF VIRGINIA
JESSICA A. SPERLONGANO, OF VIRGINIA
TODD E. STRUMKE, OF VIRGINIA
EDWARD B. SWANN, OF PENNSYLVANIA
LARA R. TALVERDIAN, OF CALIFORNIA
CHRISTOPHER F. TATUM, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MEGAN SIMONE TAYLOR, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MIMI WIN THEIN, OF VIRGINIA
CLAIRE GRONEMEYER THOMAS, OF CALIFORNIA
JONATHAN NIKOLAS TSCHETTER, OF VIRGINIA
DMITRIY UPART, OF VIRGINIA
JONATHAN JAMES VACCARO, OF VIRGINIA
JOHN RICHARD VELASCO, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
GREGORY JAMES VIOLA, OF NEW YORK
JAMES A. WATERMAN, OF WISCONSIN
TRAE R. WATSON, OF NORTH CAROLINA
DAVID MCKAY WEILER, OF OREGON
DEBORAH ARIN WHANG, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DIANA MARIE WICK-PALDANO, OF VIRGINIA
JACOB ANDREW WILLIAMS, OF VIRGINIA
DANIEL LEE WILSON, OF FLORIDA
EMA DIANE WOODWARD, OF MASSACHUSETTS
ONEJIN WU, OF CALIFORNIA
MARK D. WYDRA, OF VIRGINIA
REBECCA YANG, OF VIRGINIA
BRETT DAVID ZISKIE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate September 8, 2015:

THE JUDICIARY

ROSEANN A. KETCHMARK, OF MISSOURI, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICERS AND THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITH 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HOUSE AND RECIPIENTS OF THE HOUSE EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD AND TEAM PLAYER AWARD

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, Ranking Member ROBERT BRADY and I rise today to congratulate and recognize the outstanding employees of the Officers (Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, and Chief Administrative Officer) and the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives who have reached the milestone of 25 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as the recipients of the House Employee Excellence Award and Team Player Award.

The House's most important asset is its dedicated and exceptional employees, whose work, which is often behind the scenes, is vital in keeping the operations and services of the House running smoothly and efficiently. The employees we recognize today are acknowledged and commended for their hard work, dedication, professionalism, teamwork, support of House Members and their staffs and constituents, and for their contributions day-in and day-out to the overall operations of the House. These employees have a wide range of responsibilities and skills that support the legislative process, ensure the security of the institution, maintain our technology and service infrastructure, and contribute to a more effective and efficiently operating House support structure. They have accomplished many great things in a wide range of activities, and the House of Representatives and its Members, staff, and the American public is better served because of them.

We recognize and honor the individuals named below for 25 years of dedicated service to the House. Collectively, this group has provided 350 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives:

Keith S. Brown, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Pamela L. Brown, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Mona S. Burnett, Office of the Sergeant of Arms.

Ed Cassidy, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Mark Dobbins, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Daniel S. Hall, Office of the Clerk.

Patrick A. Hirsch, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Araceli Jennings, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Tara A. Kelley, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Timothy Magruder, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Charles E. Powell, Jr., Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Robin Richter, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Randy Rogerson, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

David Tonizzo, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

We also recognize and congratulate the House employees receiving the Employee Excellence Award. This is a merit-based award, given to an employee from each House Officer organization, and the Office of Inspector General. Selected employees exhibited outstanding overall job performance and displayed a willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty for their organization throughout the last year. We honor the individuals named below for receiving this prestigious award.

Melissa K. Franger and John F. Looney, III, Office of the Sergeant at Arms.

Kevin Hanrahan, Office of the Clerk.

Michael A. Howard, Office of Inspector General.

David E. McKittrick, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

And finally, we recognize and congratulate several House employees being presented the Team Player Award. This award recognizes the value the House Officers and Inspector General place on working collaboratively across House organizations to strengthen and protect the U.S. House of Representatives. These awardees have demonstrated a collaborative attitude, commitment to achieving team objectives, respect and support of their teammates, and dedication to the betterment of House operations. We honor the individuals named below for receiving this notable award.

Alison M. Trulock, Office of the Clerk.

Kevin C. Cornell and Donna K. Wolfgang, Office of Inspector General.

James J. Kaelin, Office of the Sergeant at Arms.

Kevin N. Chambers, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend our congratulations and once again recognize and thank these employees for their professionalism and commitment to the U.S. House of Representatives as a whole, and in particular to their respective House Officers, the Inspector General, and collaboratively across these organizations. Their long hours, hard work, and team spirit are invaluable, and their years of unwavering service, dedication, and commitment to the House set an example for their colleagues and other employees who will follow in their footsteps. I celebrate our honorees, and I am proud to stand before you and the nation on their behalf to recognize the importance of their public service.

15TH ANNIVERSARY OF WRITING ON AMERICA

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, last month we celebrated Viet Bao Daily News' 15th Anniversary of the Writing on America Essay Contest and its subsequent annual Awards program. Viet Bao Daily News established the Writing on America Essay Contest in 2000 with the simple mission of creating an opportunity for members of the Vietnamese community to share their individual experiences.

Since its creation, the competition has become an annual grand award celebration and a uniting chronicle sharing inspirational stories from members of the Vietnamese community. The initial objective of the competition was to preserve the Vietnamese language and cultural values. However, the impact exceeded Viet Bao's initial expectation. The tens of thousands of entries over the years have become more than just an anthology of shared, collective philosophical values—but a historical record helping to preserve the Vietnamese community's history across a broad spectrum ranging from tragedy to triumph.

I would like to congratulate all of the participants in the essay competition for sharing their varied stories of life and legacy, as well as congratulate all of the winners past and present. They have all contributed a multitude of inspirational stories that document and share with the whole community their experiences and journey to assimilate in American society.

I also want to congratulate and applaud Viet Bao Daily News for the success of their writing competition, not just for the community service the program brings to the Vietnamese community, but for what it contributes to the rich tapestry of our nation.

RECOGNIZING THE TOWN OF KOUTS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound admiration that I recognize the town of Kouts, Indiana, as it marks its 150th anniversary. In celebration of this special occasion, festivities were held in Kouts on August 22, 2015, which included a parade and commemoration ceremony coinciding with the town's annual Porkfest and the historic Aukiki Festival.

An idyllic sanctuary for rural life, Kouts has become the thriving community it is today due to one noble trait: perseverance. In 1865, when surveyors of the nearby Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, and Saint Louis railroad sought lodging, they were denied at the first home they

came to and wandered onward to be accepted with hospitality at the second, where the Kouts family lived. Henceforth, the family name was given to the area as it expanded from the Kouts train station and was built into a prospering community by the surveyors. The village applied for incorporation three times, failing twice before Kouts' patience was rewarded in 1921, the same year electricity spread to the area.

Kouts has always been a town of industry, not in the sense of material production, but in the sense that the people of Kouts have always toiled with conviction and tenacity to create the lives they envision for themselves and to lift up their community as a civil microcosm worthy of respect.

It is a testament to the quality of the people of Kouts and their interest in supporting each member of the community that Blake Benson, an eighth grader at Kouts Middle School, has assumed the role of President of the town's Sesquicentennial Committee, performing the duties of his office with pride. In collaboration with his Committee, Blake has organized the joyous commemoration of this special day in Kouts history. For their devotion to their town's history and prosperity, I would like to acknowledge Mr. Benson, the Kouts Sesquicentennial Committee, and Kouts Clerk-Treasurer Laurie Tribble.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the 150th anniversary of the town of Kouts. The town's long history of harmonious cohabitations is inspiring and is worthy of our admiration.

HONORING ROBERT FISHER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Robert Fisher, who passed away on July 17 in Fairfax, California, at the age of 68. A nearly-lifelong Marin resident and community leader, he will be remembered for his unyielding efforts to better lives in Marin City and beyond.

From an early age, Mr. Fisher cared deeply about others. He moved to Marin City a year after his birth, and attended high school and college in the North Bay. He first ran for office at the age of 23, serving on the Sausalito-Marin City School District board and later, for the Marin City Community Services District board. He also worked as a student counselor at his alma mater, the College of Marin, and became an engineer by profession.

Mr. Fisher's efforts will continue to impact lives long after his passing. He was involved with the Marin City Health and Wellness Center, Bayside Martin Luther King Jr. School, and the recently-opened Rocky Graham Park. A new community center for Marin City—one of his dreams—has begun the planning process.

Robert Fisher's lifetime dedication to public service exemplifies an inspirational spirit of generosity and a model for others to follow. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to him today and express our deepest condolences to his wife, Agnes, his sister, Lue Ann, and his children.

EDITH GATES BRADY—100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, Edith's parents were William Earl and Marsha Susan Gates. She has one younger brother, Billy Duane, who resides in Texas.

Edith was born at 4:00 p.m. September 4, 1915, in the country outside of Peach Orchard, AR.

She moved from Peach Orchard, Arkansas to Michigan in 1925 at age 10. She graduated as Salutatorian from John J. Pershing High School.

She was married to Loyd Elvin Brady in the midst of the Great Depression on October 28, 1934, at the Hazel Park Baptist Tabernacle, Hazel Park, MI in a wedding dress costing $13. She had 6 children, Roger Bryan, Kay Linda, Loyd (Bud) Elvin II, Dan Gregory, Robert Franklin and Kirk Alyn.

As the wife of a city manager she resided, entertained and attended public/political functions in Hazel Park, MI, Trinidad, CO, The Dalles, OR, Monrovia, CA and Santa Clara, CA, before her husband retired to raise cattle at the Sugarbush Ranch in Success, AR in 1963.

She has 13 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and 5 great-great grandchildren.

She was baptized into the Christian faith as a child and has been a member of the Success Baptist Church in Success, AR since 1963.

She became Deputy Treasurer of Western Clay County, Arkansas in 1968, in which capacity she served for 16 years.

Edith has family traveling from California, Texas, Georgia, and Michigan for the centennial celebration.

She loves celebrating events with her family, recollecting amusing stories/life lessons, following political commentary, reading western novels, and cheering for the St. Louis Cardinals.

She plans to wear high heels to her 100th birthday celebration.

HONORING THE INTERAGENCY COOPERATION THAT SAVED A LIFE

HON. SUZAN K. DelBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Whatcom County Fire District 5, Whatcom County Sheriff's Department, Airlift Northwest, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for working together to save the life of Hugh Graham, a Point Roberts visitor who went into cardiac arrest at the Port of Entry.

Early on June 7, Hugh and his friend Andy MacLean arrived in Point Roberts, having planned a bike ride. Immediately after passing through the Port of Entry on Tyee Drive, Hugh collapsed. Customs Agents began performing CPR, while a cardiac arrest call went out to the Whatcom County Sheriff's Department and Whatcom County Fire District 5.

The first responders worked on resuscitating Hugh using defibrillation and medication until he was stable. Hugh was then transported in an Airlift Northwest helicopter to PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center in Bellingham. The strong relationship between the CBP, Airlift Northwest, Fire District 5 and the Sheriff's Department was essential in ensuring the best possible outcome for Hugh, who has since returned home to fully recover.

Many thanks go to:

Whatcom County Fire District 5 personnel:

Jerry Aguiar, Ben Boyko, Christian Craig, Jeff Finlay, Ryan Greene, Mark Puustelli, Fadi Samaha, John Shields, Kristy Steinberger, Christina Tersakian, Scott Van Den Boogaard, Kyle Whiteman

Whatcom County Sheriff Deputies:

Tom McCarthy, Jayson Loreen

Airlift Northwest members:

Bonita Haggith, Rose Goure, Rick Rathbun

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agents:

Larry Tingley, Eddie Proctor, Timothy Johnson, Denton Glaser, Andrew Giles, Merritt Washburn, Christopher Barron, Robert Carter, Detlef Goellner

This situation is a great example of how our community benefits when agencies work together at all levels. I am thankful that these men and women are hard at work every single day to keep us safe and secure.

HONORING MOTHER VIRGINIA OLIVER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep respect and profound admiration that I congratulate Mother Virginia Oliver, a longtime resident of East Chicago, Indiana, on a momentous milestone, her 100th birthday, which she celebrated on August 31, 2015. Virginia was honored by family and friends at a very special Celebration of 100 Years of Life, which featured a commemorative luncheon. The following day, she was recognized during a special reception at her church, Greater First Baptist Church in East Chicago.

Mother Virginia Oliver arrived in East Chicago nearly seventy years ago, when she and her loving husband, the late Robert Oliver, relocated to Northwest Indiana in the mid-1940's to build a life together. Upon their arrival in the city, the couple resided in an apartment above the JPL Furniture Store located in the section of East Chicago known as the Harbor. It was during this time that Mr. and Mrs. Oliver welcomed two children, Robert and Sheryl, both proud graduates of East Chicago Roosevelt High School.

In 1953, Virginia and Robert purchased a home in the Calumet section of the city, where Virginia continues to reside. It was in this home that Mother Oliver raised her children. During this time, Virginia was fully involved in her children's educations and was an active member of the parent-teacher association.

While Mother Oliver was focused on raising her children, throughout her life she was also well known in the community as a skilled seamstress and beautician. After her children were grown, Virginia continued to serve her

community as a crossing guard for the School City of East Chicago. A further testament to her patriotism and her commitment to her city, she also served as a poll worker on election days.

A woman of tremendous faith, Mother Virginia Oliver has dedicated herself to serving her church community, first as a member of First Baptist Church where she sang in the choir and served as a secretary, and later at Greater First Baptist Church. Friends and family recall Mother Oliver's pride that Greater First Baptist Church "began in her home" after founding-pastor, Reverend P.C. Harrison, came to her home and convinced her husband, Deacon Robert Oliver, to join him in forming a new church. Deacon Oliver would go on to become the first and longest serving chairman of the Deacon Board, a position he held for thirty four years. At the first church meeting, Virginia was named as the church's Financial Secretary, which she faithfully served as for twenty seven years. Mother Oliver also has served her church as a deaconess, missionary, choir member, church decorator, and ultimately, church mother. She continues to serve as Greater First Baptist Church's oldest church mother.

Mr. Speaker, Mother Virginia Oliver has committed herself to her community and her church since she arrived in East Chicago, and has served as a mother and role model for many children throughout the years. She has taught every member of her family and her community the true meaning of service to others. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in wishing Mother Virginia Oliver a very happy 100th birthday.

RECOGNIZING ELIZABETH BURKO

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Elizabeth Burko, who was a true and committed leader in the California State Parks who lost her life on August 22, 2015.

Elizabeth Burko was born in Ohio and attended college at the University of Colorado where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science before moving out to California.

She began her career as a volunteer docent at Año Nuevo State Reserve in 1985 where she was eventually hired on as a park aide. For 30 years, Burko dedicated her life and career to the mission and purpose of California State Parks. In 2007 she became the Superintendent of the Russian River District of California State Parks which includes parks in both Sonoma and Mendocino Counties.

Throughout her career Burko proved to be dedicated to the mission of the State Parks, but it was during the recession that she truly demonstrated the value of her leadership. Her management skills and creativity made it possible to avoid many park closures in the district and maintain the integrity of the State Parks mission. She was known for her willingness to collaborate with local non-profit groups in order to improve park access and management.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognition of Elizabeth Burko whose contributions to the Russian River District of California State Parks will be valued by park visitors and staff alike for years to come. She will be greatly missed.

PAXSON ''PACKY'' H. OFFIELD, CATALINA ICON PASSES

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, the community of Avalon, California was saddened to learn that Paxson "Packy" H. Offield passed away on Sunday, June 14, due to complications from leukemia. He recently chose to return to his home in Michigan, and passed away there, with his wife and family by his side.

Mr. Offield attended the Latin School of Chicago and the Catalina Island School for Boys, located in Toyon Bay. He graduated from the University of Denver in 1975 with a degree in Economics and then taught here at the Catalina Island School. In 1976, his family asked him to join the Santa Catalina Island Company, formed in 1894 and guided by the Wrigley and Offield families since 1919. Beginning as property manager, Mr. Offield gained experience in several departments, and served at various times as the company's chairman of the board, president, and CEO. He was a member of its Board of Directors from 1980 until his death.

Mr. Offield was also chairman of the Benefactor Members of the Santa Catalina Island Conservancy, formed in 1972 by Philip K. Wrigley and Dorothy W. Offield, and was the Conservancy's first chairman of the board.

A dedicated conservationist, Mr. Offield was a director and chairman of The Billfish Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of billfish populations worldwide through scientific research, education and advocacy. He was a Board member and former chairman of The Peregrine Fund, a worldwide organization dedicated to preserving birds of prey. In 2006, Mr. Offield received from the president of Panama the Commendador Award for work through the Peregrine Fund on the reintroduction of the Harpy Eagle, the national bird of Panama.

Mr. Offield was also chairman of the Catalina Sea Bass Fund, dedicated to the restoration of sea bass and other fisheries in Southern California waters. He was active with the Conservation and Research for Endangered Species component of the San Diego Zoological Society. He was awarded the 2006 Conservation Medal from the Society for his work with the Peregrine Fund and satellite tagging of marlin. He also spearheaded a DNA sampling study with Rutgers University and The Billfish Foundation.

Mr. Offield was very involved in developing satellite tags for tagging billfish in Pacific waters for over 20 years, to track migration and other data on billfish. He was the chairman of the Offield Center for Billfish Studies and funded an archival tagging program for white sea bass in cooperation with the Pfleger Institute for Environmental Research. He was a founding member of the Marine Conservation Science Institute. Mr. Offield was also a director of USC's Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies and endowed the Paxson H. Offield Professor of Population Ecology now held by Dennis Hedgecock at USC.

Mr. Offield was president of the Offield Family Foundation, which works predominantly on environmental issues around the world. He has worked with the Little Traverse Conservancy to protect the arboreal forests of Northern Michigan. He was a past president and board member of the Silver Creek Fishing Club in Northern Michigan.

Mr. Offield was named to the International Game Fish Association Board of Trustees in 2007 and currently served as its chairman. He shared its belief in the conservation of game fish and the promotion of responsible, ethical angling practices through science, education, rule making and record keeping. He was inducted into the IGFA Hall of Fame in 2011.

In Avalon, Mr. Offield was a past president and member of the Avalon Tuna Club, the world's oldest sportfishing club and was the current president of the Tuna Club Foundation. He had in the past served as Chairman of the Avalon Planning Commission and as president of the Catalina Island Chamber of Commerce. The Tuna Club had twice recognized him as Angler of the Year, and he had three Tuna Club record fish using three-thread linen and 8-pound Dacron. Mr. Offield also participated in the International Masters Angling Invitational Tournament in Cancun.

Mr. Offield is survived by his wife, Susan, his children, Chase (Lena), Calen (Amber) and Kelsey, his stepson, Rex, three grandchildren (Christian, Owen and Capri) and his brother, James Offield. A celebration of life will be held in Avalon later in the summer.

HONORING CPL. TIMOTHY GRACE, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION SOLDIER OF THE YEAR

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, the First District of Texas has been blessed as the birthplace of many remarkable individuals who have made notable contributions that have enriched lives well beyond the borders of Texas. It is a great pleasure to stand in honor of a man from Nacogdoches, Texas, who is young in terms of years but exceedingly senior when it comes to his patriotism, his caring, and his contribution to the ongoing of this country. His name is Corporal Timothy Grace and he has been named Soldier of the Year for the United States Army's 1st Infantry Division.

Cpl. Grace enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2013 at the age of 22, pursuing a dream born out of a family legacy of military service. Inspired by his grandfather Leo Acosta who served during World War II, Cpl. Grace knew as a young boy that the military would be his future. His heartfelt desire was to serve and protect the greatest country in the history of the world, precisely as his grandfather had done.

Cpl. Grace entered the military as a 19-Delta Cavalry Scout attached to the 1st Infantry Division in Fort Riley, Kansas. Regarding basic training, Cpl. Grace has remarked, ". . . I've always been mentally strong so they

never really broke me down. I enjoyed every minute of it and learned a lot.''

Cpl. Grace studied a variety of topics from weapons to Army history in preparation for the demanding process of facing the selection boards in anticipation of seeking advancement in his chosen endeavor. He first won the troop board, successfully navigated the squadron and brigade boards, ultimately culminating with his being named Soldier of the Year for the entire 1st Infantry Division.

As a result of his selection as Soldier of the Year, Cpl. Grace was chosen to provide personal security for the 1st Infantry Division Sgt. Maj. Michael A. Grinston in Iraq.

Based on his extraordinary history in the military thus far, there should be no doubt that Cpl. Grace will continue to distinguish himself as he pursues Airborne school and Ranger school. After his sterling career in the military is completed, Cpl. Grace aspires to yet again continue to serve his country and particularly the great state of Texas as a Department of Public Safety Highway Patrolman, but has not ruled out the possibility of serving as long as possible in his career within the United States Army.

It is a distinct privilege to honor this remarkable soldier, to pay tribute to him for his being named Soldier of the Year from the entire 1st Infantry Division, and to congratulate him for his upcoming promotion to sergeant. His accomplishments are now recorded in this CONGRESSIONAL RECORD which will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

HONORING THE CAREER OF LINDA CHIARENZA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the distinguished career and legacy of service of Linda Chiarenza, who was honored for her professional excellence as the Executive Director of the West Side and Black Rock-Riverside Neighborhood Housing Services at a Retirement Celebration on August 26, 2015.

In 1999, Linda was selected as the Executive Director of the West Side Neighborhood Housing Services (WSNHS) where she had worked as a Housing Specialist for 4 years. Linda immediately got to work rebuilding relationships with funding sources, expanding resources and engaging the WSNHS Board and staff to work collaboratively and creatively to lead this critically important non-profit agency to national recognition as part of the NeighborWorks network.

This year brought an Exemplary rating for WSNHS by NeighborWorks America, and it is deservedly proud of its designation as a NeighborWorks Green Organization.

From her first project on Shield Street to the revitalization of Connecticut Street to restoring a historic West Side property, Linda continually demonstrated dogged determination and an unshakeable commitment to neighborhood revitalization led by community stakeholders.

Linda's devotion of time, energy and resources to support the community was deservedly recognized by Business First with the 2009 Women of Influence Award and the 2007 and 2015 Woman of the Year Award by the West Side Business and Taxpayers Association. Her work with all levels of government earned her recognition as a New York State Woman of Distinction and the FBI Board of Directors Service Award.

During her time with West Side Neighborhood Housing Services, Linda accomplished significant milestones for the organization, including a merger with Black Rock-Riverside Neighborhood Housing Services, leading to a working partnership with West Side Neighborhood Housing Services sharing staff and services, and now serving as lead agency for housing rehab throughout the city of Buffalo. On June 10th of this year, West Side NHS and Black Rock NHS celebrated 35 years of service and another milestone of achievement was acknowledged on the recognition of its Executive Director who will leave a community better than when she arrived and clearly better prepared to continue to grow and thrive each and every day.

While Linda worked for the community, it is well known that her children and grandchildren are her world. We extend our best wishes and gratitude to her son John and daughter-in-law Maria, her daughter Nicole and son-in-law Jeff, and her seven grandchildren Vinny, Alexa, Johnny, Madeline, Jack, Jeff and Addison. I am especially grateful for her friendship, invaluable guidance and leadership ability that led to remarkable growth in neighborhood reinvestment, expanded services and stronger partnerships.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor the career of Linda Chiarenza. I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our congratulations on a well-earned retirement, and to celebrate the exemplary work she did to enrich the communities of Western New York.

RECOGNIZING THE GOKASHO, JAPAN ''PEACE MEMORIAL MONUMENT COMMITTEE'' AND A WWII ARMY AIR CORPS CREW THAT PERISHED NEAR TAKACHIHO, GOKASHO WHOSE LIVES THEY COMMEMORATE ANNUALLY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the ''Peace Memorial Monument Committee'' of the Gokasho region of Japan which, since 1995, has honored the lives of a World War II U.S. Army Air Corps crew that perished near the local town of Takachiho.

On August 30th, 1945, an American B–29 Bomber with twelve Army Air Corps crew members on board clipped the peak of the Oyaji mountain in Takachiho. The bomber was on a mission to the Allied POW detention center at Kaitanko of Miyawaka, Fukuoka to air drop relief supplies. The ensuing crash left no survivors. The crew members' bodies were retrieved by the U.S. military with the help of the citizens of Takachiho.

The names of the flight crew members that perished are Alfred Eiken of Missouri, Henry Baker of Tennessee, Jack Riggs of Kansas, George Williamson of Pennsylvania, John Cornwell of Texas, Henry Frees of Illinois, Solomon Groner of New York, Walter Gusteveson of Pennsylvania, Norman Henninger of Ohio, John Hodges, Jr. of Virginia, John Dangerfield of Utah, and Bob Miller of Utah.

In 1995, the ''Peace Memorial Monument Committee,'' which is organized by the people of the Gokasho region of Japan, constructed the Peace Memorial Monument to honor this Army Air Corps crew as well as that of a Japanese Army Fighter jet ''Hayabusa'' which crashed in a nearby mountain town. A memorial ceremony has been held each year since 1995 to commemorate these two tragedies and pray for continued peace and friendship between the United States and Japan. The ceremony is held on the Saturday in August nearest to August 30th, the date of the American crash.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to have the privilege of recognizing these fallen warriors, as well as the act of commitment to peace and friendship by the people of the Gokasho region that has flourished from this tragedy.

In closing, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the Gokasho ''Peace Memorial Monument Committee,'' and the twelve American Air Corps crew members whose lives they have not forgotten.

HONORING LORRAINE ''LORRIE'' LEWIS

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lorrie Lewis, who passed away this August in Novato, California, at the age of 72. A lifelong advocate for people with developmental disabilities, Mrs. Lewis was defined by her radiant warmth, focused passion, and unremitting selfless actions.

Calling Mrs. Lewis an inspiration does not capture her complete dedication to helping others. After managing a group home in the North Bay with her husband, Jim, the couple co-founded the Institute for Abundant Living (IAL) in 1995. Since then, the Institute has provided educational opportunities to people living with developmental disabilities, pushing them to achieve more academically and equipping them with skills to succeed personally and professionally.

I can attest to the hard work and enthusiasm of both staff and students through my firsthand observations when visiting the Institute for Abundant Living over the years. The organization plays an important role in the North Bay and has touched innumerable lives in its two decades of operation. Marin County was truly lucky to count Mrs. Lewis as an activist and neighbor.

Mrs. Lewis was active in her faith community and loved nothing more than being with her family. She will be missed far beyond those circles, however, as her unyielding efforts will continue to impact our community for years to come. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to her today and express our deepest condolences to Jim, her sons Andy and Kirt Lewis, and her grandchildren.

HONORING SANDRA WILLIAMS BUSH AND RECOGNIZING HER DEDICATION TO HELPING OTHERS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor Ms. Sandra Williams Bush for her outstanding commitment to service as well as the sharing of knowledge, culture, and community. Sandra Bush is the recipient of the Buffalo Association of Black Social Workers, Inc. Community Service Award; the Black Chamber of Commerce of WNY Beverly Gray Community Service Award, the GROUP Ministries, Inc. Community Achievement Award, the Harriet Tubman Community Service Award, the Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. William Wells Brown Community Service Award, and Community Service Recognition from the City of Buffalo Common Council Community.

Sandra Bush, the daughter of Willis and Evelyn Williams, was born in Buffalo and grew up attending schools within the Buffalo school system. She continued her education, earning a Human Services degree from Medaille College and a Masters of Library Science degree from the University of Buffalo School of Information and Library Science. Her well-rounded education only strengthened her passion to help others. In August of 1985, Sandra began her career with the Buffalo and Eire County Public Library as a clerk with the Department of Extension Services. A few years later, she decided to pursue a degree in library science, and in 1991 she received her certification as a public librarian. Her career also included working with the RAM Van, Lookie Bookie, the Bookmobile and other several city branch libraries.

Sandra is retiring as the first Branch Manager of the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library. There she oversaw the care of the largest resource center of African and African American history in central and western New York. Beyond maintaining the collection, she worked tirelessly to incorporate the community with quality library service, programming and outreach efforts.

She credits strong family support along with encouragement from the community for her achievements. Friends and family joined Sandra Bush for her retirement party on August 21, 2015 at the Frank Merriweather Library between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize Ms. Sandra Williams Bush. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Bush on an accomplished career and to commend her for her admirable work within the Buffalo library system and community.

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF JAPANTOWN SAN JOSÉ (NIHONMACHI)

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Representatives ZOE LOFGREN and ANNA ESHOO to honor the 125th Anniversary of the establishment of Japantown San José (Nihonmachi) in Santa Clara Valley. Nihonmachi is a reflection of the values of the original Japanese immigrant community, the Issei (first generation), who settled in Santa Clara Valley in 1890. By the early 20th century, the community formally established residence in what is now Nihonmachi, which offered a uniquely Japanese source of employment, lodging, goods, services, and cultural support. Nihonmachi is one of only three remaining Japantowns in the United States today.

Soon after the founding of Nihonmachi, with the support of the Gentlemen's Agreement of 1907, an increased number of Japanese women began settling in Santa Clara Valley. This led to the growth of families and the birth of the Nisei (second generation) of Nihonmachi residents.

Nihonmachi witnessed its first national tragedy as the Great Depression enveloped the United States. However, despite national economic hardship, Nihonmachi experienced slow, yet steady economic growth. Nihonmachi further strengthened its presence in the region by welcoming other Asian communities, serving as a cultural refuge for Chinese and Filipino immigrants. This cultural diversity among the residents of Nihonmachi allowed the neighborhood to withstand the turmoil of World War II, as well as the forced internment of Japanese Americans in 1942.

After the post-war return of the Japanese American community to the West Coast and Santa Clara Valley, Nihonmachi became a haven for residents against the simmering anti-Japanese sentiment and national racial hysteria. Despite the open adversity faced by Nihonmachi, its population nearly doubled in size due to the addition of Sansei (third generation) by the end of the 1940s.

Through the late 1960s and into the 1970s the Nisei were caring not only for the aging Issei and growing Sansei, but were also determined to preserve Japanese culture and combat the widespread acculturation of their community into mainstream American culture. It was during the 1970s that the Sansei embarked on a path of political activism set on sparking a renewal of Nihonmachi through cultural awareness.

Since the 1980s, Nihonmachi has experienced a period of revitalization, including the building of new commercial and residential development, including projects on land that had once been a neighboring Chinatown. Furthermore, the installation of historical markers and plaques around the neighborhood commemorate the cultural history and achievements of Nihonmachi.

Currently, the Yonsei and Gosei (fourth and fifth generations) play a vital role in the international dialogue between Nihonmachi and Japan as well as the continued preservation of Japanese culture brought to Santa Clara Valley by the Issei 125 years ago. For instance, in 2013, the Japantown Business Association sponsored fundraising events to provide aid and support to victims of the Tohoku tsunami and earthquake in Japan.

Mr. Speaker, we commend Japantown San José for its 125 years of dedication to the preservation of Japanese culture in the increasingly diverse Santa Clara Valley. As one of only three remaining Japantowns in the United States, Nihonmachi's contributions to the cultural preservation of the Japanese American community and its commitment to cultural and economic development of the region serve as a national example of what can be accomplished by uniting communities and working toward positive change, diversity, and mutual respect.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED JAMES C. ''BUCK'' SMITH

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and legacy of Northwest Florida's beloved James C. ''Buck'' Smith, who passed away peacefully in his home after a long battle with Alzheimer's on August 11, 2015. A longtime resident of Fort Walton Beach and former City Councilman, Buck had a deep love for his family and community, and his contributions, especially the impact on youth in the area, will be remembered.

Born on January 7, 1936 in Columbus, Georgia to Red and Myrtis Clements Smith, Buck and his siblings moved to Florida's Gulf Coast following his mother's passing. Buck, who had a love for sports, which remained with him throughout his life, played football at Choctawhatchee High School, where he graduated Class of 1955, as well as played at Holmes Junior College in Mississippi.

Upon his return home to Fort Walton Beach, Buck became an active member of the community. As a small businessman, Buck started Smith's Plumbing, Randall's Nursery, and Bucran Corporation. As a leader in the civic arena, he was elected to serve the area he loved as Fort Walton Beach City Councilman from 1983 to 1991. Buck also was a member of the Shriners and was a Free Mason.

It was his passion for community and its youth, however, to whom he dedicated much of his life, by which many will remember Buck. He was instrumental in securing the Fort Walton Beach High School's field house and baseball field, as well as preparing the tennis courts for action at Bruner Middle School. He strongly advocated for the need of a vocational school in the area, helped found the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Okaloosa County and the All Sports Association, which he was inducted into its Hall of Fame in 2004. Whether it was growing the love of softball in the area by starting a men's slow pitch softball team, which competed at National's in 1973; attending high school football games and cheering on players; or supporting Little League teams; Buck was inspired by the character and camaraderie built as a result of participating in organized sports. He believed in

the youth and was dedicated to ensuring that they were afforded the opportunity to become involved.

Without question, Buck lived a life full of love and giving back to those around him. He was a friend and mentor to countless individuals and one of the area youth's biggest fans. To his family, however, he will most be remembered as a loving husband, father, and grandfather, a great man who they were blessed to have as their own and share with the Northwest Florida community.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the life of James C. "Buck" Smith. My wife Vicki and I extend our heartfelt prayers and condolences to his wife of 44 years, Billie; daughter, Tina and her husband, Ryan; granddaughters Amber and Ryleigh; brother, Rocky; sisters, Connie, Debbie, Sonya, and Rita; and all of the Smith family.

IN HONOR OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRESCOTT AREA WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE COMMISSION

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the silver anniversary and 25 years of dedicated service of the Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Commission (PAWUIC).

In 1989, Ed Hollenshead and Coy Jemmett of the Prescott National along with Prescott Fire Department's Ron Prince and Darrell Willis originally conceived the idea of an organization where community leaders were involved in combating issues in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). These conversations evolved into a task force known as the Interagency Fire and Emergency Management Group. A year later, The Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Commission was officially formed on September 7, 1990 when a memorandum of understanding was signed by PAWUIC, the City of Prescott, Yavapai County, Central Yavapai Fire District, Arizona State Land Deptarment and the Prescott National Forest.

In 2001, Prescott was selected as one of seven communities in the United States to participate in the National Fire Protection Association's Firewise Communities program. This distinction resulted from Prescott having a strong, citizen-led commission on WUI issues.

Today, there are approximately 30 Firewise certified communities in and around Prescott protecting more than 12,000 properties and representing more than half of all Firewise communities in the State of Arizona.

I am proud to honor the Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Commission for their valuable contributions towards preventing dangerous wildfires and combating other wildland urban interface issues. At a time in our nation's history when catastrophic wildfires are devastating the West and have burned nearly 9 million acres this year alone, we must embrace commonsense and worthwhile efforts that encourage active forest management. As a native Arizonan, I am personally thankful for the hard work and dedication that this commission has set forth by empowering so many citizen volunteers.

HONORING COL. JAMES ISAAC WHEELER

HON. MARTHA McSALLY

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Col. James Isaac Wheeler, who passed away on August 24, 2015 at the age of 93.

Col. Wheeler was an exceptional pilot who served his country with honor in three different conflicts—World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Over his career in the Air Force, he piloted the P–47 "Thunderbolt," F–86, and C–47.

Upon his retirement, Col. Wheeler continued to serve his community and fellow airmen, holding numerous leadership positions in veterans organizations in Tucson. He was stoutly devoted to his fellow veterans and serving the Southern Arizona community he called home.

I met Col. Wheeler as a young captain after arriving at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in 1994. He became a great friend over the years and always encouraged me in my journey as a pilot, officer, and, most recently, Congresswoman. He was such a wonderful example of continued faithful service to the community, Air Force, and military members and family. He was a patriot and true servant leader, and I am so grateful for his example and friendship.

Few can say they answered the call to serve and defend our country as often, and during such critical times, as Col. Wheeler. It was my honor to have known and served with him, and I extend my sincere condolences to his family and friends.

HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE AND SELFLESS SACRIFICE OF TECHNICAL SERGEANT TIMOTHY A. OFFICER, JR.

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with both profound sadness and deep gratitude that I rise to pay tribute to a fallen decorated American hero. On Monday, August 3, 2015, Technical Sergeant Timothy A. Officer, Jr., of the 24th Special Operations Wing, located in Florida's First Congressional District, tragically lost his life during a military freefall training accident. TSgt Officer was 32 years old, but lived a lifetime marked by and full of service.

Timothy was born to Timothy and Linda Officer on August 8, 1982 in Huntington, West Virginia. After graduating high school, he followed in his family's footsteps of service and joined the Air Force in 2001. Upon becoming a Tactical Air Control Party Journeyman and ultimately a Joint Terminal Attack Controller, TSgt Officer earned his stripes as one of our Nation's most elite, both in training and in the ultimate crucible of combat. With multiple deployments around the globe and specifically in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM, TSgt Officer's leadership and devotion to duty served his fellow airmen and our Nation well over his prestigious fourteen-year career.

Among his many awards and accolades are two Bronze Stars, one with Valor Device, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Air Force Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Award with one oak leaf cluster, Combat Readiness Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with three oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Iraq Campaign Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, among many others.

One fateful night in Iraq, on March 31, 2003, while serving as a Tactical Air Command and Control Journeyman in support of the 1st Armored Division, TSgt Officer and his unit were engaged by enemy mortar, artillery, and direct fire. After an artillery shell exploded near his vehicle, then Airman Officer engaged the enemy, killing two, while coordinating close air support. When his crew ran out of ammunition, the citation for his Bronze Star with Valor reads, "He voluntarily dismounted his vehicle, ran across the battlefield through a hail of small arms fire to another vehicle, and returned with enough ammunition for his entire crew." Then Airman Officer assisted in the delivery of air support, resulting in 55 enemy killed. As the citation concludes, "His tremendous bravery under constant enemy fire undoubtedly saved his fellow crewmembers along with countless members of task force 2–70, and directly aided in the defeat of the enemy."

Mr. Speaker, this is the type of man we lost on August 3, 2015. Described as honest and loyal, he truly was a significant role model for those who knew him, not just by his words but by his actions. Adding more weight to our hearts, TSgt Officer is the second son and brother his family lays to rest upon the altar of freedom. His younger brother, Army Sergeant Justin Officer, tragically fell on the battlefield of Afghanistan while serving with the 101st Airborne on September 29, 2010. There are no words I, this body of Congress, or the Nation can say that might assuage the bereavement of the Officer family, as they endure the unendurable yet again. All I can say is on behalf of a humble and grateful Nation, we thank them for the love, counsel, guidance, and support given to Timothy and Justin, which helped make them the heroes they became. Their lives stand as a testament that freedom is not free, and their legacies will echo in time as examples of the ultimate sacrifice for all free people. My wife, Vicki, joins me in praying that God is with Timothy's parents, Timothy and Linda; his sister Kylea; and all of his family and friends during this time of great mourning, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO THE REMARKABLE LIFE OF AMELIA PLATTS BOYNTON ROBINSON

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the extraordinary life and legacy of an American treasure and one of my personal heroes, the courageous Mrs. Amelia Platts Boynton Robinson. Amelia passed away on August 26, 2015 at the age of 104. While we mourn the loss of this remarkable woman, I am comforted in knowing that her brave spirit will live through her impactful contributions to this nation.

Amelia was a key figure in the voting rights movement in Selma, Alabama and she is often remembered for her historic role as one of the coordinators and marchers on ''Bloody Sunday.'' On that solemn day on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, Amelia was savagely beaten and a photo of her taken shortly after she was attacked became a powerful symbol of the injustices suffered by those fighting on the frontlines of the movement.

Yet this fearless revolutionary continued her work as a leader on the frontlines of securing the right to vote for all Americans. She was undeterred by the perils of a racially unjust society that relegated blacks to second-class citizenship. Her story is a testament to her commitment to serving as a conduit for change and a reminder of why we in Alabama lovingly refer to her as the matriarch of the movement.

Amelia was born on August 18, 1911 in Savannah, Georgia. Her mother was an activist during the women's suffrage movement. After the passage of the 19th amendment, she and her mother distributed voter registration information to women from the family's horse and buggy in 1920. Her mother's tireless efforts to secure the right to vote for women would have a lasting impact on Amelia. It also paved the way for the young activist to claim her own place in American history.

Fueled by that same passion, Amelia began her own service to mankind when she and her husband Samuel Boynton fought for voting rights and property ownership for African-Americans in the poorest rural areas of Alabama. She was later named the only female lieutenant to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the civil rights movement. In this role, Amelia traveled alongside Dr. King and often appeared in his stead for various events and gatherings during the movement.

Amelia is also best known for her leadership that led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Amelia was such an integral part of the process that the contents of the bill were drafted at her kitchen table in Selma.

On May 5, 1964, Amelia broke yet another barrier when she became the first woman in the state of Alabama to run for a congressional seat. She garnered 10.7 percent of the vote during a time when very few blacks were registered voters. Her historic run further solidified her impact on the movement for human rights in Alabama.

When this extraordinary woman wasn't contributing her time to the causes of her generation, she worked as an educator, a home demonstrations agent with the Department of Agriculture, an insurance agent, an income tax preparer, and a real estate agent. She attended Georgia State Industrial School, which was renamed Savannah State University and Tuskegee Normal, which is now known as Tuskegee University.

Without her courageous campaign for the 7th Congressional District, I know that my election to this seat in 2010 would not have been possible. Her sacrifices paved the way for me to walk the halls of Congress and I will carry my love and admiration for her in my heart each and every day. I will always cherish the time we spent together when she honored me as my special guest for the State of the Union on January 20, 2015. I am grateful for the memories of her greeting President Obama that night and I am so blessed to have called her a beloved mentor and friend.

As she reminded us in life, there is still much work to be done for this nation to live up to its ideals of equality and justice for all. Let us be inspired by the extraordinary life of Amelia to keep striving and working towards a more perfect union. May we honor her by continuing her life's work. I ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting Mrs. Platts Amelia Boynton Robinson, an Alabama gem and an American treasure. Thank you.

HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE AND SELFLESS SACRIFICE OF TECHNICAL SERGEANT MARTY B. BETTELYOUN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with both profound sadness and deep gratitude that I rise to pay tribute to a fallen decorated American hero. On Monday, August 3, 2015, Technical Sergeant Marty B. Bettelyoun of the 24th Special Operations Wing, located in Florida's First Congressional District, tragically lost his life during a military freefall training accident. TSgt Bettelyoun was 35 years old, but lived a lifetime marked by and full of service.

Born to Sonny and Christina Bettelyoun on October 18, 1979 in Eugene, Oregon, TSgt Bettelyoun graduated from Oregon City High School. After graduation, he answered the call and joined the Air Force in 2000. Enduring one of the most challenging training pipelines the United States military has to offer, TSgt Bettelyoun earned his stripes as one of our Nation's most elite. As a lead instructor in Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape, and later as a Combat Controller with multiple training and combat deployments around the globe, TSgt Bettelyoun's leadership and devotion to duty served thousands of airmen and our Nation well throughout his prestigious fifteen-year career.

Among his many awards and accolades are the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Unit Award with four oak leaf clusters, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with four oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Ribbon Long, Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border, Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with two oak leaf clusters, USAF Noncommissioned Officer Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon with one oak leaf cluster, and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

By all accounts, TSgt Bettelyoun was the consummate leader and selfless warrior in his professional life as well as his personal life. Described by close friends as being able to walk into a room of strangers and leave their friend, TSgt Bettelyoun surely lived a full, albeit too brief, life. A dedicated family man, it remains clear his family was the most important aspect in this young patriot's life. With five children to his beloved wife, Jennifer, TSgt Bettelyoun and Jennifer took in a young cousin as their own, after the cousin's parents tragically passed away.

Mr. Speaker, this is the type of man we lost on August 3, 2015. There are no words I, this body of Congress, or the Nation can say that might assuage the bereavement of the Bettelyoun family and the six children Marty leaves behind. All I can say is on behalf of a humble and grateful Nation, we thank them for the love, counsel, guidance, and support given to Marty, which helped make him the hero he became both in uniform and as a father. His life stands as a testament that freedom is not free, and his legacy will echo in time as an example of the ultimate sacrifice for all free people. My wife, Vicki, joins me in praying that God be with Marty's wife, Jennifer; his children Kalyn, Olivia, Benjamin, Isabella, and Mollie; his parents, Sonny and Christina; brothers Luke and Adam; Stepmother Sharon and Stepfather Jim; and all family and friends during this time of great mourning, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and congratulate the Humane Society of Fairfax County for reaching the grand old age of 50, and, perhaps more impressively, for spending those years caring for the animals of Virginia's 8th District.

The Humane Society of Fairfax County was established by concerned citizens in 1965 in order to pursue the three-fold mission of promoting humane education, preventing all forms of cruelty to animals—both domestic and wild—by every legitimate means available, and assisting the community with all matters pertaining to the welfare of animals.

In furtherance of this mission, the HSFC provides numerous different services for both the animals and people within its community. The HSFC accepts and cares for all animals in need—dogs and cats of course, but also birds, rabbits, gerbils, and more. They care for animals that have been given up by their families and for animals from overwhelmed and kill shelters. They help military families that have special needs in regard to caring for their animals and they provide emergency medical treatment for animals from families that wouldn't otherwise be able to afford such care.

They provide spay and neuter services for community cats and run a pet food pantry to assist families during financial difficulties.

They do all of this, which would be impressive enough on its own, and yet the HSFC goes even further—they have made a conscious decision not to simply fix the problems that come their way, but to also seek out unaddressed problems and resolve them. They have been involved with legislative issues such as ensuring adequate shelter and veterinary care for animals and stopping the operation of rodeos and circuses. They employ investigators that, for over 40 years, have investigated thousands of cruelty and neglect cases. Finally, they have assisted with the Deer Spay Project for the past 2 years.

I hope I have made it as clear to you as it is to me that the Humane Society of Fairfax County is an outstanding, upstanding organization that has done more than can here be described for the animals and families in their community. I thank them for their valuable work and wish them many more happy anniversaries to come.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL CHARLES EDWARD COOKE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a respected public servant and outstanding citizen, Colonel Charles Edward Cooke. Sadly, Colonel Cooke passed away on Sunday, August 2, 2015. Funeral services were held on Monday, August 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at Andersonville National Cemetery in Andersonville, Georgia.

Colonel Cooke devoted nearly three decades of his life to protecting his country in the United States Marine Corps, an unwavering responsibility for which we are all greatly indebted. In his 31 years of duty, he was stationed in nine states and eleven countries. Though his responsibilities carried him across the globe, Colonel Cooke always enjoyed returning to his birthplace of Plains, Georgia and hometown of Americus, Georgia.

Throughout his career, Colonel Cooke impacted the lives of thousands of young service men and women who served under him. For his outstanding leadership he was awarded the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Gold Star, and the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Beyond these achievements and the respect held for him by Marines everywhere, he was an honorable human being who loved deeply and, in return, was deeply loved.

Following his retirement from the Marine Corps in 2004, Colonel Cooke worked for Northrup Grumman as an Information Assurance Specialist. His co-workers and fellow servicemen cherished the smile and booming laugh of a man with seasoned wisdom and a passion for reveling in the beauties of life. After 7 years, he retired to full-time community service with organizations such as the Semper Fi Community Task Force and Meals on Wheels.

Colonel Cooke was a resolute steward of Christ's message. His faith and spirituality always reminded those around him of the power of love and fellowship through Christ and his Church. He earned a Certificate of Biblical Studies from the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Institute of Biblical Studies and served as deacon of First Mount Zion Baptist Church in Dumfries, Virginia for four years.

Colonel Cooke is survived by his wife of 44 years, Wilma; daughter, Mary; siblings Oscar, Josie, Lula May, Carrie, and Barbara; six grandchildren; and a host of other family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District salute Colonel Charles Cooke for his dedicated service to our nation and to his community. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to Colonel Cooke's family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

HONORING MR. VU VAN LOC FOR HIS SERVICE TO SANTA CLARA COUNTY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished member of my community, Mr. Vu Van Loc. Mr. Vu has been a leader in Santa Clara County for nearly forty years. As the founder of the Immigrant Resettlement & Cultural Center, Mr. Vu provided essential resettlement services to Vietnamese refugees immediately after the Fall of Saigon and for decades following. He pioneered the historical preservation of the journey of the Vietnamese Boat People when he created the Viet Museum in San Jose, which displays their journey.

Mr. Vu was born in 1933 in Nam Dinh, North Vietnam. He became a Lieutenant upon graduation from the Dalat academy in 1954. During the Vietnam War, he held multiple leadership positions in the South Vietnam Army, including Colonel Director for the General Logistics Department.

After the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, Vu Van Loc came to the United States and settled in San Jose, California. Shortly after his arrival, Mr. Vu began working with the Indochinese Resettlement & Cultural Center, or IRCC, to assist immigrants arriving from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos who were beginning to settle in Northern California. The Social Planning Committee of Santa Clara County created the IRCC as a temporary office in 1976, but it was Mr. Vu who spearheaded IRCC's efforts and ensured the organization's mission was fulfilled in the decades that followed.

Over forty years, Mr. Vu built the IRCC as a community-based organization to serve Vietnamese immigrants in resettlement. Due to his efforts, IRCC, which changed its name to the Immigrant Resettlement & Cultural Center in the 1990s, has provided over 20,000 immigrants with access to resettlement services, such as ESL classes, job training programs, housing assistance, U.S. citizenship application assistance, and voter registration information.

Mr. Vu's work with the IRCC has also ensured that the history of the Vietnam War, and the sacrifice of many South Vietnamese soldiers, is not forgotten. In 1993, Mr. Vu gathered contributions to help restore the abandoned Bien Hoa Military Cemetery in Vietnam. With this support he helped ensure the Vietnamese government would not destroy the site as it had other military cemeteries.

Mr. Vu also had a vision for the creation of a museum that preserved the history of South Vietnam, the Vietnam War, and the diaspora of Vietnamese Boat People. In 2008, the Republic of Vietnam Boat People Museum opened at History Park in San Jose. Mr. Vu's efforts were critical in building community support to establish the museum. Today, the Viet Museum is a San Jose treasure that ensures the courageous stories from survivors of the Vietnamese Exodus are never forgotten, especially by young people.

Vu Van Loc has been a dedicated leader within the Vietnamese community in Santa Clara County. I had the pleasure of first meeting Mr. Vu when I served on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. He has been an important friend throughout my public service to Santa Clara County. I am grateful for his dedication, and through these remarks I hereby recognize and commend Mr. Vu for his service to Santa Clara County and our immigrant community.

HONORING CHANCELLOR JOSÉ ORTIZ

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of Dr. José Ortiz, Chancellor of Peralta Community College District. The Peralta District spans six cities within the East Bay and serves over 60,000 students.

Dr. Ortiz has spent his career serving within institutions of higher education and in a variety of administrative positions. His career brought him to campuses in California, Maryland, and the University of Puerto Rico at Bayamon. His range of experience, both professionally and culturally, made him the ideal candidate to serve at Peralta, which is within my Congressional District; the most diverse Congressional district in the nation.

Prior to serving as Chancellor, Dr. Ortiz served as Vice President to Laney College, which falls under the umbrella of the Peralta Community College system. While there he was known for his deep understanding and commitment to the many challenges facing the extremely diverse student body.

Later, in 2005, Dr. Ortiz moved on to become President of Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, California, where he served until 2012. Little did he know he would one day return home to Oakland and the Peralta system. Dr. Ortiz's appointment served as an opportunity for him to return home to foster his friendly relationships and spend more time with his family.

His appointment came in the years following the Great Recession, at a time when community college districts across the nation were

facing a multitude of challenges; Dr. Ortiz called upon his exemplary leadership abilities and relationship building with his colleagues to help lead the district through some of its most trying time.

While serving as Chancellor, he emphasized delivering programs and services that enhanced the region's human, economic, environmental, and social development. Dr. Ortiz provided leadership and advocacy for the diverse students of the four colleges while promoting his mission of supporting student academic access and success. His demonstrated commitment to students serves as a fine example to others working toward providing high quality educational opportunities and services to the marginalized and underrepresented.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I salute Dr. José M Ortiz, for his outstanding service and passionate commitment to the Peralta Community College District. Dr. Ortiz has touched many lives throughout his career, and I wish him and his loved ones continued success and happiness.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATRICIA PENNISI

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patricia Pennisi as she retires after forty years of service to the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center. As her family, friends, and colleagues gather to celebrate her long list of accomplishments and years of service, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great individual who has served and contributed so much to the Sacramento region.

Since receiving her Master's Degree in Social Work in 1970 from the University of Kansas and shortly after her certification from the Academy of Certified Social Workers in 1972, Ms. Pennisi has been committed to the mission of social work. For the last forty years, Ms. Pennisi has been an integral part of the important programs that have made the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center an essential part of the North Sacramento community. As longtime Assistant Director of Stanford Settlement Neighborhood, she has been at the forefront of directing the center's children and youth services. With the leadership of Ms. Pennisi, both the Children's Program and the Teen Center Program have grown and flourished. In addition, to helping raise funds to support the center's many programs, she has been vital in ensuring its continued success.

Over her entire career, Ms Pennisi has worked tirelessly to be a champion for children. She has been a remarkable influence on her colleagues, as well as the student interns that have had the privilege of working with her. Although she will be greatly missed for her vast contributions, she will be fondly remembered for her ability to make Sacramento a better place and for her contributions to the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center.

Mr. Speaker, as Patricia and her family, friends and colleagues gather to celebrate her retirement, I am pleased to honor and recognize her for her hard work to help the Sacramento community. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing her the best in retirement and thanking her for her service to the Sacramento region.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF ROSELLEN KERSHAW

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Rosellen Kershaw who recently passed away at the age of 87. She leaves behind her loving family, including her daughter Julie, and granddaughters, Taylor and Morgan Marsoobian. Fresno County is truly indebted to Rosellen's legacy of service, integrity and love.

Rosellen Kershaw was born on August 29, 1923, to Charles and Pinkie Kershaw in Fresno, California. She spent almost her entire life in the Central Valley, graduating from Fresno High School and Fresno State College. She received her Master's Degree from San Francisco State University.

Rosellen taught school at the elementary, high school and college levels. However, she consistently referred to herself as a "professional volunteer," having dedicated more than 50 years of her life to the causes and organizations in Fresno that she felt most passionate about. Ms. Kershaw was committed to improving her community one hour at a time.

The fruits of Rosellen's labors were reflected in her involvement with local organizations and clubs, such as the Ani Guild of the California Armenian Home, of which she was a founder and board member for over 40 years. She was also President of the League of Women Voters of Fresno, California State President of American Association of University Women, Chair of the Fresno Housing and Community Development Commission, Chair of the CSUF Arts and Humanities Advisory, board member of the Fresno Regional Foundation, Secretary of the Fresno County Grand Jury, board member of the California Journal, President of the Fresno Art Museum, and President of the Friends of Fresno County Library. In addition, she was a founder and first general manager of Valley Public Radio. Among her many achievements, Rosellen received the California Rotary Paul Harris Fellow accolade, and was awarded the CSU Fresno Top Dog Award for Service.

Rosellen Kershaw was an extraordinary woman with a commitment to family, friends and her community. Her service will forever be remembered by the lives she so graciously touched. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Rosellen Kershaw, a true pillar of our community who will never be forgotten.

HONORING SHARON SILVA

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Turlock Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Officer Sharon Silva for her many years of profound service to Turlock. After fifteen years of dedicated work, she retired on August 31, 2015.

Born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona, Sharon moved to the small town of Turlock, California with her family. Sharon found the time to further her education at Modesto Junior College and California State University, Stanislaus where she received her Bachelor's degree in Organizational Communications. In addition, she graduated from the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. with a Main Street Certification Institute Certification in Historic Preservation and also from the US Chamber Institute in Chamber Management at the University of Arizona in 2004.

For eight and half years, Sharon served as the Executive Director of the Turlock Downtown Association, where she made enduring contributions to beautifying and restoring the historic downtown of Turlock. Among numerous activities that celebrated the culture of Turlock, she planned major community events such as the Festival of Lights Tree Lighting Ceremony and the Fourth of July parade. During Mrs. Silva's last three years with the Downtown Association, she was promoted to the position of Chief Executive Officer for the Turlock Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and diligently oversaw all three agencies. Sharon has been a beacon in the community and an integral part of the non-profit organization's success.

Volunteering is second nature to Sharon; she has been a part of several different boards and a vital member of many different clubs and organizations. Appointed by the Mayor of Turlock and confirmed by the City Council, Sharon was one of nine committee members to become a part of the Development Collaborative Advisory Committee, and provide advice and recommendations to the city for improving the business climate. Furthermore, Sharon was co-chair of the Turlock Centennial Celebration in 2008, sat on the Board of Directors for the Turlock Community Theatre, and is a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Turlock. Sharon is a past member of the Turlock Unified School District Board and sits on a number of CSU Stanislaus committees: the President's Advisory council, the College of Business Board, the Alumni Board, the CSUS Warrior Association, and lastly, and the Center for Public Policies Studies Advisory Board. She served on Stanislaus County's Economic Development Committee and on the Board of Directors for the Stanislaus County Alliance Workforce. She was also the chair of the county's Redistricting Committee in 2011. Mrs. Silva stands as a role model for community dedication. Being actively involved and connected within the community as Sharon Silva has been, it comes as no surprise that she has received numerous awards and recognitions. In 1995, she received the Turlock Citizen of the Year Award and Volunteer of the Year Award at the Best of Turlock Awards Dinner. While serving as the Executive Director for the Turlock Downtown Association, the organization received the Governor's Award for Excellence in Revitalization Achievement in Design. The Turlock Chamber of Commerce was one of ten chambers in the state of California to be a CalChamber's President Circle Recipient for six years in a row. In 2011, Sharon Silva was named the Western Chamber

Executive of the Year by the Western Association of Chamber Executives. That same year, she was nominated by Assembly member Bill Berryhill for the Woman of the Year Award. She recently received the Woman of the Year Award from the Stanislaus County Women's Commission.

For the past 27 years, Sharon has been lovingly married to Manuel Silva. She has two children: Tamra Spade and Douglas Holmes; five grandchildren: Richard Fortado, Kasondra Fortado, Kali Spade, Derek Holmes and Lexie Holmes; and one great granddaughter; Madilynn Bettencourt.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing the indispensable contributions Sharon Silva has brought to the Turlock Chamber of Commerce and its community. Sharon Silva has lived a profound experience and left a valuable legacy that many chamber CEOs may aspire to.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL OF ALLISON TRANSMISSION, INCORPORATED IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize one of Indianapolis' and Indiana's most venerable employers, Allison Transmission Inc., as the company celebrates its Centennial this month. One hundred years ago, James A. Allison established the Speedway Team Company to support his Indianapolis 500 racing activities. On the first day of operation, with great significance, he hung a sign that read, ''Whatever leaves this shop over my name must be of the finest work possible.'' A century later, this principle still guides the company that bears his name.

From the company's humble beginnings as a small machine shop, Allison Transmission has grown into the world's largest manufacturer of fully automatic transmissions for medium- and heavy-duty commercial vehicles and a leader in hybrid propulsion. Allison is a major supplier of transmissions for wheeled and tracked vehicles that keep our military strong and our soldiers safe, a lineage that can be traced back to 1917 and the advent of World War I.

With its headquarters and primary manufacturing facilities still in Indianapolis, Hoosiers are proud of Allison's 2,700 employees worldwide, its market presence in more than 80 countries, annual revenues exceeding $2 billion, and a market capitalization of more than $5 billion. Allison Transmission is poised to remain one of the United States' most enduring examples of technological innovation and manufacturing excellence that all Americans can be proud of as we compete globally to grow jobs at home. Under the leadership of its dynamic CEO Lawrence Dewey, and through a strong partnership with the United Auto Workers, Allison Transmission continues to employ Hoosiers at wages that support strong families and the civic life of our community.

It is a special source of pride to me, Mr. Speaker, that Allison Transmission played a key role in founding MEPI, the Minority Engineering Program Indianapolis, a non-profit organization that encourages and prepares underrepresented minority students to enter STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) related career fields. For 25 years, Allison Transmission has provided MEPI students with financial support, mentors, instructors and access to its facilities for instructional purposes.

The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is one of the nation's largest and most proactive organizations that provide minority students with educational opportunities at historically black colleges and universities. As a result of a partnership with Allison Transmission, the UNCF's Bowling for Scholars Bowl-A-Thon has become its second largest fundraising activity in the Midwest.

In November 2011, the Indiana Minority Supplier Dealer Council (IMSDC) awarded Allison Transmission its ''Corporation of the Year'' award. The award was in recognition of Allison's outreach efforts to increase the number of minority suppliers that do business with the company. Its employees have also served on the IMSDC board of directors, attended supplier fairs and sponsored local events that provide financial support to IMSDC.

In closing, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to Allison Transmission for 100 years of success which has provided economic security to tens of thousands of Hoosiers and their families and an enhanced quality of life for all of us who call Indianapolis home.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JULIAN BOND, CIVIL RIGHTS CHAMPION, GEORGIA LEGISLATOR, AND ELOQUENT VOICE FOR JUSTICE, EQUALITY, AND HUMAN DIGNITY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to speak in praise of Julian Bond, one of the leading lights of the Civil Rights Movement, who died on Saturday, August 15, 2015, at the age of 75.

While Julian lost his battle to the illness that claimed his life, it is the struggle for civil rights and human dignity he helped to win that he will forever remembered and revered.

Horace Julian Bond was born January 14, 1940 in Nashville, Tennessee to Julia Agnes and Horace Mann Bond.

Julian's father was the first African-American President of Lincoln University of Pennsylvania, the same institution attended by Thurgood Marshall and Langston Hughes who would both go on to make substantial contributions to the Civil Rights Movement and the advancement of African-Americans.

Julian's father later became president of Atlanta University and Julian decided to attend Morehouse College, one of the leading black colleges in the nation.

Julian Bond, who came from a long line of educators, determined at an early age to put his journalistic and organizing talents in service of the cause of civil rights and racial equality.

While a student at Morehouse College, Julian helped found The Pegasus, a literary magazine, and led nonviolent student protests against segregation in Atlanta parks, restaurants, and movie theaters.

Mr. Speaker, today it is difficult to imagine there once was a time in our country when blacks and whites could not eat together in public restaurants, use the same public restrooms, stay at the same hotels, or attend the same schools.

Julian Bond answered the call to action and put his studies on hold to devote all of his energies and efforts to ending segregation and racial discrimination.

Mr. Speaker, it is not unusual these days for us to think of a champion as someone who receives the highest accolades in sports.

Julian Bond was a champion of the people.

His success is measured not in the numbers of trophies, medals, ribbons, and championship banners, but in the number of doors and opportunities he helped to open for those who had been neglected, marginalized, and disenfranchised.

Julian Bond knew that to bring about nonviolent social change it was necessary to organize so he co-founded the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

SNCC, which organized and mobilized the participation of students and young people in the Civil Rights Movement, conceived the Freedom Rides that challenged the practice of racial segregation in interstate transportation and the Mississippi Freedom Summer project that undertook the dangerous work of helping African Americans register to vote in the state most committed to maintaining White supremacy by any means necessary.

SNCC was not the first leadership role history and circumstance would call upon Julian Bond to assume; nor would it be the last.

In 1965, after passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Julian Bond was elected to represent the residents of the 32nd district in Georgia House of Representatives.

But on January 10, 1966, his white colleagues in the Georgia House voted 184–12 not to seat him because he had publicly expressed his opposition to the Vietnam War.

Julian Bond challenged the refusal of the Georgia House to seat him and took his case all the way to the United States Supreme Court, which ruled in the unanimous decision of Bond v. Floyd, 385 U.S. 116 (1966), that expressing opposition to the Vietnam War was speech protected by the First Amendment and directed that he be seated as a duly elected member of the state legislature.

Julian Bond would go on to serve three more terms in the Georgia House, where he co-founded the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus, and six terms in the Georgia State Senate.

In 1971, Julian Bond co-founded and served as president of the Southern Poverty Law Center that tracks the actions of hate groups to better inform and prepare communities about the dangers these groups pose.

Julian Bond consistently identified issues of civil inequality and provided solutions by gathering groups of community leaders, professionals, and educators to protect what the laws and policies would not, our basic civil rights.

In 1998, Julian Bond's commitment to justice and equality led him to answer the call to serve and accept the position of Chairman of the NAACP, a post he held until 2010.

Julian Bond was able to bring the earnest fight to achieve equality into the modern era

as he watched African-Americans achieve the highest awards in their professions and continued to break down barriers.

In November 2008, Julian Bond witnessed the election of the first African American President of the United States, a feat thought impossible just a decade earlier.

Mr. Speaker, because of trailblazers like Julian Bond millions of Americans gained access to opportunities previously denied to members of their communities.

Julian Bond spent 5 years with SNCC, 8 years as president of the Southern Poverty Law Center, 12 years as the president of NAACP, 20 years as a state representative, and 75 years an unwavering champion of civil rights for all people, including the LGBT community.

My thoughts and prayers are with Julian's beloved wife Pamela, his children and grandchildren; and the untold millions of persons whose lives were touched by one of America's greatest sons.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of Julian Bond, a tireless and eloquent voice for justice, equality, and human dignity who did so much to close the gap between the promise of America's founding ideals and the reality of people's lives.

A TRIBUTE TO ELAINE FENNER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Elaine Fenner of the Bluffs Arts Council for being a recipient of the Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. Elaine was granted this prestigious award as she has demonstrated her dedication to serving the Bluffs Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. Elaine's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud Elaine for her commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to serve civic minded Iowans like her in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating her for receiving this award and wish her nothing but continued success.

HONORING JUAN BAUTISTA MORA

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Juan Bautista Mora who turned 98 years old on May 3, 2015.

Mr. Mora was born in Chilili, New Mexico in 1917 as the youngest member of the family that included nine children. His father was a logger assistant who traveled to the southern part of the territory and his mother was a homemaker who also took care of many chores on the family farm.

Juan was placed on a horse at age 6 and taught how to do some of the farming and ranching. In 1922, he became very ill and was cared for by one of his sisters until he recovered. Juan received most of his education from a home school teacher, since he had many responsibilities on the farm.

At age 17, he became a U.S. Census Taker in the Sandia Mountains and would travel from farm to farm, gathering the necessary information.

At age 18, he decided to take the test to enter the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). At the time, he weighed less than 105 pounds and there was a weight requirement. Juan and his friends went to town and ate as many bananas as they could before being weighed for a second time. He made it into the Corps.

He was assigned to Camp #8 in LaVentana, New Mexico where he was assigned the work of building cabins and roads. He earned $1.00 per day and would keep $5.00 each month and send $25.00 home to his family. The Corps was part of the New Deal by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and provided unskilled labor jobs related to the conservation and development of natural resources in rural lands owned by federal, local and state governments. Juan spent 18 months in the Corps.

In 1945, he married Petra Aragon, a teacher with a degree from Highland University. Juan worked for the Charles Ilfield Grocery store as a driver and he and his wife had five daughters before 1957. Petra went back to teaching at the San Ignacio Parochial School but became very ill and passed away in 1960.

From that point forward, Juan raised their five daughters on his own. He was employed by the City of Albuquerque from 1959 to 1978, first as a laborer, then a welder and eventually a supervisor, responsible for training new employees.

In 2007, Juan attended a reunion of the CCC boys and was able to reconnect with many of his friends and share memories from that time in his life.

He is still very involved with his daughters, M. Virginia Mora de Lazo, Margie Mora Brown, Deanna B. Mora, Lillian D. Stephens and Ruby Mora and their families. He has two grandchildren, Linda Lzao Sheroma and Andres F. Lazo. I would like to extend my thanks to Mr. Mora for his service as a member of the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression and for his service to the community as a City of Albuquerque employee.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND BERNIECE R. HICKS

HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and privilege to recognize Reverend Berniece R. Hicks on the occasion of her 97th birthday. Reverend Hicks founded Christ Gospel Churches International Inc. (CGCII) in 1957 which today has congregations across the United States, throughout South and Central America, and around the globe. The international headquarters in Jeffersonville, Indiana hosts Christ Gospel Bible Institute—founded by Reverend Hicks in the early 1970s—which provides an education curriculum to those with an interest in studying and learning from the Bible. Moreover, the headquarters in Jeffersonville is home to the church's publishing house and weekly radio broadcast, which reaches thousands of readers and listeners across the world.

The Reverend Hicks' spiritual journey began at a young age. As a young woman, she felt the desire to study and teach the Bible, from which she dedicated her life to Jesus Christ. Reverend Hicks has written and published extensively, having authored more than 110 books over the course of her tenure. The church holds a copyright license on these materials, and Reverend Hicks receives no royalties from them.

Reverend Berniece R. Hicks touches the lives of those in her ministry in Southern Indiana and through the network of churches in the United States and around the world. Although 97 years old, she still preaches two sermons most weeks at the Jeffersonville church. Today I honor the life and legacy of Reverend Berniece R. Hicks and wish her a very happy 97th birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. STEVE ALLEN

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Steve Allen on his retirement after 28 years of dedicated service to the Selma Fire Department.

Mr. Allen was born on April 18, 1961. He grew up in Fresno, California and attended local schools before going on to start his fire career as a volunteer firefighter for North Central Fire Department in May 1979. He completed his Emergency Medical Technician training and was hired by Jones Ambulance in 1981.

On November 6, 1986, after completing paramedic school, Mr. Allen joined Selma Fire Department as one of Selma's first Firefighter/Paramedics. He was promoted first to Fire Engineer in November 1993 and then to Captain in January 1996.

Throughout his career, Mr. Allen worked tirelessly to protect people's lives from devastating fires, such as those in Los Angeles and the Oakland Hills Fire. Additionally, he took a special interest in investigating the causes of fires and was a member of the City of Selma's Arson Team for many years.

After 28 years with the Selma Fire Department, Mr. Allen retired on May 27, 2015.

The Selma community has been extremely fortunate to have a dedicated firefighter such as Mr. Allen to ensure the wellbeing of their community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Steve Allen for his 28 years of dedicated public service in Selma and congratulating him on his recent retirement.

IN HONOR OF MR. COMMODORE CONYERS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant, champion of education, man of God, and loving husband, father, grandfather and friend, Mr. Commodore Conyers. Mr. Conyers departed this life on Monday, August 17, 2015. A funeral service was held on Saturday, August 22, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia.

Commodore Conyers was born in Thomasville, Georgia and graduated from Douglas High School in 1949. He then continued his education at Savannah State College, now University, and graduated in 1958 with a bachelor degree in Industrial Education. His early passion for education motivated him to excel in his studies as he progressed to earn a master's degree from Valdosta State College, now University, and an L–6 degree in Administration and Supervision from Albany State College, also now University.

Yet, it was Mr. Conyers' services to his alma mater, Savannah State College, which remained near and dear to his heart for decades. He served as President of the Greater Albany Alumni Chapter of Savannah State and was selected as the Grand Marshal of the 2014 Homecoming Parade. He recently was chosen as the latest inductee into the Savannah State University Foundation Hall of Fame. This prestigious honor will allow his legacy to live on for years to come.

Mr. Conyers' scholastic repertoire, cultivated by his devotion to service and leadership, continued to flourish, as his achievements earned him numerous recognitions and commendations within the educational arena. In 1965, he was named by the State Director of Vocational Education to serve with vocational educators and students from five high schools across Georgia. In this role, he is credited with the major accomplishment of combining two of the state's youth organizations into one. After the successful merger, he was appointed State President of the Georgia American Vocational Association where he also helped merge the two state associations into one, before serving as Treasurer of the merged organization.

In 1983, Mr. Conyers was appointed by the late Georgia Governor George Busbee to serve on a Task Force to study the need for a third state board to oversee vocational education in Georgia. The Task Force indeed recommended a third board, which is in place today. Mr. Conyers also served numerous state and community boards and organizations, including the Board of Directors of the Georgia Teachers and Education Association, the Georgia Association of Educators, and the Georgia Retired Educators Association. He also served as Chairman and Board member of the Dougherty County Board of Elections and on the Water, Gas, and Light Board of Directors, as well as the Board of Directors for the Albany Civil Rights Institute.

Mr. Speaker, one of the many things that I will always remember and respect about Commodore Conyers is his unwavering passion for education, which made him a trailblazer in his community. During his tenure as the first black Principal of Dougherty Comprehensive High School in Albany, Georgia, a position he held for eleven years, Mr. Conyers was named First Runner-up for State of Georgia Principal of the Year and was also named the State of Georgia Administrator of the Year by the Georgia Association of Educators. In 1997, he again broke barriers when he was named Director of Vocational and Technical Education for the Dougherty County School System, the first African American to serve in this role. Moreover, he started the first Boy Scout Troop for African-American youth in Vienna, Georgia and the first Cub Scout and Boy Scout Troops at Shiloh Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia.

In addition to the love and support of his late wife, Anne; their two children, Derrick, and Devetrice; and two grandchildren, Derrick and Ashley, Mr. Conyers relied on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to guide him throughout his life. A member of Shiloh Baptist Church since 1961, he served as Superintendent of the Sunday School, Deacon and a Trustee, Chairman of the Facilities Committee, and numerous other positions.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District salute Mr. Commodore Conyers for his leadership in education and service to his community. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to Mr. Conyers' family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT MARY'S PARISH IN THE CITY OF GILROY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Congressman SAM FARR, to pay tribute to Saint Mary's Parish of the City of Gilroy. On August 15, 2015, the Parish celebrated a true milestone: its 150th Anniversary. Together we commend the Parish for its century and a half of service, fellowship, and leadership to the Gilroy community.

From its founding, Saint Mary's Parish has been at the heart of its Gilroy community. Founding Pastor Thomas J. Hudson built Saint Mary of the Assumption in the young southernmost town of Santa Clara County, Gilroy, in 1865. As the town grew into a city of 50,000 residents, Saint Mary's Parish expanded, adding its third building on its 100th Anniversary in 1965. The Parish has served as a point of gathering for people with diverse backgrounds and experiences. It has also been a home to hundreds of dedicated parishioners of Saint Mary's Parish who have served the residents of Gilroy.

Saint Mary's Parish has led and contributed to the spiritual and cultural life of Gilroy for many years through various cultural events, its local and international programs, and St. Mary School, staffed by the Sisters of the Presentation. The Parish's programs have included Saint Joseph Family Center, Lord's Table, Mexico Mission, various disaster and poverty relief collections, and person-by-person counseling.

Through the years, Saint Mary's Parish has maintained strong and active social justice outreach within the community. The Parish has contributed to the lives of many individuals and families by extending its support to young families, immigrants, families of farm workers, and persons living with physical and mental disabilities. The Parish has also offered solace to the bereaved.

In addition to being attentive to the spiritual, cultural, and social justice needs of Gilroy community members, Saint Mary's Parish has been an important source of unity to our residents. The Parish has continued to focus its efforts on the betterment of our society by providing a spiritual home for our youth and promoting social justice and diversity in the City of Gilroy.

As Saint Mary's Parish of the City of Gilroy celebrates 150 years of service to the Gilroy community, we join the many friends and families wishing well to the Parish. On this day of honor and celebration, we do hereby recognize and commend Saint Mary's Parish on this milestone.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the City of South Tucson, a community known for the resiliency, determination, and independence of its residents.

As a native of Tucson, Arizona, I am privileged to represent the City of South Tucson in the United States Congress. The support and loyalty I have received from the residents of South Tucson during my entire public life is a great honor for me personally.

Over 6,000 people and 300 businesses call the City of South Tucson home. This square mile city incorporated by its residents, rather than losing its identity to the City of Tucson, continues after 75 years to assert its independence and be the unique and proud community it has always been through its history.

South Tucson is about family and community, offering to the much larger metropolis of Tucson a view of our past and a dynamic view of what a community can do to retain its character while looking forward.

South Tucson boasts the best Mexican cuisine found anywhere; Las Artes, a model for integrating public art and education; and public services from the state of the art Sam Lena library to excellent public schools Ochoa and Mission View. South Tucson has a sophisticated network of social service providers and City of South Tucson first responders who place the safety of their residents first.

The greatest asset that the City of South Tucson has is its people, a diverse group representing Native-Americans, African-Americans, and Anglos, and families that have contributed so much to the region.

From South Tucson have come generations of political leaders, tradesmen, educators, decorated war veterans, business leaders, civil

leaders, and so many hardworking people whose dignity and determination better us all.

Like all small towns and cities in America, the City of South Tucson faces challenges, but the drive to meet those challenges and prosper for the next 75 years is without a doubt the city's future.

I wish to congratulate the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson and the residents of the city on its 75th anniversary. The commemoration ceremony on September 19, 2015 at the Music and Arts Festival will be a day in which we pause and acknowledge the history, achievements, and the future of the City of South Tucson. Congratulations to South Tucson.

IN MEMORY OF EDITH NORLE McMILLAN ROBERTS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise to honor the life of my good friend, Edith Norle McMillan Roberts, who passed away on Saturday, August 15, 2015, in Antelope, California at the age of 96. Edith was not only a good friend of mine, but she was a friend to Sacramento—someone who spent her life dedicated to her family, education and public service.

Edith Norle McMillan Roberts was the widow of the late Tuskegee Airman George ''Spanky'' Roberts, Colonel, USAF (Retired), a member of the first graduating class of the Tuskegee Airmen in 1942. She was born on March 18, 1919, in Gilliam, West Virginia. While attending West Virginia State University (formerly West Virginia State College), she met George. She graduated in 1941 with a Bachelor's degree in music and French. While at college, she joined the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the college choir. After graduation, she taught second through fifth grade, as well as the Boys' Glee Club, at Lakin Boys' Reformatory in Point Pleasant, West Virginia. Edith and George married on March 7, 1942, immediately following his graduation in the first class of Tuskegee Airmen.

Moving to Sacramento, California in 1965, George worked at McClellan Air Force Base where Edith directed the Military Wives' Choral Group and sang in the chapel choir. The pair retired to civilian life in 1968. The family attended St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church, where Edith, once again, took up the post of choir director until 1997.

Edith graduated in 1972 with her Master's Degree in social work from the Graduate School of Social Work at California State University, Sacramento. She worked for the Sacramento City Unified School District as a School Social Worker from 1972–1985, and was the first African-American Social Worker for the school district.

Edith did extensive work for the George S. ''Spanky'' Roberts Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. and founded the ''Living History Team.'' She traveled the United States teaching adults and children about the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen and the many hardships they were dealt in life, from Jim Crow laws and segregation to her struggles of being a military wife.

Edith was always a strong advocate of education. The George S. ''Spanky'' Roberts Chapter will honor her memory by creating the Edith Roberts Scholarship Award in her name. Similarly, the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. national organization will create the George and Edith Roberts Scholarship award. These scholarships will help graduating seniors to follow their goals through higher education and beyond. Nothing made Edith happier than watching young people recognize and follow their dreams.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Edith Norle McMillan Roberts. She leaves a legacy that we should all aspire to follow. She is loved deeply and will be missed by many. I pray that her loving family, George Roberts, Jr., Lanelle Brent, Michalyn Green, and Leigh Roberts; six grandchildren, Richard Brent, Heather Mercer, Joshua Roberts, Margaret Green, Zachari Roberts, and Nathaniel Roberts; and three great-grandchildren, Kathryn Mercer, Grace Roberts and Lauren Mercer will find comfort in the fact that Edith provided so much love and service to those of us who had the honor to share in her life.

A TRIBUTE TO DICK MILLER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dick Miller of the Bluffs Arts Council for receiving an Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. Dick was granted this prestigious award as he has demonstrated his dedication to serving the Bluffs Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. Dick's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud Dick for his commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to represent civic minded Iowans like him in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him for receiving this award and wish him nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY DARREN GOFORTH OF THE HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, LOVING HUSBAND, DEVOTED FATHER, AND DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow but an abiding admiration that I rise today to acknowledge the life and service of Deputy Darren Goforth of Houston, Texas.

Deputy Darren Goforth, a ten year veteran of the Harris County Sheriff's office, died on Friday, August 28, 2015, while refueling his patrol car.

He was shot fifteen times by a man who, by all accounts, never knew Darren Goforth and the light he brought into this world.

In a senseless act of violence, the love and care Darren Goforth gave to his wife, Kathleen and two young children, and the community he served, ended entirely too soon.

According to Kathleen Goforth her husband was an ''intricate blend of toughness and gentility,'' a man who was fiercely loyal and always strived to do the right thing; a person ''who you wanted for a friend, a colleague, and a neighbor.''

May I add, Mr. Speaker, Darren Goforth was what we want in an American.

Mr. Speaker, Darren Goforth's life is a testament to the goodness in the American people, but his death is a reminder of many difficult and painful truths.

Foremost among these are the dangers the men and women of our nation's law enforcement departments face every time they walk their beats and patrol their communities.

Their families, the persons who know them best and love them most, deserve to welcome them home at the end of each shift, safe and sound.

Mr. Speaker, we must confront the reality that police departments and the communities they protect are all too often adversarial.

We must all work together—law enforcement, community residents, public officials—to make our communities places where we trust one another and cooperate to achieve our mutual goal of safety and security for all persons.

The murder of Deputy Goforth also reminds us that we must do more to stem the tide of gun violence that tears through this country.

Neither our country nor our hearts can afford to lose people of such quality as Darren Goforth to gun violence in the staggering quantities that we do.

Mr. Speaker, over 32,000 Americans die from gun violence each year.

So, while Darren Goforth's death is most certainly a tragedy, death by gun violence happens all too often in our country.

This normalcy of gun violence is inexcusable.

Mr. Speaker, according to media reports, the person who ended Deputy Goforth's wonderful life, struggled with mental illness for quite some time.

We absolutely have to do more to ensure that society's most dangerous weapons stay out of the hands of the most mentally or emotionally unstable persons.

It is important that we do this because it is estimated that 61.5 million Americans experience mental illness in a given year.

This is why we must, as a nation, attach as much importance and provide the same level of resources for mental health as we do for physical health.

We can no longer afford to ignore the struggles of nearly 20 percent of the population and fail to provide adequate treatment and services that could alleviate some of that struggle and prevent horrific events like the one that claimed the life of Deputy Darren Goforth.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here today mourning the loss of Deputy Darren Goforth but I have hope.

I have hope that out of this tragedy we will be moved to act to make this country safer for the men and women who risk their lives to keep their communities safe.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in honor of Deputy Darren Goforth, an extraordinary human being and a shining example of what is meant when we remember him and say: ''He was one of Houston's finest.''

BEULAH BAPTIST INSTITUTIONAL CHURCH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Beulah Baptist Institutional Church in Tampa, Florida in celebrating its 150th anniversary. Founded by freed slaves in 1865, the church holds a unique place in history. It has served many generations and the entire community with its mission of freedom of worship and dignity of the individual.

Established at the conclusion of the Civil War, Beulah became Tampa's first African-American Baptist Church. Over its 150 years, the Church has grown to be a symbol of social justice. Beulah has remained committed in focusing on education and civil rights. This diligent commitment has surely ensured a brighter future for its congregates and the community as a whole.

The lasting influence the church has had on Tampa is a testament to its congregants and, certainly, to its leaders. The late Reverend Dr. A. Leon Lowry, Sr. who served from 1956 to 1996, was a leader in the fight for civil rights in Tampa in the 1950s and 1960s as well as the State President of the NAACP. Reverend Lowry then went on to become the first African-American elected to office countywide—the Hillsborough County School Board. He was one of the Theology professors of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The A. Leon Lowry, Sr. Elementary School in Tampa is named in his honor.

The current pastor, Reverend Dr. W. James Favorite, has continued the church's pivotal role in community advancement. With a strong philosophy that serving the church is more than just ministering on Sunday, Reverend Favorite serves on many community initiatives including Pastors on Patrol, the African American Family Support Initiative, Childcare Facilities Advisory Board, and the Tampa Urban League board. As the Chairman of the Black Leadership Commission on AIDS of Tampa Bay, Reverend Favorite has spearheaded the effort nationally to reduce the stigma associated with HIV and AIDS by calling on clergy all across the bay area and America to put AIDS and HIV awareness at the heart of their sermons.

With 150 years of service and stewardship, the church enters into its next 150 years with enthusiasm. The church is looking forward to its upcoming projects including Senior housing initiatives, job preparation and technology training, sponsorship of Jamaica Outreach ministry, Summer Instructional camp, and an after school e-Library facility.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community that has greatly benefitted from the church's continuing presence and guidance, I am honored to congratulate the Beulah Baptist Institutional Church on their 150th anniversary.

A TRIBUTE TO DENISE PUTMAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Denise Putman of the Bluff's Arts Council for receiving an Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. Denise was granted this prestigious award as she has demonstrated her dedication to serving the Bluff's Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. Denise's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud Denise for her commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to represent civic minded Iowans like her in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating her for receiving this award and wish her nothing but the best moving forward.

HONORING JULIE LOUISE LOVIE, NAPA COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Julie Louise Lovie, who has been selected as the Napa County Teacher of the Year for 2016.

A native of Napa, California, Ms. Lovie began her teaching career in 1993 at the Napa Valley Adult School. In 1994, she began teaching math and science at Valley Oak Continuation High School in Napa, where whe still teaches today. Throughout her career, Ms. Lovie has been a beloved member of her school community. In 2010, she was named Teacher of the Year by the Napa Rotary Club, and in 2014 she was named a ''Friend of the Napa Hispanic Network''. Her professional affiliations have included The California Teach's Association, a partnership with the Napa County Resource Conservation Acorns to Oaks program, and the Water Shed Week ''STRAW'' program. Furthermore, Ms. Lovie has been a Community Club Leader for the 4 Leaf Clover 4H Club for over 15 years and has actively participated in Youth Ministry at St. Apollinaris Church for 10 years.

As an experienced continuation high school teacher, Ms. Lovie understands that traditional teaching strategies will not work for the students in her classes. Serving a population that is often considered at risk for drug and alcohol use, she serves as the Friday Night Live advisor, the California Highway Patrol ''Every 15 Minutes'' advisor, and as a member of the Catalyst Prevention Coalition.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Lovie makes it her mission as a teacher to change students' beliefs about themselves and take them on a journey of achievement. It is appropriate that we take this time to honor Ms. Lovie for her decades of service to our community and her commitment to making each of her students feel both supported and respected.

HONORING PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Progressive Missionary Baptist Church located in Berkeley, California upon its 80th Anniversary as a strong religious pillar in the East Bay community.

Progressive Missionary Baptist Church was founded in 1935 by a group of 35 devout Christians. They sought to bring glory to God by engaging and empowering believers through fellowship, discipleship, worship and service. The church was built in the historic Lorin district of Berkeley. To accommodate its growing membership, the church was expanded in 1959 to include a library, nursery, and classrooms. The church added a new building in 1964 and named it the Stoval Center in honor of the late Pastor Edward Stovall.

Dr. Earl C. Stuckey Sr. was elected senior pastor of Progressive Missionary Baptist Church in September 1977. Pastor Stuckey is active in both the faith and local communities. He served as an advisor on the Billy Graham Crusade, and was an active member of the Baptist Ministers Union as well as numerous other Christian organizations, including serving as a planning board member of the Mount Hermon Christian Conference; Publicity Chairman of the Evangelism Committee; former board member of the Bay Cities Bible Institute; and Christian Nationals Evangelism Commission.

Through many outreach programs, Progressive Missionary Baptist Church has been able to better the lives of people in their community. The church facilitates programs such as the Bay Area Rescue Mission, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs, Crown Ministries Financial Seminars, Project Go Ye, and Celebrate Recovery. All of these programs have had a truly remarkable effect on the residents of the Bay Area.

Progressive Missionary Baptist Church continues to host ministries for groups of all ages and areas of need. The Life Development Ministry provides young members a safe and caring atmosphere in which they can receive guidance and direction. The Home Builders Ministry works to strengthen the spiritual foundation for engaged and married couples; the Men's Fellowship Ministry challenges men to reach spiritual maturity and restore family connections; and, the Women's Fellowship Ministry seeks to enable each woman to discover and utilize her spiritual potential.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I extend my sincerest congratulations to Progressive Missionary Baptist Church on the special occasion of its 80th anniversary. I wish Progressive Missionary Baptist Church many more years of faithful and compassionate service.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE LAWRENCE K. KARLTON

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of retired U.S. District Court Judge Lawrence K. Karlton, who passed away last month. I ask my colleagues to take a moment and join me in tribute to Judge Karlton's truly distinguished life and service to the American people.

Judge Karlton was a steadfast believer that justice and equal protection under the law applied to all Americans, regardless of one's place in our nation and society. After graduating from New York University and Columbia School of law, Judge Karlton served in the United States Army and was the lead Civilian Legal Officer at the Sacramento Army Depot. He would later serve in private practice and volunteer as a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union on a number of civil rights cases. Governor Jerry Brown, well aware of Judge Karlton's talents, appointed him to the Superior Court of California in 1976. Three years later, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California in 1979. He would serve honorably for a number of years and took senior status in 2000. After thirty-five years on the federal bench, Judge Karlton formally retired last September.

With his passing, Judge Karlton has left behind a clear legacy as a fair jurist, one who was always impartial to those who stood in front of him, and one who clearly valued the rights enshrined in the United States Constitution. He has left an unforgettable mark on the people of our nation who needed the federal courts to be strong in order to protect their rights. While on the federal bench, Judge Karlton served on a number three judge panels that were charged with overseeing the State of California's overcrowded prison system. He oversaw a complex class action case filed on behalf of those who had immigrated to the United States in the 1980s, and waded into the complexities of federal protections for endangered species in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in the 2000s.

Finally and perhaps most importantly, Judge Karlton leaves a legacy as a mentor to many talented lawyers, a number of whom have gone on to be appointed to federal and state judgeships. While the responsibilities of serving on federal bench were immense, he also was a wonderful husband to his wife, Sue, and father to his daughter, Emily Williams.

Mr. Speaker, as Judge Lawrence Karlton's family, friends and colleagues gather to honor his life and accomplishments, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking him and recognizing him for his many years of service to our nation and the legacy that he leaves behind.

HONORING CARLOS P. YAMZON

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG) Executive Director Carlos P. Yamzon on his retirement; and to personally thank him for his years of profound service to Stanislaus County.

Over 35 years ago, Mr. Yamzon's career began in the public service of transportation. Twenty-seven of those years were spent in technical and management positions with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), whose purpose is to provide a safe and reliable transportation system to benefit and enhance the state of California.

After working in the transportation sector, Mr. Yamzon was amply prepared to begin working for StanCOG, the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the state designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency for the region of Stanislaus County. He worked diligently for this public organization to ensure transportation plans that would enhance the economic vitality of all Stanislaus County cities. After five short years, Mr. Yamzon was promoted to Executive Director.

In this role, Mr. Yamzon was responsible for a variety of entities within the organization. He was charged with regional transportation planning, program administration, financial management and budget control where he handled all areas proficiently and with expertise. Mr. Yamzon was a key player in implementing StanCOG's 2011 and 2014 Regional Transportation Plans. These plans will continue to be utilized for future transportation improvements and investments.

During his time at StanCOG, Mr. Yamzon was also instrumental in improving State Route 132. This is a major route for central valley commuters, as well as commercial truck drivers. In addition to Mr. Yamzon's efforts to improve State Route 132, he was an advocate for finding a suitable route in Stanislaus County to connect Interstate 5 and State Highway 99, 2 of California's best known routes.

Mr. Yamzon is a well-known leader in the community of Modesto and the region of Stanislaus County. In the StanCOG office located in downtown Modesto, he is loved and admired by his staff for his sense of humor, unique sock choices, his love for jelly donuts and his keen devotion to rock and roll.

Residing in Modesto, California for 29 years, Carlos and his wife Liz raised two children; daughter Aja Yamzon and son Marlon Yamzon.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending the outstanding contributions made to the transportation systems in Stanislaus County by Executive Director Carlos Yamzon. We wish him continued success in his retirement.

HONORING MR. MARK RAYMOND CHANDLER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mr. Mark Raymond Chandler. Known throughout the Bay Area as a tireless advocate for veterans, Mr. Chandler has left an undeniable mark on our community. With his passing on July 31, 2015, we look to honor the outstanding quality of his life's work.

Born in Erie, Pennsylvania, on July 25, 1934, Mark Raymond Chandler, formerly Raymond Joseph Buczynski, set out to explore the world at a young age. Mark spent much of his youth in New York City as a theatre actor. At the age of sixteen, he joined the United States Navy and later served in the Korean War. Mr. Chandler also aided in the evacuation of American civilian and "at risk" Vietnamese from Saigon in the fall of Saigon. He traveled extensively across the world, and met his beloved wife Indiah while working in Indonesia.

Later on in life, Mr. Chandler dedicated himself to serving as an advocate for disabled veterans, serving on the Veterans Affairs Commission, and working tirelessly to bring a VA Clinic to Alameda Point.

Mr. Chandler was a soldier, an actor, and a journalist, but above all else, he was a loving husband and father. He is survived by his wife Indiah, his siblings Marianne and Sonny, his chidren Kathy, Roger, Steven, and Brian, and his grandson Oliver.

Mark will forever be remembered as a hopeless romantic, a lover of roses, and a man who, despite all of his travels and experiences, cherished nothing more than sharing a coffee and a bun with his grandson, who he loved more than life itself.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes the life of an outstanding individual and leader. Mr. Chandler's contributions have truly impacted countless lives throughout the Bay Area. I join all of Mr. Chandler's loved ones in celebrating his incredible accomplishments and offer my most sincere condolences.

A TRIBUTE TO CALLIE ECKMANN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Callie Eckmann from the Tri-Center Varsity Cheer team, as she has been honored with the status of All-American at the Tri-Center cheer camp.

To achieve this status, Callie had to try out in front of the entire camp, demonstrating her knowledge and skill in all areas of cheer. Callie has dedicated her time and talents to achieving a single goal and I commend her for her hard work and determination.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Callie demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Callie on a job well done, and wish her nothing but continued success.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker on this joyful day 50 years ago, President Lyndon

Johnson signed into law the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and because of that law, I stand before you as Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE, the first African American woman Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today not just to commemorate the landmark achievement of 50 years ago but to inform our colleagues and the nation of the need to redouble and rededicate our efforts to the work that remains to be done to protect the right of all Americans to vote free from discrimination and the injustices that prevent them from exercising this most fundamental right of citizenship.

On August 6, 1965, in the Rotunda of the Capitol and in the presence of such luminaries as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rev. Ralph Abernathy of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Roy Wilkins of the NAACP; Whitney Young of the National Urban League; James Foreman of the Congress of Racial Equality; A. Philip Randolph of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; John Lewis of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee; Senators Robert Kennedy, Hubert Humphrey, and Everett Dirksen; President Johnson addressed the nation before signing the Voting Rights Act:

> The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was critical to preventing brazen voter discrimination violations that historically left millions of African Americans disenfranchised.

In 1940, for example, there were less than 30,000 African Americans registered to vote in Texas and only about 3% of African Americans living in the South were registered to vote.

Poll taxes, literacy tests, and threats of violence were the major causes of these racially discriminatory results.

After passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965, which prohibited these discriminatory practices, registration and electoral participation steadily increased to the point that by 2012, more than 1.2 million African Americans living in Texas were registered to vote.

In 1964, the year before the Voting Rights Act became law, there were approximately 300 African Americans in public office, including just three in Congress.

Few, if any, African Americans held elective office anywhere in the South.

Because of the Voting Rights Act, today there are more than 9,100 black elected officials, including 46 members of Congress, the largest number ever.

The Voting Rights Act opened the political process for many of the approximately 6,000 Hispanic public officials that have been elected and appointed nationwide, including more than 275 at the state or federal level, 32 of whom serve in Congress.

Native Americans, Asians and others who have historically encountered harsh barriers to full political participation also have benefited greatly.

The crown jewel of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is Section 5, which requires that states and localities with a chronic record of discrimination in voting practices secure federal approval before making any changes to voting processes.

Section 5 protects minority voting rights where voter discrimination has historically been the worst.

Since 1982, Section 5 has stopped more than 1,000 discriminatory voting changes in their tracks, including 107 discriminatory changes right here in Texas.

And it is a source of eternal pride to all of us in Houston that in pursuit of extending the full measure of citizenship to all Americans, in 1975 Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, who also represented this historic 18th Congressional District of Texas, introduced, and the Congress adopted, what are now Sections 4(f)(3) and 4(f)(4) of the Voting Rights Act, which extended the protections of Section 4(a) and Section 5 to language minorities.

During the floor debate on the 1975 reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, Congresswoman Jordan explained why this reform was needed:

> There are Mexican-American people in the State of Texas who have been denied the right to vote; who have been impeded in their efforts to register and vote; who have not had encouragement from those election officials because they are brown people.
>
> So, the state of Texas, if we approve this measure, would be brought within the coverage of this Act for the first time.

When it comes to extending and protecting the precious right to vote, the Lone Star State—the home state of Lyndon Johnson and Barbara Jordan—can be the leading state in the Union, one that sets the example for the nation.

But to realize that future, we must turn from and not return to the dark days of the past.

We must remain ever vigilant and oppose all schemes that will abridge or dilute the precious right to vote.

Mr. Speaker, I am here today to remind the nation that the right to vote—that ''powerful instrument that can break down the walls of injustice''—is facing grave threats.

The threat stems from the decision issued in June 2013 by the Supreme Court in Shelby County v. Holder, 570 U.S. 193 (2013), which invalidated Section 4(b) of the VRA, and paralyzed the application of the VRA's Section 5 preclearance requirements.

According to the Supreme Court majority, the reason for striking down Section 4(b) was that ''times change.''

Now, the Court was right; times have changed.

But what the Court did not fully appreciate is that the positive changes it cited are due almost entirely to the existence and vigorous enforcement of the Voting Rights Act.

And that is why the Voting Rights Act is still needed.

Let me put it this way: in the same way that the vaccine invented by Dr. Jonas Salk in 1953 eradicated the crippling effects but did not eliminate the cause of polio, the Voting Rights Act succeeded in stymieing the practices that resulted in the wholesale disenfranchisement of African Americans and language minorities but did eliminate them entirely.

The Voting Rights Act is needed as much today to prevent another epidemic of voting disenfranchisement as Dr. Salk's vaccine is still needed to prevent another polio epidemic.

However, officials in some states, notably Texas and North Carolina, seemed to regard the Shelby decision as a green light and rushed to implement election laws, policies, and practices that could never pass muster under the Section 5 preclearance regime.

My constituents remember very well the Voter ID law passed in Texas in 2011, which required every registered voter to present a valid government-issued photo ID on the day of polling in order to vote.

The Justice Department blocked the law in March of 2012, and it was Section 5 that prohibited it from going into effect.

At least it did until the Shelby decision, because on the very same day that Shelby was decided officials in Texas announced they would immediately implement the Photo ID law, and other election laws, policies, and practices that could never pass muster under the Section 5 preclearance regime.

The Texas Photo ID law was challenged in federal court and thankfully, just yesterday, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit upheld the decision of U.S. District Court Judge Nelva Gonzales Ramos that Texas' strict voter identification law discriminated against blacks and Hispanics and violated Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

Mr. Speaker, protecting voting rights and combating voter suppression schemes are two of the critical challenges facing our great democracy.

Without safeguards to ensure that all citizens have equal access to the polls, more injustices are likely to occur and the voices of millions silenced.

Those of us who cherish the right to vote justifiably are skeptical of Voter ID laws because we understand how these laws, like poll taxes and literacy tests, can be used to impede or negate the ability of seniors, racial and language minorities, and young people to cast their votes.

Consider the demographic groups who lack a government issued ID:

1. African Americans: 25%
2. Asian Americans: 20%
3. Hispanic Americans: 19%
4. Young people, aged 18–24: 18%
5. Persons with incomes less than $35,000: 15%

And there are other ways abridging or suppressing the right to vote, including:

1. Curtailing or eliminating early voting
2. Ending same-day registration
3. Not counting provisional ballots cast in the wrong precinct on Election Day will not count.
4. Eliminating adolescent pre-registration
5. Shortening poll hours
6. Lessening the standards governing voter challenges thus allowing self-proclaimed ''ballot security vigilantes'' like the King Street Patriots to cause trouble at the polls.

Mr. Speaker, on the 50th anniversary of the landmark Voting Rights Act signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson on August 6, 1965, I called upon House Speaker BOEHNER to bring legislation intended to protect the right to vote of all Americans to the floor for debate and vote.

Specifically, I call for the passage of the bipartisan Voting Rights Amendments Act (H.R. 885), of which I am an original co-sponsor, which repairs the damage done to the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court's Shelby decision.

This legislation replaces the old 'static' coverage formula with a new dynamic coverage formula, or 'rolling trigger,' which effectively gives the legislation nationwide reach because any state and any jurisdiction in any state potentially is subject to being covered if the requisite number of violations are found to have been committed.

Alternatively, I call upon the Speaker to let the House debate and vote on the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015 (H.R. 2867), a bill that provides even greater federal oversight of jurisdictions which have a history of voter suppression and protects vulnerable communities from discriminatory voting practices.

Second, I call for the passage of H.R. 12, the Voter Empowerment Act of 2015, legislation I have co-sponsored that protects voters from suppression, deception, and other forms of disenfranchisement by modernizing voter registration, promoting access to voting for individuals with disabilities, and protecting the ability of individuals to exercise the right to vote in elections for federal office.

Mr. Speaker, before concluding there is one other point I would like to stress.

In his address to the nation before signing the Voting Rights Act of 1965, President Johnson said:

> Presidents and Congresses, laws and lawsuits can open the doors to the polling places and open the doors to the wondrous rewards which await the wise use of the ballot.
>
> But only the individual Negro, and all others who have been denied the right to vote, can really walk through those doors, and can use that right, and can transform the vote into an instrument of justice and fulfillment.

In other words, political power—and the justice, opportunity, inclusion, and fulfillment it provides—comes not from the right to vote but in the exercise of that right.

And that means it is the civic obligation of every citizen to both register and vote in every election, state and local as well as federal.

Because if we can register and vote, but fail to do so, we are guilty of voluntary voter suppression, the most effective method of disenfranchisement ever devised.

And in recent years, Americans have not been doing a very good job of exercising our civic responsibility to register, vote, and make their voices heard.

Mr. Speaker, for millions of Americans, the right to vote protected by the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is sacred treasure, earned by the sweat and toil and tears and blood of ordinary Americans who showed the world it was possible to accomplish extraordinary things.

So on this 50th anniversary of that landmark law, let us rededicate ourselves to honoring those who won for us this precious right by remaining vigilant and fighting against both the efforts of others to abridge or suppress the right to vote and our own apathy in exercising this sacred right.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN REVIER

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank John Revier for the nearly fifteen years of service he has given me as my Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Director. John's last day with my office was yesterday, and today he is beginning a new phase in his career at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) where he will serve in Boise as the Director for State and Regional Government Relations.

Not many staffers come along like John Revier. For those who know him, they know he has one of the sharpest legislative minds of any staffer I have ever seen. He can break down any legislative or administrative issue in an instant and begin charting the course of action and implementing it. Many times he does this before people understand what the problem actually is and how it is going to affect them. John has become an expert on so many different issues it's hard to begin counting them.

As a Congressional staffer, John accomplished a rare feat. He served in both the Senate District office and Washington, D.C. office for the late Senator Rod Grams of Minnesota. He also served in both my Washington, D.C. office and Boise office. Not many Congressional staffers can say they touched all four bases in the House and Senate. This served to impress upon him how to work well with State and D.C. offices in both the House and Senate.

John is very proud of his roots in Minnesota and moreover his hometown of Redwood Falls. However, we are fortunate that he is now an Idaho transplant and will continue to serve Idaho in a new capacity.

I want to thank John's wife Jani and their two wonderful children Kate and Sam. They have allowed John to give much of his time to me. Moreover, it's been a pleasure to watch the twins as they are growing up.

I wish John the best in his new position, and as I like to jokingly say—"good luck to the INL for taking him away from us".

RECOGNIZING MIGUEL TREVIÑO, JR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retiring CEO of Gateway Community Health Center, Miguel Treviño, Jr. Born on April 14, 1944 in Laredo, Texas. Mr. Treviño started his career 48 years ago with the Laredo-Webb County Health Department working on the Migrant Health Program. This program later became the private, not-for-profit corporation Gateway Community Health Center, which has provided preventive health programs including: Family Planning, Breast and Cervical Cancer Services, and Immunizations.

As the former President of both the Texas Association of Community Health Centers and the Community Health Network of South Texas, Mr. Treviño was passionate about bringing health care needs to the forefront in his community.

A proud husband and father of three, Mr. Treviño is a man of values who has always extended a hand to those in need. His compassion and persistence were exemplified every day by his eagerness to greet everyone the moment he walked in the door and his willingness to pay for patients who couldn't afford services.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Treviño. He never wavered and stood his ground; all to benefit the community and those in it who were most vulnerable. Thank you for this time.

A TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT MARK T. ALBERS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mark Albers of Boy Scout Troop 182 in Waukee, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained for more than a century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, and must complete an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Mark planned, constructed and installed three professional grade benches at the Covenant Presbyterian Church playground in West Des Moines. This playground is frequently used by area families and the Head Start Program at the church. The work ethic Mark has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent Mark and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him on reaching the rank of Eagle Scout, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES IN LOS ANGELES

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and celebrate the success of the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, California. The Games began on Saturday, July 25, 2015 with spectacular Opening Ceremonies at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum that featured an address by First Lady Michelle Obama. The Games ended with festive Closing Ceremonies at the same venue on Sunday, August 2, 2015. I am proud to represent the area that includes not only the Coliseum, but also the University of Southern California which has hosted several events, including aquatics, basketball, track and field competitions.

Special Olympics World Games this year included over 6,000 athletes from 165 countries competing in 25 different sports. I am particularly happy to have the Games in Los Angeles after 16 years of being hosted outside of the United States.

Since its founding in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, the Special Olympics have played a significant part in fostering greater

acceptance and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities in the U.S. and all over the world. The Games honor the talents, perseverance and achievements of people who are all too often overlooked or excluded from mainstream society. Every year, millions of athletes participate in Special Olympics activities in nearly every country of the world, with the support of as many as one million coaches and volunteers.

The Special Olympians here in Los Angeles have travelled far and overcome many obstacles in their quest for excellence. They also know that their willingness to step into the spotlight and share their abilities and dreams with the world will offer inspiration to others with intellectual disabilities, and to their families, friends, villages, towns, cities and nations.

Thanks are also due to the families and friends back home who support their athletes and loved ones with intellectual disabilities, whether or not they will ever make it to the World Games.

I invite all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me and the entire bipartisan Los Angeles delegation in congratulating the organizers, coaches, volunteers, families, supporters and most of all the athletes on the success of the 2015 Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles.

INTRODUCING A JOINT RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF PREVENTING IRAN FROM OBTAINING NUCLEAR WEAPONS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will authorize the sitting President or his successors to use the armed forces of the United States to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.

On July 14, 2015, a Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) designed to ensure that Iran's nuclear program is used solely for peaceful purposes was finalized. With history as our guide, any agreement with the Iranian government must be met with skepticism, and therefore, backed up with muscularity—my legislation provides this muscularity.

Indeed, the importance of an international framework that actually prohibits Iran from ever becoming a nuclear weapons state cannot be overstated. As Ranking Democratic Member of the U.S. Helsinki Commission and the only American to have served as President of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's (OSCE PA) Parliamentary Assembly, as well as a former member of both the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and Committee on Foreign Affairs, I am acutely aware of the challenges in dealing with Iran's nuclear program.

Iran's pursuit of a nuclear weapon at any time is a threat to the United States as well as our allies in the region, and its questionable sincerity in forgoing the procurement of such weapons has created legitimate cause for concern in the past and must, therefore, inform how we proceed today and in the future. It is my sincere hope that my legislation will provide the added hard power necessary to deter Iran from continued efforts to obtain nuclear weapons, including skirting compliance with the JCPOA, if implemented.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will send a clear message to the Iranian regime that the United States is willing to ensure that Iran never becomes a nuclear weapons state at any cost.

A TRIBUTE TO BOB FENNER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Bob Fenner of the Bluffs Arts Council for receiving an Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. Bob was granted this prestigious award as he has demonstrated his dedication to serving the Bluffs Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. Bob's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud Bob for his commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to represent civic minded Iowans like him in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him for receiving this award and wish him nothing but the best moving forward.

IN HONOR OF THE PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION'S ANNUAL SESSION FROM AUGUST 2 THROUGH 7, 2015

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the instrumental work of the Progressive National Baptist Convention to protect the right to vote as they host their annual session from August 2 through 7, 2015 in Dallas, Texas. At its annual session, the Progressive National Baptist Convention calls on its current members to protect the right that its founding members fought to earn: the right to vote. Today, on the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, the right to the ballot box is once again challenged and the foot soldiers fighting to protect against the disenfranchisement of vulnerable populations are more necessary than ever.

Since its Civil Rights era founding in 1961, the Progressive National Baptist Convention has fought to improve the conditions of the African American community at large. The Progressive National Baptist Convention was the denominational home and platform for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., as its founding leaders worked to unite Baptist faith communities across the country to further the socio-economic liberation of African Americans in the United States. The founding principles of fellowship, progress, service and peace continue to guide its membership as they now apply the cornerstones of their organization to advocate for full voter registration and participation.

In the last two years the Supreme Court weakened key components of the original Voting Rights Act of 1965, allowing state legislatures nationwide to actively create and implement voter ID laws meant to keep African Americans, Latinos and other traditionally disenfranchised communities away from the ballot box. On the heels of the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, the Progressive National Baptist Convention continues to be a vital Baptist denomination with an estimated membership of 2.5 million actively working to give full voice, leadership and active support to the black community, America, and ultimately the universal fight for human freedom. Today, the Progressive National Baptist Convention calls on its nationwide membership to fight in the name of voter empowerment and restoration of voting protections for all Americans.

In my home state of Texas, one of the battlegrounds for the modern struggle to protect the right to vote, the Progressive National Baptist Convention will galvanize member churches across the country to work to end voter intimidation, voting suppression, and suspicious practices. Additionally, the Progressive National Baptist Convention will embark upon a nationwide voter registration campaign with a special focus on the communities targeted by voting discrimination.

In honor of the great civil rights tradition that the Progressive National Baptist Convention continues, and in recognition of its status as an active advocate organization for the African American community and disenfranchised communities everywhere, this statement will be entered on Tuesday, September 8, 2015.

HONORING SHILOH CHURCH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Shiloh Church located in Oakland, California upon its 50th Anniversary as a strong religious pillar in the East Bay community.

Shiloh Church was founded in 1965 by Dr. Violet Kiteley and her son, Dr. David Kiteley, in the living room of an African-American family. They sought to bring glory to God by engaging and empowering believers through fellowship, discipleship, worship and service.

Since its founding, Shiloh Church has become a multi-ethnic congregation with members from over 40 nations. To accommodate its growing membership, the church underwent extensive remodeling of the facility to include a technology center and youth center. Shiloh Church also has affiliate ministries impacting hundreds of thousands of people in Canada, Hong Kong, China, Japan, Philippines, and Ethiopia throughout the world through its biblically-based training centers and church plants.

Dr. Violet Kiteley, now in her 90's, has served in fulltime ministry for over 70 years. She has served as the President of Shiloh Bible College for over 35 years and was personally instrumental in training hundreds of

leaders who are now pastors, elders, missionaries, and licensed ministers in churches across the world. Dr. David Kiteley followed in his mother's footsteps alongside his wife, Pastor Marilyn, and they have faithfully served the church full-time since 1970 as co-pastors.

Dr. David has traveled extensively and held leadership conferences in over 45 countries. Dr. David's son, Pastor Patrick and his wife served as Senior Pastors from 2008 until 2015. Now, Dr. David's daughter, Pastor Melinda, and her husband, Pastor Javier Ramos, will serve as 4th senior leadership transition in the church's history that will carry on the spiritual heritage laid by the past generations.

Shiloh Church has been able to better the lives of East Bay residents through its various outreach programs such as the Robert Allen Mercy House, which provides groceries and other resources to the unemployed, underemployed, and homeless. Since 1982, this program has disbursed over $1,000,000 of food each year to more than 15,000 families.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I extend my sincerest congratulations to Shiloh Church on the special occasion of its 50th anniversary. I wish Shiloh Church many more years of faithful and compassionate service.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN RASMUSSEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate John Rasmussen of the Bluffs Arts Council for receiving an Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. John was granted this prestigious award as he has demonstrated his dedication to serving the Bluffs Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. John's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud John for his commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to represent civic minded Iowans like him in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him for receiving this award and wish him nothing but the best moving forward.

GRAND OPENING OF VICTOR VALLEY COLLEGE'S DR. PREM REDDY HEALTH AND SCIENCES BUILDING

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, over my time representing the citizens of California's Eighth Congressional District, I have been able to spend time with and learn from some of the best community leaders America has to offer. These are folks who regularly put the interest of others before their own. They show us their character and generosity by going above what is required or expected of them, in order to improve the livelihood of the community as a whole. I come before you today to speak on Dr. Reddy's latest philanthropic endeavor—Victor Valley College's Dr. Prem Reddy Health and Sciences Building.

Opened on August 28, 2015, this 24,000 square foot facility will provide much needed new labs for the science programs, as well as nursing specific training labs, all integrated with indoor and outdoor student gathering and study spaces to create a collaborative and technology driven learning environment. The building will also feature expanded anatomy and chemistry labs, as well as a digital science lab capable of up to 40 workstations. The new nursing lab will feature 8 simulated medical beds and instruction space for up to 40 students. All of these lab and training facilities are supplied with high tech audio and visual equipment and a wireless network for student access. The building also operates under the most technologically advanced systems for energy efficiency and energy savings.

The students trained and educated in this state-of-the-art facility will enter the healthcare industry in a period of great turmoil. As the payment methods and organization of the industry rapidly evolve, no one can predict what the future may hold. However, the one thing we know for certain is that we will always need the most highly trained and educated students to provide the actual care, person to person. That process begins by having a learning environment to facilitate their education. I graciously thank Dr. Prem Reddy for his generosity on making this building a reality, and I congratulate Victor Valley College for its development and wish its future students years of success.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTINA COONEY FOR HER EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE AT THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES IN LOS ANGELES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Christina Cooney for winning a Silver and Bronze medal in equestrian events at the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, California this past July.

In order to qualify for the World Games, Christina had to win a gold medal in local, regional and state competitions, and be approved by Special Olympics Florida. Christina achieved all of these feats to become one of 7,000 competitors from over 170 countries around the world, and the only equestrian rider from Florida, out of ten riders from around the nation, to represent the United States at the World Games.

Christina is visually impaired, deaf, mentally challenged, and cannot speak; yet, she is able to communicate with the horses she rides and cares for in a way few individuals are able. Christina started riding at Vinceremos Therapeutic Riding Center in Loxahatchee, Florida, at age 12 and has ridden for over 20 years. At Vinceremos, Christina trains and volunteers on a daily basis, doing whatever tasks are required to care for the animals and the facilities.

Christina developed a remarkable relationship with her coach, Kim Elie, who took it upon herself to learn sign language and created a buzzer system for communication purposes. When Christina learned she qualified for the World Games, she and her coaches and family faced one last challenge: funding the trip to compete in California. The Special Olympics only funds transportation for the competing athlete not for their family members and coaches. Thus, Coach Kim Elie's husband, Mark Elie, set up an online fundraising account that raised over $8,000 to fund the travel costs of her family members and coaches. In a similar way, a local restaurant held an event in support of Christina that raised over $7,000 in one night. This money has created a fund in Christina's name that pays for sign language instruction for her coaches.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud of Christina for continuing to push the bounds for what is possible within her sport. Christina has overcome many obstacles to become the decorated Olympic medalist she is today. She may live with disabilities, but she competes with the heart of an Olympian. That is why I am so truly honored to recognize Christina Cooney as a Hastings' Hero. It is inspiring individuals such as Christina, who give me great pride to represent in Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on July 28 and July 29 on account of official business at the Trans-Pacific Partnership talks. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On Roll Call 473, I would have voted No (Young amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 474, I would have voted No (Smith amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 475, I would have voted Aye (Johnson amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 476, I would have voted Aye (Capps amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 477, I would have voted Aye (Cicilline amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 478, I would have voted Aye (Cicilline/Jackson-Lee amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 479, I would have voted Aye (Nadler amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 480, I would have voted Aye (Pocan/Moore amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 481, I would have voted Aye (Motion to Recommit the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 482, I would have voted No (Final passage of the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 483, I would have voted No (Ordering the previous question on the Rule for H.R. 1994 and H.R. 3236).

On Roll Call 484, I would have voted No (Rule for H.R. 1994 and H.R. 3236).

On Roll Call 485, I would have voted Aye (Passage of the First Responder Anthrax Preparedness Act).

On Roll Call 486, I would have voted Aye (Passage of the Surface Transportation and Veterans Health Care Choice Improvement Act).

On Roll Call 487, I would have voted Aye (Takano amendment to the VA Accountability Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 488, I would have voted Aye (Motion to recommit the VA Accountability Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 489, I would have voted No (Final passage of the VA Accountability Act of 2015).

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY BROWN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mary Brown, who recently passed away on August 28, 2015, at the age of 82. Mary was an extraordinary person, and she will always be remembered as a woman who lived her life with purpose and great dedication to her students, family, friends, and community.

Mary Brown was the pioneer of girls' basketball in the San Joaquin Valley. She left an indelible stamp in the record books and inspired young women to fulfill their potential in athletics and academics. In 18 seasons at San Joaquin Memorial High School, she directed the girls' basketball team to a 317–45 record, highlighted by 16 league titles and eight Central Section championships. Through her impeccable coaching, the Panthers won 13 consecutive league championships from 1971 to 1983, setting a state record, and the team had 97 straight league victories; the second longest streak in state history. In 1973 she was named the Girls State Coach of the year.

As a graduate of Fresno State, Mary was an exemplary community leader and gave back in ways that will not be forgotten. Her ability to motivate and inspire young women to reach their greatest potential was clearly visible in her coaching techniques. Mary has brought great pride to San Joaquin Memorial High School, and the community overall. Many of her former players consider Mary an icon and legend in sports.

Her commitment to the community of Fresno will not be forgotten. All of those who knew her or played for her are truly grateful for the lasting imprint she has made in their lives as an incomparable coach and leader.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in saying farewell to a woman who embodies passion and inspiration, Ms. Mary Brown. Her genuine character and loving commitment to her friends and community will be greatly missed.

HONORING SERGEANT JOHN D. TREANTOS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of Sergeant John D. Treantos. The beloved father, grandfather, brother, and teacher passed away on Friday, July 31st, 2015 surrounded by his loving family.

During his youth, Sgt. Treantos grew up in California's State Capitol, Sacramento where he attended the local high school, Sacramento High. Following graduation in 1954, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps where he spent several years diligently serving our country. Sgt. Treantos' time in the Marine Corps was spent teaching his fellow marines to navigate exiting helicopters during the Korean War. In addition to always helping others, he was part of the unit to test helicopter tactics to be used with nuclear weapons. Before retiring from the Marine Corps, he achieved the rank of Sergeant.

Following his service in the Marine Corps, Sgt. Treantos moved back to his hometown of Sacramento and enrolled at Sacramento State College. He obtained his degree and began his career as an educator where his passion for teaching history would be utilized and instilled in his students. Dedicating 52 years between Sacramento High School, Tracy High School, and San Joaquin Delta College, Mr. Treantos loved teaching and once stated that he would work for free as long as he got to teach history. Mr. Treantos was a beloved teacher who would spend countless hours researching his lessons to ensure his students would not only learn what was being taught, but be able to envision the historic events that shaped the United States. His legacy will live on through the lessons he instilled in his students.

In his retirement, Sgt. Treantos became actively involved in the Tracy American Legion Post 172. From 2002–2012, he served as Commander where he assisted in honoring local heroes, organized events, and selected recipients to attend Boys State. He was also involved in the Bill King Detachment 019 of the Marine Corps League in Modesto where he served two terms as the detachment Commandant. Sgt. Treantos was the Judge Advocate and took part in funerals for Marines, color guards and parades. Furthermore, Sgt. Treantos was the proud president of the Tracy War Memorial where he participated in honoring veterans and fallen heroes. Marine Treantos was an inaugural and sitting member of my Veterans Advisory Committee before his passing.

Sgt. Treantos was deeply passionate about sports and unwaveringly loyal to the San Francisco Giants. Downtime for Sgt. Treantos was spent enjoying music, theatre, museums, movies and most of all, reading books. He was never without a book and shared his desire for the arts and learning with the various people in his life.

Sgt. Treantos is survived by his son John Treantos; daughters Jennifer, Melina and Imogene; five grandchildren Chris, John, Roger, Addy, and Cameron; three sisters Dena, Kathy, and Mary; and the mother of his children, Liz.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing Sergeant John D. Treantos for his service and outstanding contributions to the community as well as our country.

A TRIBUTE TO JULIA DOLLEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Julia Dollen from the Tri-Center Varsity Cheer team, as she has been honored with the status of All-American at the Tri-Center cheer camp.

To achieve this status, Julia had to try out in front of the entire camp, demonstrating her knowledge and skill in all areas of cheer. Julia has dedicated her time and talents to achieving a single goal and I commend her for her hard work and determination.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Julia demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Julia on a job well done, and wish her nothing but continued success.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW WALZER FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTELLECTUALLY AND DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED COMMUNITY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Matthew Walzer for his extraordinary contributions to the lives of those with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities. It all began with a simple request to achieve a dream that most take for granted: 16-year-old Matthew needed an easier way to put on his shoes.

You see, Matthew has cerebral palsy, a condition which stiffens the muscles in the body making it difficult to walk and even speak. In an open letter to Nike's CEO Mark Parker, he explained that his condition makes it impossible to tie his shoes. Matthew, who at the time was preparing to leave high school and attend college, explained he simply wanted to go to the college of his choice and not worry about someone tying his shoes every day.

Originally, Nike planned to make just one pair of this revolutionary shoe for Matthew; however that was not enough for this inspiring young man. Matthew didn't want a special shoe just for him—he understood this was an opportunity to develop something that would benefit a diverse community of millions of people facing various physical challenges. As a longtime admirer of Nike shoes, he brought attention to the lack of a running or basketball shoe with a self-lacing system that could be used by everyone.

Matthew's discussions with Nike were the catalyst to change the world of shoe technology. Through his tireless work alongside

Nike, his dream became a reality. Nike recently released the Zoom Lebron Soldier 8 FLYEASE, a shoe that features a wrap-around zipper system. Now a sophomore at Florida Gulf Coast University, Matthew is able to put his shoes on every day without assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud of Matthew Walzer for refusing to back down from his goal and his actively seeking out a universal solution. He wanted to create a shoe not for one person, but for everyone. Even Lebron James wore them during a basketball game to prove that it was truly a shoe that everybody could wear.

I am so extremely proud to recognize Matthew Walzer as a Hastings Star Student. Matthew has overcome diagnosis after diagnosis from doctors across the nation, and has proven that no matter the obstacles, he would not settle for the status quo.

IN RECOGNITION OF ERIC NADEL

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Eric Nadel.

Mr. Nadel was the 2014 recipient of the Ford C. Frick Award, presented annually for excellence in broadcasting by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. Currently he is in his 21st year as the lead voice on the Texas Rangers radio broadcasts, which marks his 37th year broadcasting Rangers baseball, the longest tenure of any announcer in the history of the franchise.

Mr. Nadel is a seven-time recipient of the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association Texas Sportscaster of the Year Award, and two-time winner of the Associated Press award for best play-by-play in Texas. He was also inducted as the 15th member of the Texas Rangers Baseball Hall of Fame.

Mr. Nadel has spent several off seasons learning Spanish and has taken part in Spanish game broadcasts in numerous Latin American countries. He is the author of three books, including Texas Rangers: The Authorized History, published in 1997. He also is very active in the local music scene, annually presenting a Birthday Benefit Concert at the Kessler Theater.

A 1991 inductee in the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame, Eric and his wife, Jeannie, reside in Dallas with their dog, Kirby, a Yorkie mix. The city of Dallas is lucky to have him.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF PHILIP HAGOPIAN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Philip Hagopian of Madera, California who recently passed away on August 20, 2015 at the age of 64. Philip will be missed greatly by his family, friends, and community.

Mr. Hagopian was born in Fresno, California on November 12, 1950, to Edward and Margaret Hagopian. He spent his early years in Fresno, before moving with his family to Kerman, and eventually settling in Madera. Upon graduating from high school, Philip went on to earn his B.A. in History from the University of California, Davis. After trying his hand at various occupations, he came back home to Madera and joined the family business, farming with his father, when he was 32 years old.

In 1998, Philip married the love of his life, Ms. Carol Ann LeMarr. The following year, his dream of being a father came true when their son, Aram Alexander was born. He was a devoted husband and father, and he truly loved farming in the San Joaquin Valley. Philip had a nurturing heart, and he enjoyed nothing more than to walk out into the fields and appreciate the crops he sowed.

Mr. Hagopian was also dedicated to serving his community. For many years, he provided goods and services, and was active in his agricultural profession. For instance, Philip served on the Madera County Planning Commission, board member for the Raisin Bargaining Association, Trustee of the Board at Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church, and he served his country in the United States Army.

Without question, Mr. Hagopian's integrity, honor and long-lasting involvement in the raisin industry made him a reputable man; he was well known, well-liked and shown enormous appreciation by fellow farmers in the Central Valley. Philip worked hard and expected nothing in return. This same generous spirit was evident in Philip's love for his family. I am honored to join his family in celebrating the life of Philip Hagopian. His presence will be dearly missed in our community for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a man of great service and dedication. His memory will live on through his family and be remembered by many in our community. We are all better for having known Mr. Philip Hagopian, a remarkable Californian and Central Valley native.

A TRIBUTE TO MARGARITE GOODENOW

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Margarite Goodenow of the Bluffs Arts Council for receiving an Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. Margarite was granted this prestigious award as she has demonstrated her dedication to serving the Bluffs Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. Margarite's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud Margarite for her commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to represent civic minded Iowans like her in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating her for receiving this award and wish her nothing but continued success.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 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 $18,151,154,955,297.86. We've added $7,524,277,906,384.78 to our debt in 6 years. This is over $7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FRANK PUMILIA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Mr. Frank Pumilia of Margate, Florida, who sadly passed away on Sunday, August 30th at age 94. Frank was born in Brooklyn, New York and, at an early age, demonstrated a passion for politics and a fervent interest in community service. He attended high school for only half a year before dropping out to support his family. Eventually, Frank became an owner of his own grocery store and later worked as an insurance investor. He retired to Margate, Florida where he assumed a number of leadership positions within local organizations.

Frank served as president of both the Margate Democratic Club and the Margate Association of Condominiums. He also served as a chairman for the Margate Civil Service Board, member of the Broward County Democratic Executive Committee, member of the advisory council of the Alzheimer's Family Center. Frank was a highly regarded community leader. In 2010, he was selected by the Area Agency of Aging of Broward to receive the Broward County Senior Hall of Fame honor.

I offer my deepest condolences to Frank's family. He is survived by his daughter, Louise Ditto, by two sons, John Pumilia and Charles Pumilia, as well as five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Frank's presence will be profoundly missed throughout the Margate community.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay my respects to Frank Pumilia and his family. Frank was a great friend to me throughout the years. His spirit, loving memory, and legacy of outstanding leadership will always live on.

TRIBUTE: ALPHA DELTA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL HONORARY ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN EDUCATORS

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Alpha Delta Kappa

International Honorary Organization for Women Educators on its sixty-eight years of dedicated service and proclaim October 2015 as Alpha Delta Kappa Month. Established in 1947, Alpha Delta Kappa's goals have been to establish high standards of education, give recognition to outstanding educators, build a fraternal fellowship among educators, and to promote educational and charitable projects and activities enriching the lives of individuals everywhere.

With a membership of over 33,000 educators representing all fifty U.S. states, Puerto Rico, Canada, Mexico, Jamaica and Australia, Alpha Delta Kappa is committed to educational excellence, personal and professional growth and for collectively channeling their energies toward the good of their schools, communities, the teaching profession and the world.

Women in education constitute a great portion of the nation's working force and are constantly striving to serve their communities and nation in educational, cultural, and charitable programs leading to harmony, happiness, and peace among all people.

Over the last two years alone, the members of Alpha Delta Kappa have given altruistically to the communities they serve by raising nearly twelve million dollars and volunteering more than 2 million service hours. Alpha Delta Kappa members also biennially awards nearly two million dollars through its 11 scholarship programs.

I congratulate Alpha Delta Kappa International Honorary Organization for Women Educators on their many years of unparalleled success and wish them well as they continue to educate our children.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF ANTONIO ''TONY'' CAMPOS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedication and success of Central Valley almond farmer, Antonio ''Tony'' Campos. Tony has demonstrated an unwavering dedication to his community and to California agriculture. It is because of his service to the Central Valley that Tony Campos is being honored at the 2015 California Ag One Community Salute.

Tony was born in Orondritz, Spain, a small village in the Pyrenees Mountains. As a teenager, Tony would hear of the opportunities offered in America and how one could establish a better life. When Tony was just 17 years old, he immigrated to the United States with his brothers, and settled in Caruthers, California. It was there where they first began to grow almonds and by 1981, Tony and his brothers had established their almond farm, Campos Brothers Farms Almond Huller. Today, Tony and his wife, Juliet, continue to operate Campos Brothers Farms with their three children Steven, Joseph, and Jeannine. Their commitment and enthusiasm for California agriculture and community values have not faltered.

The almond industry makes significant contributions to the overall success of California's economy. It is responsible for more than $21 billion in California's economic output and adds about $11 billion to California's gross state product. The almond industry makes for an active and healthy California economy. Tony Campos and Campos Brothers Farms have done a great deal to enrich California's agriculture and economy.

In addition to their dedication to California agriculture, the Campos family has also dedicated themselves to serving the community. Tony and his family support organizations such as Valley Children's Hospital, Catholic Charities Diocese of Fresno, Basque Cultural Center, and Caruthers High School. Additionally, all of the proceeds raised to honor Tony at the 2015 Ag One Community Salute, will go toward establishing the Ag One- Antonio ''Tony'' Campos endowment that will support both students and programs of the Jordan College at California State University, Fresno.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing my longtime friend Tony Campos in the celebration of his achievements as a Central Valley almond farmer and as the 2015 honoree at the Ag One Community Salute. It is with great pride that I thank Tony Campos for his service and lasting contributions to our community and to California agriculture.

WELCOME TO SCENIC MISSOURI CITY, TEXAS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Missouri City, Texas for earning a Platinum Level Scenic City Certification! Missouri City residents know full well what a beautiful city they live in and are proud that everybody across Texas agrees.

Scenic Texas, a non-profit organization, awarded the Platinum Level Scenic City Certification to Missouri City for five years. Missouri City is only one of eight cities to receive this top honor and the only city in the Houston area to earn Platinum status. The organization took note of Missouri City's beautiful landscapes, tree-lined streets, and dedication to cultural arts. This certification further demonstrates Missouri City's commitment to improving the quality of life for its residents. We are extremely proud of this growing city!

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Missouri City! Thank you for keeping our little piece of Texas beautiful.

A TRIBUTE TO THE IOWA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation Marketing and Communications Department for receiving five prestigious awards at the American Farm Bureau Federation's annual Strategic Policy, Advocacy, Resources and Communications Conference.

Each year the American Farm Bureau Federation gives out awards at their Strategic Policy, Advocacy, Resources and Communications Conference to recognize select Farm Bureau Federation teams that excel in their outreach and communication to the public. The conference is designed to incentivize strategic communication, aligning the organization's platforms around important subjects and initiatives that are aimed at creating better policy. The Iowa Farm Bureau Federation team received the following five awards: Best Newspaper, Best News or Feature Series, Best Blog, Best Social Media Campaign, and Best Promotional or Education Video.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation Marketing and Communications Department demonstrates the rewards of hard work and dedication. Their efforts embody the Iowa sprit and I am honored to represent this valued Iowa organization in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating this team on their achievements, and I wish them nothing but continued success.

IN MEMORY OF ANGELEAN ''ANGIE'' CLARK GLASS OF HALLANDALE BEACH, FLORIDA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an esteemed teacher, community leader, and personal friend, Mrs. Angelean ''Angie'' Clark Glass. Angie was born on January 3, 1937 in Hallandale Beach, Florida. She grew up as the first of four children born into the glorious union of the late Robert ''Willard'' Clark and Hazel Mabel Taylor Clark.

Angie's early accomplishments included being the star basketball player at Lanier Elementary-Junior High School in Hallandale. She later went on to attend and graduate from Booker T. Washington High School in Miami, Florida in 1955. She received her Bachelor's of Arts degree in Elementary Education from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) in Tallahassee, Florida in June, 1959. Angie pursued additional matriculation at Barry University in Miami, Florida.

After graduation, Angie began her remarkable career at Sheridan Hills Elementary School in Hollywood, Florida. For 44 years, she taught at Sheridan Hills Elementary School, shaping the lives of generations of children and remaining at the school as various principals came and went. Her dedication to the school came from her unwavering faith in her students, many of whom were inspired by her kindness and selflessness for her community.

As a devout Christian, Angie served as a member and was considered a pillar of both St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Hallandale, Florida and St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Hollywood, Florida. Aside from serving faithfully on the Vestry and Parish Council, she also coordinated all social activities and served as treasurer of the Church's True Fund.

Angie sponsored dinners for church members every third Sunday of the month and provided personal, financial assistance to aid the church's less fortunate members. She coordinated food and clothing drives and served as Episcopal Youth Counselor and Senior Warden. For over seventy years, she remained loyal to the church and worked tirelessly wherever she was needed. Four words encapsulate her life at the church and her life as a Christian: faith, devotion, generosity, and perseverance.

As an active member of her community, Angie served on committees in Hallandale Beach, ensuring many projects and activities were effectively executed. She was one of the founders of the Community Civic Association and was heavily involved with MLK Parade and Scholarship fundraising. In 2013, Angie's efforts did not go unnoticed. She was selected by the Human Services Advisory Board for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award.

Friends and family knew Angie as someone who was a wonderlust at heart. Although she did not get to fulfill her dream of seeing the Seven Wonders of the World, she visited London, Alaska, the Grand Canyon, the Canadian Rockies and the Bahamas, the birthplace of her parents. When Angie was not traveling, she was giving back. She relished in the beauty and changes of the City of Hallandale Beach. She proudly supported the act of giving her time, talents, and money to the cause of freedom, civil justice, and equality in the Hallandale Beach community. It was always her desire to make the community a better and more positive place to live.

Throughout her illness, she showed the same courage, dignity, concern for loved ones, and grace as shown throughout her life. On July 26, 2015, Angelean, a dedicated parent, teacher and community leader left this world at 4:50 a.m. Precious memories remain with those she loved and touched.

Angie is survived by her husband Rudolph "Rudy" Glass, her beloved son Troy Andrews, her brother Leon Clark, a cherished granddaughter Toya MacDonald, a great grandson, Tomas Martin, a sister-in-law, Mrs. Rowena Willson, and devoted brother-in-law, Thomas Glass. Her nieces Rhonda Merritt, Sonya Davis, Tangela Culpepper, Kamalie Culpepper, Robbie Clark, Ashley Roach Gardiner, and grand nieces Audrey and Olivia Gardiner, Markita Loisy, Rose Herard, Jasmine Herard, and Brianna Hyman. Her nephews Dr. Dwight Wilson, Thomas Glass, Jr., Steve Fisher and Fernando Loisy.

Of her extended siblings, six step brothers, sisters, their mates and children: Dan Peoples, James Peoples, Deborah Ellis, Jacquelyn P. Riley, Gail Glass Alrich, Jacquelyn Glass, Linda Glass Bell, Alfred Glass Bell, Alfred Glass, Tracy Glass, Terry Glass, a goddaughter, Trina Stafford, the clergy members and family members and families of St. Ann's, St. Thomas, and St. James-in-the-Hills Episcopal Churches in Hallandale and Hollywood, Florida. Other extended family members—They Taylors, a devoted and compassionate friend and godmother of Troy Andrews, Maureen S. Bethel, other friends throughout the years—Mrs. Jacquelyn Singleton, Mrs. Joyce Langston, Mrs. Beverly Williams, Mrs. Ulee Major, Booker T. Washington High School Classmates of 1955, and several cousins, associates and business partners.

Mr. Speaker. I once again want to honor Mrs. Angelean "Angie" Clark Glass for her dedication and commitment to education, her community, and to her family. She was a kind human being whose legacy and memory will always live on. I was truly proud to call Angie my friend and will miss her dearly.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF LOUIS STOKES, CIVIL RIGHTS CHAMPION, WORLD WAR II VETERAN, ADVOCATE FOR THE DISADVANTAGED, OHIO'S FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN CONGRESSMAN, EXCEPTIONAL LEGISLATOR, AND BELOVED MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to speak in praise of Louis Stokes, one of the greatest and most respected Members ever to serve in this body, who died on Tuesday, August 18, 2015, at his home near Cleveland, Ohio at the age of 90.

It is not unusual in these days for commentators and politicians to talk of something called "American Exceptionalism."

But what is meant by the term?

Mr. Speaker, one way to understand the term: America is exceptional because it produces and finds persons like Louis Stokes and affords them the opportunity to utilize their talents to the fullest in the service of their community and their country.

Think about it: in what other nation does a little African American boy born in 1925 on the east side of Cleveland and raised in the Outhwaite Homes housing project by a mother who worked as a domestic go on to become a lawyer who argues and wins a landmark criminal justice reform case (Terry v. Ohio, 392 U.S. 1 (1968)) in the United States Supreme Court; become the first African American elected to Congress; is selected to chair the powerful Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, the Select Committee on Assassinations, and an Appropriations Subcommittee responsible for more than $90 billion annually in federal outlays?

Yes, America is an exceptional nation and Louis Stokes was an exceptional human being.

Mr. Speaker, Louis Stokes was born on February 23, 1925, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Charles and Louise Cinthy (nee Stone) Stokes.

When he was three years old, his father, who worked in a laundromat, died leaving young Louis and his younger brother, Carl, to be raised by their mother, who worked as a domestic for affluent families in the wealthy Cleveland suburbs.

Louis Stokes' maternal grandmother played a critical role in his life because she took care of the Stokes boys while their mother was at work and instilled in them "the idea that work with your hands is the hard way of doing things" and encouraged them over and over "to learn to use their heads."

Louis Stokes took the advice to heart so after attending Cleveland's Central High School and serving in the U.S. Army during World War II, he returned home to attend what is now Case Western Reserve University on the G.I. Bill at night while working during the day for the Veterans Administration and the Department of the Treasury.

After graduating from college in two years where he excelled as a student, Louis Stokes was accepted for admission to Cleveland Marshall School of Law, from which he graduated in 1953; three years later, his brother Carl would also graduate from Cleveland Marshall School of Law and the two of them would go on to form the law firm of Stokes & Stokes specializing in the areas of civil rights and criminal law.

In 1964, the Supreme Court decided the landmark case of Reynolds v. Sims, 377 U.S. 533 (1964), which established the principle of "one person, one vote" governing the reapportionment of legislative boundaries.

The following year, working on behalf of the local branch of the NAACP, Louis Stokes led the legal challenge to the Ohio legislature's congressional redistricting, which had the effect of diluting African American voting strength in Cleveland.

The challenge was unsuccessful in the federal district court but undeterred, Louis Stokes, joined by Charles Lucas, an African American Republican, successfully appealed the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court, which in an order handed down in 1967 ruled the redistricting plan unconstitutional and ordered it redrawn, resulting in the creation of Ohio's first majority-black district, the 21st Congressional District of Ohio.

Ironically, Louis Stokes would defeat his one-time ally Charles Lucas to win that seat in November 1968, capturing 75% of the vote, the closest of his 15 successful elections to the U.S. House of Representatives.

For the next 30 years, from 1969 to 1999, Congressman Stokes tirelessly fought for his constituents in Cleveland and for the best interests of the people of Ohio and the United States.

Louis Stokes, a founding member and Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus from 1972–74, was the epitome of a public servant.

In his second term in Congress, he won appointment to the powerful House Appropriations Committee, where he served for 28 years, later becoming the second African American "Cardinal" in history when he was selected to chair the VA, HUD, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Because of the esteem in which he was held by his colleagues and the leadership, Louis Stokes would also later be selected to chair the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Select Committee charged with investigating the assassinations of President Kennedy and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

As Chairman of the House Ethics Committee and a person of unquestioned integrity, Louis Stokes oversaw the committee's investigation of the corruption scandal known as ABSCAM in 1979–80, which eventually led to convictions of a senator and six House members.

Mr. Speaker, Louis Stokes perhaps is best known for the national attention he attracted in 1987 as a member of the House Select Committee to Investigate Covert Arms Transactions with Iran ("Iran-Contra"), the scandal involving the illegal sale of military weapons to

the Ayatollah Khomeini's Iran to generate money to fund the illegal contra war in Nicaragua.

In response to the claim by Colonel Oliver North that he acted out of patriotism in engineering the illegal weapons sales and diverting the proceeds to fund the contras, a stern Louis Stokes lectured the misguided Colonel North on the rule of law, the true meaning of patriotism, and, in the process American exceptionalism:

> I suppose that what has been most disturbing to me about your testimony is the ugly part. In fact, it has been more than ugly. It has been chilling, and, in fact, frightening. I'm not just talking about your part in this, but the entire scenario, about government officials who plotted and conspired, who set up a straw man, a fall guy. Officials who lied, misrepresented and deceived. Officials who planned to superimpose upon our government a layer outside of our government, shrouded in secrecy and only accountable to the conspirators.
>
> Colonel, as I sit here this morning looking at you in your uniform, I cannot help but remember that I wore the uniform of this country in World War II in a segregated Army. I wore it as proudly as you do, even though our government required black and white soldiers in the same Army to live, sleep, eat and travel separate and apart, while fighting and dying for our country. But because of the rule of law, today's servicemen in America suffer no such indignity.
>
> My mother, a widow, raised two boys. She had an eighth-grade education. She was a domestic worker who scrubbed floors. One son became the first black mayor of a major American city. The other sits today as chairman of a House intelligence committee. Only in America, Col. North. Only in America. And while I admire your love for America, I hope that you will never forget that others too love America just as much as you do and that others will die for America, just as quick as you will.

Louis Stokes never wavered in his belief that America could fulfill the promise of its Founders or his dedication to the principles of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, stating:

> I'm going to keep on denouncing the inequities of this system, but I'm going to work within it. To go outside the system would be to deny myself—to deny my own existence. I've beaten the system. I've proved it can be done—so have a lot of others.
>
> But the problem is that a black man has to be extra special to win in this system. Why should you have to be a super black to get someplace? That's what's wrong in the society. The ordinary black man doesn't have the same chance as the ordinary white man does.

Mr. Speaker, Louis Stokes' commitment to fairness and equal treatment started long before he was elected to Congress.

As a lawyer for the NAACP, he brought anti-discrimination lawsuits, represented demonstrators arrested in anti-discrimination marches and sit-ins, and took the cases of poor persons charged with crimes.

One of those criminal cases he took is known to every lawyer in America and appreciated by every person who cherishes the protections guaranteed by the 4th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

I am speaking of the famous case of Terry v. Ohio, 392 U.S. 1 (1968) won by Louis Stokes in which the Supreme Court held that a police officer could "stop and frisk" an individual only where he could articulate a reasonable basis that the person was, or was about to be, engaged in criminal activity.

As a result of Terry v. Ohio, a police officer has the right to stop, frisk, and question an individual he reasonably suspects to be engaged in criminal activity, but cannot seize items from that person if the pat down of the suspect's outer clothing does not reveal any weapons posing a threat to the officer's safety.

Because of Louis Stokes' exceptional advocacy in Terry v. Ohio, the right of every individual to secure from unreasonable searches and seizures was preserved while at the same not impeding the ability of law enforcement officers to perform their duties safely.

Mr. Speaker, every citizen benefits from this ruling and communities that have a history of being harassed by law enforcement protected by the Constitution from arbitrary and abusive treatment by law enforcement.

But the fight for a criminal justice system that respects the rights of all persons is not over.

That is why I am proud to be the Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations and a leader in the effort to reform the criminal justice system so that all persons receive fair and equal treatment regardless of their race, gender, religion, or national origin.

Louis Stokes fought tirelessly to fulfill the promise of the 14th Amendment that "no state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

It is a fight I am proud to continue today.

Mr. Speaker, Louis Stokes will be mourned by friends and colleagues on both sides of the aisle who had the privilege to serve alongside him.

He was a mentor to me and I will always remember his commanding presence and cherish the assistance he provided me and the example he set for new Members to follow.

My thoughts and prayers are with his Jay, Louis' beloved wife of 55 years; to his children, Shelly, Louis, Angela, and Lorene; his grandchildren; and the untold thousands of persons who touched and whose lives were touched by one of Cleveland's greatest sons.

Mr. Speaker I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of Louis Stokes, an exceptional American, and the gentleman from Ohio who served in this chamber for three decades with honor, integrity, and distinction.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF FORMER WASHINGTON STATE SENATOR BOB MORTON, A LIFELONG ADVOCATE FOR NORTHEASTERN WASHINGTON

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, in August, Washington State lost one of our best, former Washington State Senator Bob Morton. Today, I rise to celebrate his life and the legacy he leaves behind in Northeastern Washington.

Before winning election to the Washington State House of Representatives, Bob was a farmer, flew as a bush pilot in Alaska and cloud seeder in Spokane, and was a logger in Northeastern Washington. Bob was also a minister and helped perform my wedding ceremony to my husband, Brian.

In 1990, Senator Morton was elected to the Washington State House of Representatives, where he served until his appointment to the Washington State Senate in 1994. In the Senate, Senator Morton was a tireless champion for the 7th legislative district in Northeastern Washington, focusing on issues closest to his constituents and serving as Chair of the Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee and Chair of the Agriculture & Environment Committee. He believed in the people and the way of life we enjoy in Northeastern Washington. He was most comfortable in cowboy boots and a cowboy hat. He passionately fought for our priorities which on one occasion, led him to be graveled down by the President of the Senate for blowing a railroad whistle on the Senate floor when he thought he was being railroaded by legislation.

Ahead of his time to promote forest health, Senator Morton championed the idea of thinning the trees in our forests in order that they may be less susceptible to catastrophic fire. He also spearheaded efforts to develop a statewide plan to preserve the health of forests across Washington State. Senator Morton also advocated to protect water rights for agriculture use and to defend livestock from wild animal predation.

In 2006, Senator Morton was instrumental in passing historical water legislation that sought out new water supplies through the construction of new storage facilities and conservation measures. During this time, he was also known for carrying around a seven foot tall pole that depicted the flow of the Columbia River. At the bill signing ceremony, Senator Morton presented this pole to Governor Gregoire as a gift.

Senator Morton was also passionate about compiling and distributing an annual salmon report. He was committed to protecting our way of life even if it meant proposing to split the state in two.

Senator Morton was extremely well liked and respected, not only by his constituents and staff, but by Senators on both sides of the aisle. A man of strong convictions, he epitomized a perfect gentleman, respectful of all viewpoints and always ready with just the right words to say.

On a personal note, Bob was my mentor, a role model, an inspiration, and constant encouragement. As Senator, he was a tremendous example both in his devotion to God and to his community. As a young college graduate, I had the distinct honor of working for Bob as his legislative aide while he served in the Washington State House of Representatives. Bob took a chance on me—he believed in me and I will forever be grateful for his support and encouragement.

I rise to thank Senator Bob Morton for his years of dedication and service to Northeastern Washington. Bob lived his life to demonstrate God's love. Whenever I see someone with a cowboy hat walking the halls of Congress, I will fondly remember State Senator Bob Morton, his love for God, and for people.

My thoughts and prayers remain with his wife, Linda, his children, and other family members and friends. They don't come any better than Bob Morton.

BICENTENNIAL OF ALLEN COUNTY, KENTUCKY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bicentennial of Allen County, Kentucky, located in the First Congressional District. This momentous occasion not only celebrates the rich history of Allen County, but the many thousands of residents who over the years have made it a vibrant and thriving community.

Allen County was formed in 1815, the fifty-seventh county in the Commonwealth, and named in honor of Colonel John Allen, a hero of the War of 1812. Soldiers made their way into the hilly terrain of Allen County during the Civil War, and Dumont Hill, which currently serves as a park, remains a link to this past.

The area's largest source of tourism came about in 1964 when the Port Oliver Dam on the Barren River was completed, creating the 2,187-acre Barren River Lake State Resort Park. Aside from Barren River Lake, Allen County offers tourists a wide range of activities throughout the year. From summer concert series to one of the area's largest Christmas parades, Allen County boasts many active people and organizations and is always eager to showcase its recently revitalized downtown. Jacksonian Days, held in the fall, is a weeklong street festival revolving around the old hotel, long rumored to have been a stop on President Andrew Jackson's commute to and from his home in Nashville to Washington, D.C.

This progressive community offers small-town hospitality with access to metropolitan amenities. It also has a thriving industrial base, including Halton Company and Sumitomo. Dollar General was founded in the area over 75 years ago and remains a leading employer today, along with the J.M. Smucker Company, whose plant produces in excess of one million sandwiches per day, making Allen County the largest peanut butter and jelly sandwich producer in the nation.

To commemorate the county's bicentennial, community leaders and residents of Allen County have planned several events to educate Kentuckians about the history of Allen County and celebrate its residents and culture. One such event was a one-act play entitled, ''Allen County: A Work in Progress.'' The play featured familiar characters remembering the people, places, and events of Allen County's past. A free live concert was also held in July featuring Scottsville's own Sweetwater and starring country superstars Diamond Rio on the public square.

It is my privilege to represent Allen County in the U.S. House of Representatives and I hope my colleagues in Congress will join me in celebrating this community and its residents.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF JIM AND LEE VANOY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize my friends, Jim and Lee Vanoy, on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Jim and Lee met on a blind date in July of 1965 and less than six weeks later eloped and were married on August 26, 1965. Because of the Vietnam War draft rules, many couples were married on that date.

Together Jim and Lee raised two boys, Van and Ben. They are the proud grandparents of four grandchildren, Courtney, Taylor, Blake, and Alex.

The Vanoy family made their home in Opelika, Alabama, for the last 45 years. Jim is retired from the Uniroyal Tire plant and Lee, after serving many years as a church secretary, currently serves as the county voter registrar.

They enjoy Bible studies, doing home repair for the elderly, and traveling.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing this couple a very Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary.

HONORING THE 24TH ANNIVERSARY OF MACEDONIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Macedonian-American community in honor of their homeland's Independence Day. The people of the Republic of Macedonia voted on September 8, 1991, to officially gain independence from the former Yugoslavia. By voting for independence, the people decided that it was time for their country to forge its own path and to begin a new era in their history. This 24th anniversary of their independence provides us all an opportunity to recognize the Macedonian-American community's significant contributions within the United States.

Since 2001, Macedonia has been one of the staunchest allies of the United States in the War on Terror. Macedonia was the fourth and fifth largest contributor of troops, per capita, in the mission in Afghanistan. Macedonian troops guarded American troops at the compound in Kabul. And, Macedonia welcomed 50,000 and 400,000 refugees during the wars in Bosnia and Kosovo, respectively. For a country of little over two million, Macedonia has done its fair share and deserves to be in NATO. On that note, I ask that you join me, and 34 colleagues, in cosponsoring H. Res. 56 in support of Macedonia's NATO accession at the Warsaw Summit in 2016.

This month will also mark the 20th year of full diplomatic relations between the United States and Macedonia. With American support, Macedonia has become a model of stability in a region known for ethnic strife and tension. Recently, Macedonia has been struck with the unprecedented refugee crisis facing Europe, as thousands of migrants and refugees have fled war-torn countries in the Middle East and North Africa. This year alone, an estimated 70,000 migrants have traveled through Macedonia, and the Macedonian government is attempting to organize an orderly response to the influx of people, including organizing daily trains to ferry migrants from the southern to the northern border. If the partnership between the United States and Macedonia is to remain strong, the country needs our continued support. I also use this opportunity to urge Macedonia's leaders to continue strengthening their institutions and reforming its democracy and rule of law.

As a way to recognize and strengthen this partnership, I started the first Congressional Caucus on Macedonia and Macedonian-Americans. This Caucus is a bipartisan group of members of Congress dedicated to maintaining and strengthening a positive and mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and the Republic of Macedonia, as well as advocating for the concerns and interests of the Macedonian community in the United States.

Michigan's 10th District has one of the largest populations of Macedonian-Americans in the Nation. Over Labor Day weekend, St. Mary Macedonian Orthodox Cathedral in Sterling Heights, Michigan hosted the 41st Annual American-Canadian Macedonian Orthodox Convention, bringing thousands of guests from throughout the U.S. and Canada to my District. I would like to acknowledge their contributions to our District and our State, and I look forward to continuing that relationship as we deal with the problems facing our great Nation.

Again, congratulations to all of Macedonian heritage for their achievements as we commemorate the anniversary of Macedonia's independence.

RECOGNIZING WAYNE WATTS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Wayne Watts, General Counsel and Senior Executive Vice President of AT&T. Mr. Watts served a total of 32 years at AT&T, starting as a rookie lawyer in the litigation department of what was then Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. As he enters retirement, it is fitting that this body honors Mr. Watts and his significant career that was embodied by his commitment to improving the Dallas community and beyond.

Mr. Watts was born in Abilene and raised in the blue-collar Dallas neighborhood of Oak Cliff. He went on to receive an undergraduate degree from the University of Texas-Arlington, and a Juris Doctorate from the Dedman School of Law at Southern Methodist University. Throughout his career, his affection for Dallas and all of its people only grew.

In his role at AT&T, Mr. Watts was directly involved in negotiating dozens of mergers and acquisitions with a combined value of nearly $250 billion. These negotiations saw Southwestern Bell transform from the smallest of the

Baby Bell companies into AT&T, the world's largest communications business.

In addition to his professional successes, Mr. Watts was committed to enriching his community. He gained national fame for influencing law firms to hire and promote more women and minorities. He constantly pushed his legal staff of thousands of global lawyers to do more pro bono and public service work. In addition to being a member of the advisory boards of the SMU Dedman School of Law, the Salvation Army's Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex Command, and the Development Board at the University of Texas at Arlington, he serves on the board of Texas Access to Justice, a non-profit which provides funding for poor and indigent people who need legal services.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Watts' leadership has brought the business community and the greater community of Dallas and the United States resounding success. I recognize Mr. Watts as a great businessman, but more importantly, as a great American who devoted his career to expanding opportunities for others.

REMEMBERING CONGRESSMAN LOUIS STOKES

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and service of a good friend, Congressman Louis Stokes. He was the voice of the people of Cleveland, Ohio in the House of Representatives for 30 years and will be missed by every person he touched. Although I never had the privilege of serving with Lou, he was a dear friend to my husband and they did much good work together on many critical issues, including civil rights. I will always remember him for his thoughtfulness, graciousness, and integrity.

Born on February 23, 1925 in Cleveland, Congressman Stokes revealed the true nature of his character at an early age when he started shining shoes and clerking at an Army/Navy store to supplement the income of his widowed mother. A man dedicated to public service, he served our nation honorably in the U.S. Army and continued his service when he returned home through working at the VA and Treasury Department offices in Cleveland. He also made a name for himself as a civil rights lawyer while working for the Cleveland NAACP, and ran for Congress successfully in 1968.

In Congress, Lou was a strong voice for minorities and the disadvantaged. A founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressman Stokes served as Chairman of the group for two consecutive terms beginning in 1972. Through his seat on the Appropriations Committee, Congressman Stokes advanced civil rights in this country by fighting against segregation and in support of affirmative action and fair housing. His legacy on these issues can still be felt today.

Congress would do good to follow the example that Congressman Stokes set for all of us—that what matters most in this body is that you put your head down, do what is right for your constituents, and vote your conscience. The thing I remember most about Lou is that he never forgot where he came from and always put the people of Cleveland first. My thoughts and prayers are with the Stokes family during this difficult time. It is my hope that all members of this Congress will be inspired by the great example that Congressman Louis Stokes set for all of us and by the contributions he made to this country.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6437–S6475

Measures Reported:

Reported on Friday, August 28, during the adjournment:

S. 1251, to implement the Amendment to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, as adopted at Lisbon, Portugal on September 28, 2007. (S. Rept. No. 114–120)

S. 1315, to protect the right of law-abiding citizens to transport knives interstate, notwithstanding a patchwork of local and State prohibitions. (S. Rept. No. 114–121)

S. 1493, to provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2015, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans. (S. Rept. No. 114–122)

Report to accompany H.R. 1531, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide a pathway for temporary seasonal employees in Federal land management agencies to compete for vacant permanent positions under internal merit promotion procedures. (S. Rept. No. 114–123)

Reported on Tuesday, September 8:

S. 1137, to amend title 35, United States Code, and the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act to make improvements and technical corrections, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6466**

Measures Passed:

Small Business Development Centers of the United States Anniversary: Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 243, celebrating the 35th anniversary of the Small Business Development Centers of the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S6469**

Measures Considered:

Hire More Heroes Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of H.J. Res. 61, amending 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, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S6441–55**

Pending:

McConnell Amendment No. 2640, of a perfecting nature. **Page S6441**

McConnell Amendment No. 2641 (to Amendment No. 2640), to change the enactment date. **Page S6441**

McConnell Amendment No. 2642 (to Amendment No. 2641), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6441**

McConnell Amendment No. 2643 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 2640), to change the enactment date. **Page S6441**

McConnell Amendment No. 2644 (to Amendment No. 2643), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6441**

McConnell motion to commit the joint resolution to the Committee on Foreign Relations, with instructions, McConnell Amendment No. 2645, to change the enactment date. **Page S6441**

McConnell Amendment No. 2646 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 2645), of a perfecting nature. **Pages S6441–42**

McConnell Amendment No. 2647 (to Amendment No. 2646), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6442**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the joint resolution at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, September 9, 2015, with the time until 12:30 p.m., equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m., to allow for the weekly conference meetings; and that the time from 2:15 p.m. until 7

p.m., also be equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees, and that the time from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., be controlled by the Democrats, and from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., be controlled by the Majority. **Page S6469**

Appointments:

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 106–286, appointed the following Member to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Senator Sasse. **Page S6469**

Congressional Award Board: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 96–114, as amended, appointed the following individual to the Congressional Award Board: David Schiappa, of Maryland. **Page S6469**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By a unanimous vote of 96 yeas (Vote No. EX. 263), Roseann A. Ketchmark, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri. **Pages S6455–57, S6475**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Clare E. Connors, of Hawaii, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii.

Stephanie A. Gallagher, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland.

Mary S. McElroy, of Rhode Island, to be United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island.

Edward L. Gilmore, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Illinois for the term of four years.

4 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, and Navy. **Pages S6469–75**

Messages from the House: **Page S6461**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6461–66**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6466–68**

Additional Statements: **Pages S6459–61**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S6468–69**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—263) **Page S6457**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 6:25 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6469.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 13 public bills, H.R. 3442–3454; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 65; H. Con. Res. 73–74; and H. Res. 409–410, were introduced. **Page H5847**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5848–50**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1344, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–241);

H.R. 2820, to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–242);

H.R. 3154, to allow manufacturers to meet warranty and labeling requirements for consumer products by displaying the terms of warranties on Internet websites, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–243);

H.R. 1462, to combat the rise of prenatal opioid abuse and neonatal abstinence syndrome (H. Rept. 114–244);

H.R. 1725, to amend and reauthorize the controlled substance monitoring program under section 399O of the Public Health Service Act, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–245);

H.R. 758, to amend Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to improve attorney accountability, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–246);

H.R. 2954, to designate the Federal building located at 617 Walnut Street in Helena, Arkansas, as the "Jacob Trieber Federal Building, United States Post Office, and United States Court House" (H. Rept. 114–247);

S. 261, to designate the United States courthouse located at 200 NW 4th Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as the William J. Holloway, Jr. United States Courthouse (H. Rept. 114–248);

H.R. 3114, to provide funds to the Army Corps of Engineers to hire veterans and members of the Armed Forces to assist the Corps with curation and historic preservation activities, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–249);

H.R. 487, to allow the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma to lease or transfer certain lands (H. Rept. 114–250);

H.R. 959, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Medgar Evers House, located in Jackson, Mississippi, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–251);

H.R. 1949, to provide for the consideration and submission of site and design proposals for the National Liberty Memorial approved for establishment in the District of Columbia (H. Rept. 114–252);

H.R. 1937, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to more efficiently develop domestic sources of the minerals and mineral materials of strategic and critical importance to United States economic and national security and manufacturing competitiveness (H. Rept. 114–253, Part 1);

H.R. 2791, to require that certain Federal lands be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of certain Indian tribes in Oregon, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–254);

S. 501, to make technical corrections to the Navajo water rights settlement in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–255); and

H. Res. 408, providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 64) disapproving of the agreement transmitted to Congress by the President on July 19, 2015, relating to the nuclear program of Iran (H. Rept. 114–256). **Pages H5846–47**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Womack to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H5789**

Privileged Resolution—Intent to Offer: Representative Roskam announced his intent to offer a privileged resolution. **Pages H5791–94**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:39 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m. **Page H5794**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act of 2015: H.R. 1344, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children; **Pages H5794–96**

National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Reauthorization Act of 2015: H.R. 1725, amended, to amend and reauthorize the controlled substance monitoring program under section 399O of the Public Health Service Act; **Pages H5796–98**

Protecting Our Infants Act of 2015: H.R. 1462, to combat the rise of prenatal opioid abuse and neonatal abstinence syndrome; **Pages H5798–H5801**

Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015: H.R. 2820, to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005; and **Pages H5801–04**

E-Warranty Act of 2015: S. 1359, to allow manufacturers to meet warranty and labeling requirements for consumer products by displaying the terms of warranties on Internet websites, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 388 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 490. **Pages H5804–05, H5805–06**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:57 p.m. and reconvened at 6:32 p.m. **Page H5805**

Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Con. Res. 70, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. **Page H5806**

Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Con. Res. 73, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 2nd Annual Fallen Firefighters Congressional Flag Presentation Ceremony. **Page H5806**

Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Con. Res. 74, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for an event to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Million Man March. **Pages H5806–07**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H5789 and H5790.

Senate Referrals: S. 1297, S. 1523, S. 1707, and S. 1347 were held at the desk. S. 267 was referred to the Committee on Armed Services. S. 1826, S. 1596,

and S. 1576 were referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. S. 1362 was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Page H5826

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appears on pages H5805–06. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Committee Meetings

JOINT RESOLUTION DISAPPROVING OF THE AGREEMENT TRANSMITTED TO CONGRESS BY THE PRESIDENT ON JULY 19, 2015, RELATING TO THE NUCLEAR PROGRAM OF IRAN

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.J. Res. 64, disapproving of the agreement transmitted to Congress by the President on July 19, 2015, relating to the nuclear program of Iran. The committee granted, by voice vote, a closed rule for H.J. Res. 64. The rule provides ten hours of debate equally divided among and controlled by the respective chairs and ranking minority members of the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, the Judiciary, Oversight and Government Reform, and Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution. The rule provides that the joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the joint resolution. The rule provides a final period of debate, which shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. The rule provides one motion to recommit. In section 2, the rule provides that upon receipt of a message from the Senate transmitting H.J. Res. 61 with a Senate amendment to the text thereof consisting only of the text of H.J. Res. 64 as passed by the House, the House shall be considered to have concurred in the Senate amendment or amendments. Testimony was heard from Chairman Royce and Representatives Maxine Waters of California, Levin, Gohmert, and Jackson Lee.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D922)*

H.R. 876, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require hospitals to provide certain notifications to individuals classified by such hospitals under observation status rather than admitted as inpatients of such hospitals. Signed on August 6, 2015. (Public Law 114–42)

H.R. 1626, to reduce duplication of information technology at the Department of Homeland Security. Signed on August 6, 2015. (Public Law 114–43)

S. 1482, to improve and reauthorize provisions relating to the application of the antitrust laws to the award of need-based educational aid. Signed on August 6, 2015. (Public Law 114–44)

H.R. 212, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of algal toxins in drinking water. Signed on August 7, 2015. (Public Law 114–45)

H.R. 1138, to establish certain wilderness areas in central Idaho and to authorize various land conveyances involving National Forest System land and Bureau of Land Management land in central Idaho. Signed on August 7, 2015. (Public Law 114–46)

H.R. 1531, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide a pathway for temporary seasonal employees in Federal land management agencies to compete for vacant permanent positions under internal merit promotion procedures. Signed on August 7, 2015. (Public Law 114–47)

H.R. 2131, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 83 Meeting Street in Charleston, South Carolina, as the ''J. Waties Waring Judicial Center''. Signed on August 7, 2015. (Public Law 114–48)

H.R. 2559, to designate the ''PFC Milton A. Lee Medal of Honor Memorial Highway'' in the State of Texas. Signed on August 7, 2015. (Public Law 114–49)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 10 a.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Seapower, hearing entitled ''The Future of Air Force Long-Range Strike—capabilities and employment concepts'', 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Restoring the Trust for Young Americans'', 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Power; and Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, joint hearing entitled ''Oversight of the

Nuclear Regulatory Commission'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''Protecting Affordable Coverage for Employees'', 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Task Force to Investigate Terrorism Financing, hearing entitled ''Could America Do More? An Examination of U.S. Efforts to Stop the Financing of Terror'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Implications of a Nuclear Agreement with Iran, Part IV'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled ''Agricultural Trade with Cuba'', 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats; and Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, joint hearing entitled ''The Role of Water in Avoiding Conflict and Building Prosperity'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Planned Parenthood Exposed: Examining the Horrific Abortion Practices at the Nation's Largest Abortion Provider'', 10:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 538, the ''Native American Energy Act''; H.R. 1541, the ''PRISM Act''; H.R. 1644, the ''STREAM Act''; H.R. 1880, the ''Albuquerque Indian School Land Transfer Act''; H.R. 2130, the ''Red River Private Property Protection Act''; H.R. 2168, the ''West Coast Dungeness Crab Management Act''; and H.R. 2288, to remove the use restrictions on certain land transferred to Rockingham County, Virginia, and for other purposes, 4 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Violence on the Border: Keeping U.S. Personnel Safe'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Holding EPA Accountable for Polluting Western Waters'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of September 9 through September 11, 2015

Senate Chamber

On *Wednesday*, at approximately 10 a.m., Senate will continue consideration of H.J. Res. 61, Hire More Heroes Act.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Select Committee on Intelligence: September 9, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 10 a.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Armed Services, September 10, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled ''Optimized Fleet Response Plan'', 8 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

September 10, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled ''The Obama Administration's Deal with Iran: Implications for Missile Defense and Nonproliferation'', 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, September 10, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training, hearing entitled ''Preventing and Responding to Sexual Assault on College Campuses'', 10 a.m., 2261 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, September 10, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, markup on H.R. 702, to adapt to changing crude oil market conditions, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

September 11, Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, hearing entitled ''Oversight of Federal Facility Cleanup under CERCLA'', 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

September 11, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''Strengthening Medicaid Program Integrity and Closing Loopholes'', 9:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, September 10, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations; and Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises, joint hearing entitled ''Preserving Retirement Security and Investment Choices for All Americans'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, September 10, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere; and Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, joint hearing entitled ''China's Advance in Latin America and the Caribbean'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

September 11, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Implications of a Nuclear Agreement with Iran, Part V'', 9 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, September 10, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, markup on Committee Print of the ''Promoting Resilience and Efficiency in Preparing for Attacks and Responding to Emergencies Act'', 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, September 10, Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, hearing entitled ''The State of Competition in the Health Care Marketplace: The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's Impact on Competition'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

September 10, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled ''Unmanned Aerial Vehicles: Commercial Applications and Public Policy Implications'', 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, September 10, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 538, the ''Native American Energy Act''; H.R. 1541, the ''PRISM Act''; H.R. 1644, the ''STREAM Act''; H.R. 1880, the ''Albuquerque Indian School Land Transfer Act''; H.R. 2130, the ''Red River Private Property Protection Act''; H.R. 2168, the ''West Coast Dungeness Crab Management Act''; and H.R. 2288, to remove the use restrictions on certain land

transferred to Rockingham County, Virginia, and for other purposes (continued), 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

September 11, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on H.R. 3036, the ''National 9/11 Memorial at the World Trade Center Act'', 9 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, September 10, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''GSA: Army Fee Assistance'', 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, September 10, Subcommittee on Oversight; and Subcommittee on Energy, joint hearing entitled ''Examining Vulnerabilities of America's Power Supply'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

September 10, Subcommittee on Research and Technology, markup on Committee Print of the ''Surface Transportation Research and Development Act of 2015''; and H.R. 2886, the ''Future Transportation Research and Innovation for Prosperity Act'', 2:30 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

September 11, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled ''State Perspectives: How EPA's Power Plan Will Shut Down Power Plants'', 9 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, September 10, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled ''A Review of Licensing and Credentialing Standards for Servicemembers and Veterans: Do Barriers Still Remain?'', 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, September 10, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 692, the ''Default Prevention Act''; and H.R. 3442, the ''Debt Management and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2015'', 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, September 10, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''World Wide Cyber Threats'', 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 6 through August 31, 2015

	Senate	*House*	*Total*
Days in session	115	105	..
Time in session	738 hrs, 50′	533 hrs, 28′	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	6,436	5,788	..
Extensions of Remarks	..	1,211	..
Public bills enacted into law	10	39	49
Private bills enacted into law	..	..	..
Bills in conference	2	2	..
Measures passed, total	266	331	597
Senate bills	54	11	..
House bills	44	212	..
Senate joint resolutions	1	1	..
House joint resolutions	1	3	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	8	5	..
House concurrent resolutions	14	16	..
Simple resolutions	144	83	..
Measures reported, total	* 180	* 234	414
Senate bills	136	2	..
House bills	19	184	..
Senate joint resolutions	..	..	..
House joint resolutions	..	1	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	1	..	..
House concurrent resolutions	..	3	..
Simple resolutions	24	44	..
Special reports	17	5	..
Conference reports	1	1	..
Measures pending on calendar	129	46	..
Measures introduced, total	2,289	3,984	6,273
Bills	2,000	3,441	..
Joint resolutions	21	64	..
Concurrent resolutions	20	72	..
Simple resolutions	248	407	..
Quorum calls	6	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	262	187	..
Recorded votes	..	301	..
Bills vetoed	2	..	..
Vetoes overridden	..	..	..

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 6 through August 31, 2015

Civilian nominations, totaling 286, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	87
Unconfirmed	192
Withdrawn	7
Other Civilian nominations, totaling 2,466, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,997
Unconfirmed	468
Withdrawn	1
Air Force nominations, totaling 4,897, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	3,435
Unconfirmed	1,461
Withdrawn	1
Army nominations, totaling 1,708, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,700
Unconfirmed	8
Navy nominations, totaling 1,952, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,950
Unconfirmed	2
Marine Corps nominations, totaling 1,064, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,064

Summary

Total nominations carried over from the First Session	0
Total nominations received this Session	12,373
Total confirmed	10,233
Total unconfirmed	2,131
Total withdrawn	9
Total returned to the White House	0

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, September 9

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of H.J. Res. 61, Hire More Heroes Act.

(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

10 a.m., Wednesday, September 9

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Begin consideration of H.J. Res. 64—Disapproving of the agreement transmitted to Congress by the President on July 19, 2015, relating to the nuclear program of Iran (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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Beyer, Donald S., Jr., Va. E1219
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