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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 12, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JACK BERGMAN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair would now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

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

Loving and gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Help us this day to draw closer to You so that with Your spirit, and aware of Your presence among us, we may all face the tasks of this day with grace and confidence.

Bless the Members of the people's House as they return from a long weekend back in their home districts.

With fascinating and rather dramatic political developments taking place around the world, may we Americans remain all the more committed to our constitutional form of government. May Your gifts of wisdom and insight pour forth on this assembly, so that the wisdom of our Founders might be further enhanced by the work being done in this place.

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 Florida (Mr. DEUTCH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DEUTCH 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.

ALZHEIMER'S AND BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month.

Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States, impacting more than 500,000 people in Florida, and 5 million Americans nationwide. It is also the only top 10 cause of death in America that cannot be prevented or cured.

Beyond the statistics, finding treatments and cures for Alzheimer's is a deeply personal mission to so many people, including myself.

In Florida, the Byrd Alzheimer's Institute at USF is one of the largest freestanding institutes dedicated to Alzheimer's research in the Nation. Their work brings us closer to cures and treatments every day.

We are also making great strides in the fight against Alzheimer's with the 21st Century Cures Act. This historic, nonpartisan legislation, which was signed into law late last year, creates a national data collection system for neurological diseases. Better data will pave the path forward to better treatments.

PULSE NIGHTCLUB SHOOTING ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, ''There will never be an end.'' That is how Emily Addison described the love and the loss she feels for her partner and the mother of her son, Deonka Drayton.

Deonka was one of 49 victims killed at Pulse Nightclub in Orlando 1 year ago today. She was one of hundreds who had gone to Pulse that night as a place of celebration, a place of joy, and a place of pride.

We mark 1 year since the worst mass shooting in our history, an act of terror against the LGBT community, and

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we mark this somber event today during Pride Month.

This day creates enormous tension for the LGBT community and its allies. Our hearts are broken for the victims and for their families.

We are angry, we are frustrated, yet we are still filled with pride. We are proud of the lives they lived, though they were cut far too short.

Today, I stand with the LGBT community. And together, we stand against hatred, we stand against terror, and we stand for love and for pride, pride that has no end.

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, June 9, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
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 June 9, 2017, at 11:43 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S.J. Res. 45.

That the Senate passed S. 826.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1543

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at 3 o'clock and 43 minutes 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.

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

EXTENDING DEADLINE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT NUMBERED 12737

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 446) to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 446

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 12737, the Commission may, at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, in accordance with the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of that section and the Commission's procedures under that section, extend the time period during which the licensee is required to commence the construction of the project for up to 3 consecutive 2-year periods from the date of the expiration of the extension originally issued by the Commission.

(b) REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSE.—If the period required for commencement of construction of the project described in subsection (a) has expired prior to the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission may reinstate the license for the project effective as of the date of its expiration and the first extension authorized under subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of such expiration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 446.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 446 authorizes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, upon request, to extend by 6 years the time period during which construction must commence on the Gathright Hydroelectric Project located in Alleghany County, Virginia. Additionally, FERC may reinstate the construction license if it is expired.

A similar bill was passed under suspension of the rules in the 114th Congress in a bipartisan way, and I would hope that we can do it today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 446, a bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project, introduced by Mr. GRIFFITH.

On March 13, 2012, FERC licensed the Gathright Hydroelectric Project to be located at the Army Corps of Engineers' Gathright Dam on the Jackson River in Alleghany County, Virginia. The licensee for the Gathright project was not able to commence construction by the already-extended deadline in March 2016.

The bill would, therefore, authorize FERC to extend for up to three consecutive 2-year periods the date by which the licensee is required to commence construction. Similar legislation passed the House of Representatives by voice vote twice during the last Congress.

I hope everybody will support passage of H.R. 446. I hope we can get this thing built.

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

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH), a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 446, which would extend the construction commencement deadline for a hydroelectric project at the Gathright Dam in Alleghany County.

Extensive coordination between the hydroelectric project developer and the Army Corps and the current difficulties in obtaining a power purchase agreement have necessitated this construction's start-date extension.

This legislation has passed the House previously unanimously and was included in last Congress's House comprehensive energy bill. It is my hope that this legislation will once again receive overwhelming support in this Chamber. I appreciate the support of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''yes'' vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 446.

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.

EXTENDING DEADLINE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT NUMBERED 12740

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 447) to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 447

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 12740, the Commission may, at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, in accordance with the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of that section and the Commission's procedures under that section, extend the time period during which the licensee is required to commence the construction of the project for up to 3 consecutive 2-year periods from the date of the expiration of the extension originally issued by the Commission.

(b) REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSE.—If the period required for commencement of construction of the project described in subsection (a) has expired prior to the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission may reinstate the license for the project effective as of the date of its expiration and the first extension authorized under subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of such expiration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 447.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, upon request, to extend by 6 years the time period during which construction must commence on the Flannagan Dam and Reservoir Hydroelectric Project located in Dickenson County, Virginia. Additionally, FERC may reinstate the construction license if it is expired.

The bill, again, passed under suspension in the 114th Congress, and I would hope that we could do the same today in a bipartisan way.

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

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

I again rise in support of legislation by Mr. GRIFFITH, H.R. 447, which would extend the deadline for commencement of construction of the Flannagan Hydroelectric Project, to be located at the Army Corps of Engineers' John W. Flannagan Dam on the Russell Fork River in Dickenson County, Virginia.

The licensee for the Flannagan Hydroelectric Project did not commence construction by the already-extended deadline in January 2016. Legislation is now required for the project to move forward.

The bill would authorize FERC to extend for up to three consecutive years the date by which the licensee is required to commence construction.

During the last Congress, the full House of Representatives passed similar legislation by voice vote. I once again hope my colleagues will help me in supporting passage of H.R. 447. Let's get this one built, too.

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

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH), a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 447, which would extend the construction commencement deadline for a hydroelectric project at the Flannagan Dam in Dickenson County.

Extensive coordination between the hydroelectric project developer and the Army Corps and the current difficulties in obtaining a power purchase agreement have necessitated this construction start-date extension.

This legislation passed the House last Congress unanimously and was included in the last Congress' House comprehensive energy bill. It is my hope that this legislation will once again receive overwhelming support in this Chamber. I appreciate the support of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 447.

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.

STREAMLINING ENERGY EFFICIENCY FOR SCHOOLS ACT OF 2017

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 627) to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for the dissemination of information regarding available Federal programs relating to energy efficiency projects for schools, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 627

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 ''Streamlining Energy Efficiency for Schools Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. COORDINATION OF ENERGY RETROFITTING ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOLS.

Section 392 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6371a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) COORDINATION OF ENERGY RETROFITTING ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOLS.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF SCHOOL.—Notwithstanding section 391(6), for the purposes of this subsection, the term 'school' means—

''(A) an elementary school or secondary school (as defined in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801));

''(B) an institution of higher education (as defined in section 102(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(a)));

''(C) a school of the defense dependents' education system under the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978 (20 U.S.C. 921 et seq.) or established under section 2164 of title 10, United States Code;

''(D) a school operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

''(E) a tribally controlled school (as defined in section 5212 of the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C. 2511)); and

''(F) a Tribal College or University (as defined in section 316(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b))).

''(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF CLEARINGHOUSE.—The Secretary, acting through the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, shall establish a clearinghouse to disseminate information regarding available Federal programs and financing mechanisms that may be used to help initiate, develop, and finance energy efficiency, distributed generation, and energy retrofitting projects for schools.

''(3) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out paragraph (2), the Secretary shall—

''(A) consult with appropriate Federal agencies to develop a list of Federal programs and financing mechanisms that are, or may be, used for the purposes described in paragraph (2); and

''(B) coordinate with appropriate Federal agencies to develop a collaborative education and outreach effort to streamline communications and promote available Federal programs and financing mechanisms described in subparagraph (A), which may include the development and maintenance of a single online resource that includes contact information for relevant technical assistance in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy that States, local education agencies, and schools may use to effectively access and use such Federal programs and financing mechanisms.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 627.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill, H.R. 627, is an important bill that would help the Nation's schools make use of existing Federal programs to actually reduce their energy use. There currently are a number of such programs that help schools undertake projects that improve energy efficiency. Unfortunately, school districts don't always have the know-how to navigate the complexities

of the Federal system and take full advantage of these programs.

The bill creates a simple one-stop shop to get all the needed information and help school districts participate more fully in these programs. The bottom line is that the Nation's schools will, in fact, reduce their energy costs.

As it is, energy use in American K–12 schools totals $6 billion every year, and reducing this figure can certainly save taxpayer dollars or free up funds that schools can use on things other than energy bills.

This bill, H.R. 627, has no cost since it merely sets up a system under which existing school energy efficiency programs can work better.

A similar bill was passed under suspension of the rules at the end of the last Congress, and I would hope that we can do it today, at the beginning of this Congress, so that the Senate can follow suit and get this to the President's desk.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to voice my strong support for H.R. 627, Mr. CARTWRIGHT's Streamlining Energy Efficiency for Schools Act. This is a great bill that will provide a coordinated structure for our Nation's schools to help them better navigate available Federal programs and financing options.

Across the country, K–12 school districts spend literally billions of dollars on their energy bills each year while an estimated 14 million American children attend deteriorating public schools. By upgrading these systems, we can increase efficiency and focus school funding to achieve better educational outcomes.

This legislation passed the House previously with broad bipartisan support, and I urge everybody to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARTWRIGHT), the author of the bill.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the leadership and Chairman UPTON for bringing this bill up under suspension today, and I thank the gentlewoman from Colorado for yielding me the time.

I thank the entire Energy and Commerce Committee, which, once again, voted unanimously in committee in favor of this bill—a bill that has passed the House twice under suspension in each of the past two Congresses. Both times it passed during the final days of the Congress, and the Senate did not have a chance to take the bill up. I am glad the House is considering it now in plenty of time for the Senate to consider it and act.

I would also thank Congressman PETER WELCH from Vermont for his leadership on the bill. It is no secret that he is one of the great champions in the House on the issue of energy efficiency, and it has been my pleasure to work with him.

Mr. Speaker, so many schools across the country are in need of upgrades and improvements to their facilities. In its most recent 2017 Infrastructure Report Card, the American Society of Civil Engineers gave the condition of our Nation's schools a grade of D-plus.

As school administrators undertake badly needed improvements, they have an opportunity to substantially improve their facilities' energy efficiency, producing benefits for both the environment and the economy. In reducing their energy bills, schools can put the savings to use on other educational priorities.

According to the EPA and the Department of Energy, K–12 school districts nationwide spend approximately $8 billion on their energy bills every year—second only to personnel costs—exceeding the costs of textbooks and supplies. An estimated $2 billion of that cost could be saved by improving energy efficiency, an amount that could pay for, for example, 40 million textbooks.

Energy expenses are one of the few costs that can be reduced while at the same time improving classroom instruction. In fact, high-performance schools can lower a school district's operating costs by up to 30 percent.

There are numerous Federal initiatives already available to schools to help them become more energy efficient, but these programs are spread across the Federal Government, making it challenging, time consuming, and costly for schools to identify and take full advantage of these programs.

In addition, schools can use several different general purpose programs for energy efficiency projects if they know how to locate and apply for them.

Introduced in the Senate as S. 383 by Senator SUSAN COLLINS, this bipartisan Streamlining Energy Efficiency for Schools Act aims to provide a coordinating structure for busy school administrators to help them better navigate available Federal programs and financing options.

This legislation does not spend an additional dime and keeps its decision-making authority with the States, the school boards, and local officials.

This bill establishes a clearinghouse through the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, which will disseminate information on Federal programs and financing mechanisms that may be used to develop energy efficiency, distributed generation, and energy retrofitting projects for schools.

The bill also directs the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy to coordinate with Federal agencies and develop an outreach effort to streamline communications and promote available Federal programs. Such outreach may include a single website where school officials can learn more about the relevant programs.

Overburdened school administrators should not have to spend hours and hours wading through the Federal bureaucracy as they look for ways to improve energy efficiency. This commonsense legislation will ensure that schools can more easily take advantage of existing energy efficiency programs.

It is a strategic and cost-saving investment to relieve the fiscal pressure felt by school districts across the country, supported by overburdened homeowners, while bringing us closer to energy security in America.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this bill.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to support this great, bipartisan bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 627.

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.

□ 1600

EXTENDING DEADLINE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT NUMBERED 12642

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 951) to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 951

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 12642, the Commission may, at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, in accordance with the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of that section and the Commission's procedures under that section, extend the time period during which the licensee is required to commence the construction of the project for up to 3 consecutive 2-year periods from the date of the expiration of the extension originally issued by the Commission.

(b) REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSE.—If the period required for commencement of construction of the project described in subsection (a) has expired prior to the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission may reinstate the license effective as of the date of its expiration and the first extension authorized under subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of such expiration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill, H.R. 951, introduced by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), the distinguished chair of the Education and the Workforce Committee, authorizes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, to extend up to 6 years the time period during which construction must commence on the W. Kerr Scott Hydropower Project located on the Yadkin River in Wilkes County, North Carolina. Additionally, FERC may reinstate the construction license if it is expired.

A similar bill was passed under suspension in the last Congress, and I hope that we can pass it again today, urging the Senate to take this legislation up.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the legislation before us, sponsored by the gentlewoman from North Carolina, would authorize FERC to extend for 6 years the date by which the licensee for the W. Kerr Scott Hydropower Project is required to commence construction. This is necessary because the project's licensee was not able to commence construction by the already-extended deadline of July 17, 2016.

Similar legislation authored by Ms. FOXX passed the House during the 114th Congress by a vote of 406–3. I hope my colleagues will support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Michigan (Mr. UPTON).

I rise in support of H.R. 951, a bill I authored to extend the license authorizing the Wilkesboro Hydroelectric Company's construction of its hydropower project at W. Kerr Scott Dam.

The project has required exhaustive coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and there have been delays in the review process for the design plans. As the Wilkesboro Hydroelectric Company takes steps to comply with statutory mandates and requirements by Federal regulators, the shot clock for action on breaking ground dwindles. As has often happened with these projects, delays in the review process and coordination efforts precluded the start of construction.

I ask my colleagues to support a new authorization for this project, along with the other projects the House is considering today. Furthermore, I applaud Representative MCMORRIS RODGERS and the House Energy and Commerce Committee for working on comprehensive reform legislation to address the statutory framework and FERC processes pertaining to these projects.

I am a proud supporter of our Nation's renewable energy resources. Congress should optimize the use of our Nation's clean, renewable hydropower potential by bringing regulatory and permitting certainty to the process.

Given North Carolina's growth and demand for electricity, my State needs Congress to explore every opportunity to meet our energy demands, provide for job growth, and sustain our environment. As chair of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I will work tirelessly with the other committees in the House and the Trump administration to achieve this.

I thank Chairman WALDEN, Majority Leader MCCARTHY, and former Chairman UPTON for bringing this important legislation to the floor.

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

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, this is important legislation, and I would like to think that we can pass it again this afternoon.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 951.

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.

FEDERAL POWER ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1109) to amend section 203 of the Federal Power Act.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1109

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

SECTION 1. CLARIFICATION OF FACILITY MERGER AUTHORIZATION.

Section 203(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824b(a)(1)(B)) is amended by striking ''such facilities or any part thereof'' and inserting ''such facilities, or any part thereof, of a value in excess of $10,000,000''.

SEC. 2. NOTIFICATION FOR CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS.

Section 203(a) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824b(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7)(A) Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Commission shall promulgate a rule requiring any public utility that is seeking to merge or consolidate, directly or indirectly, its facilities subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, or any part thereof, with those of any other person, to notify the Commission of such transaction not later than 30 days after the date on which the transaction is consummated if—

''(i) such facilities, or any part thereof, are of a value in excess of $1,000,000; and

''(ii) such public utility is not required to secure an order of the Commission under paragraph (1)(B).

''(B) In establishing any notification requirement under subparagraph (A), the Commission shall, to the maximum extent practicable, minimize the paperwork burden resulting from the collection of information.''.

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendment made by section 1 shall take effect 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill, H.R. 1109, is, again, a bipartisan bill introduced by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG). It was reported by unanimous consent from the Energy and Commerce Committee. It amends the Federal Power Act with respect to the prohibition regarding mergers or consolidations by a public utility.

Any merger or consolidation of a public utility whose value exceeds $10 million must first be authorized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. In addition, FERC is required to promulgate a rule within 180 days that mandates any public utility seeking to merge or consolidate to notify FERC within 30 days of transaction consummation if the value of such merger or consolidation exceeds $1 million but, in fact, is less than $10 million.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1109, sponsored by Representatives WALBERG and DINGELL, which would add a $10 million threshold to trigger FERC review of a merger or consolidation. This is a significant change to current law as established through the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Obviously, FERC should not have to rely on trade publications or on word of mouth to know that merger or consolidation activity involving regulated utilities is occurring. This bill, as reported by the Energy and Commerce Committee, includes language requiring FERC to undertake a rulemaking to develop a short, simple, notification process for transactions above the $1

million mark that fall below the new $10 million threshold.

This addresses a problem, in that FERC lacked a standardized way to acquire the information necessary to know that these below-threshold transactions were occurring. Without that knowledge, it would be too easy for someone looking to evade the new $10 million threshold to break their transaction into smaller pieces and, thereby, escape review.

I want to commend the gentleman and the gentlewoman from Michigan for their work to address this matter. I think this is sensible legislation that reduces the burden on industry and on the government, while ensuring the public good is fully protected.

I urge the passage of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG), the author of the legislation.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague and friend from Michigan, the chairman of the Energy Subcommittee, as well as the ranking member of the subcommittee for this opportunity.

I also want to start off by thanking the Energy and Commerce Committee staff on both sides of the aisle for their time and work on this issue.

Additionally, I would like also to thank my colleague, DEBBIE DINGELL, for being an original cosponsor of H.R. 1109 and helping advance this bipartisan and, might I add, commonsense rule.

Based on current statute, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission takes the position that approval from the Commission is necessary for all mergers and acquisitions, no matter how small or insignificant the value of the facilities involved, even down to zero.

FERC's interpretation has led to trivial paperwork that bogs down the Commission and creates unnecessary red tape for American businesses, ultimately increasing utility bills for the consumer. H.R. 1109 will help reduce excessive paperwork burdens and bring down energy prices for American families.

This bipartisan solution unties FERC's hands and allows the Commission to ensure American consumers are getting the most affordable and reliable electricity possible in a commonsense sort of way. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1109.

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

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1109.

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.

REINSTATING AND EXTENDING DEADLINE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT 12715

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2122) to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Jennings Randolph Dam.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2122

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

SECTION 1. REINSTATEMENT AND EXTENSION OF TIME FOR A FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT INVOLVING JENNINGS RANDOLPH DAM.

(a) EXTENSION OF TIME.—Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 12715 (referred to in this section as the ''project''), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (referred to in this section as the ''Commission'') may, at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, in accordance with the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of, and the procedures of the Commission under, that section, extend the time period during which the licensee is required to commence the construction of the project for not more than 3 consecutive 2-year periods that begin on the date of the expiration of the extension originally issued by the Commission.

(b) OBLIGATION OF LICENSEE.—Any obligation of the licensee for the project for the payment of annual charges under section 10(e) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 803(e)) shall commence on the expiration of the time period to commence construction of the project, as extended by the Commission under subsection (a).

(c) REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the period required for the commencement of construction of the project has expired before the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission may reinstate the license effective as of the date of the expiration of the license.

(2) EXTENSION.—If the Commission reinstates the license under paragraph (1), the first extension authorized under subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the expiration of the license.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill, H.R. 2122, was introduced by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY), and it authorizes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, upon request, to extend by 6 years the time period during which construction must commence on the Jennings Randolph Hydroelectric Project, which is located on the North Branch of the Potomac River in Garrett County, Maryland, and Mineral County, West Virginia. Additionally, FERC may reinstate the construction license if it has expired.

A similar bill passed under suspension in the 114th Congress, so I hope that we can pass it again today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2122, a bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the Jennings Randolph Dam, sponsored by my Energy and Commerce Committee colleague, Mr. MCKINLEY.

In March 2012, FERC licensed the construction of a hydroelectric facility at the Army Corps' Jennings Randolph Dam located on the Potomac River's North Branch in Maryland and West Virginia. The licensee for the Jennings Randolph Dam project was not able to commence construction by the already-extended deadline of April 2016. The bill would authorize FERC to extend for 6 years the date by which the licensee is required to commence construction.

FERC has no objections to this legislation, and similar legislation passed the House by a 418–2 vote during the 114th Congress. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting H.R. 2122, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2122.

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.

HYDROPOWER PERMIT EXTENSION ACT

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2274) to amend the Federal Power Act to provide for extended periods relating to preliminary permits and commencement of construction, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2274

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 ''HYdropower Permit Extension Act'' or the ''HYPE Act''.

SEC. 2. EXTENSIONS OF PERIODS.

(a) PRELIMINARY PERMITS.—Section 5 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 798) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''three'' and inserting ''four''; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ''Commission may extend the period of a preliminary permit once for not more than 2 additional years beyond the 3 years'' and inserting the following: ''Commission may—

''(1) extend the period of a preliminary permit once for not more than four additional years beyond the four years'';

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

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) if the period of a preliminary permit is extended under paragraph (1), extend the period of such preliminary permit once for not more than four additional years beyond the extension period granted under paragraph (1), if the Commission determines that there are extraordinary circumstances that warrant such additional extension.''.

(b) TIME LIMIT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF PROJECT WORKS.—Section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) is amended in the second sentence by striking ''once but not longer than two additional years'' and inserting ''for not more than eight additional years,''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill, H.R. 2274, was introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. PETERS), and it was passed by unanimous consent by the Energy and Commerce Committee.

The bill, H.R. 2274, amends the Federal Power Act to allow the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, to extend periods relating to preliminary permits and commencement of construction of hydroelectric projects.

This bill is a commonsense bill, bipartisan, and I would hope that all Members would join me in supporting it.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2274, the HYdropower Permit Extension, or HYPE, Act.

I am pleased that the House is considering this legislation, which was recently introduced by my colleague, Mr. PETERS, of the committee, to provide the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission with the authority to grant longer periods for preliminary and construction permits and associated extensions under sections 5 and 13 of the Federal Power Act.

Right now, as we have seen from the debating of these six bills today, this is something that can only be done by an act of Congress on a case-by-case basis.

□ 1615

As much as we have all enjoyed debating these extensions of time today, it is clear that it would be more efficient and it also would save more time in Congress if these extensions could be done directly by FERC. I commend Mr. PETERS. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I am now pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. PETERS), the author of the bill.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, hydropower is one of the few carbon-free energy sources that provides a steady baseload of electricity. Producing more electricity from hydropower helps us meet our clean energy goals and reduce harmful emissions that pollute our air and water.

This bill, the Hydropower Permit Extension Act, would cut red tape for hydropower construction permits and incentivize greater investment in this energy source.

The act gives already approved hydropower projects an extra year on their initial permit and allows FERC to grant a 4-year extension to projects that are delayed from breaking ground during their initial permit.

And as the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) said, right now this takes an act of Congress to extend construction permits for hydropower projects, even though they have gone through a rigorous environmental regulatory process.

Moving forward, the ultimate solution to unlocking hydropower is to streamline the regulatory process. It is my hope that we can continue to have bipartisan, productive conversations like these on how to get hydropower projects moving, how to get them approved more quickly, while still meeting high environmental standards.

I want to thank Chairman WALDEN and Ranking Member PALLONE, Chairman UPTON and Ranking Member RUSH, for working with me and the committee to advance this bill through the committee and to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to vote for this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would do the same, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2274.

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.

EXTENDING A PROJECT INVOLVING THE CANNONSVILLE DAM

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2292) to extend a project of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission involving the Cannonsville Dam.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2292

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR A FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT INVOLVING CANNONSVILLE DAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 13287, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (referred to in this section as the ''Commission'') may, at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, in accordance with the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of that section and the procedures of the Commission under that section, extend the time period during which the licensee is required to commence construction of the project for up to 4 consecutive 2-year periods after the required date of the commencement of construction described in Article 301 of the license.

(b) REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the required date of the commencement of construction described in subsection (a) has expired prior to the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission may reinstate the license effective as of that date of expiration.

(2) EXTENSION.—If the Commission reinstates the license under paragraph (1), the first extension authorized under subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of that expiration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

This bill, H.R. 2292, was introduced by Mr. FASO from New York, and the bill authorizes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, upon request, to extend by 8 years the time period during which construction must commence on the Cannonsville hydroelectric project—which is located on the west branch of the Delaware River in the Catskill Mountains of upstate New York.

The city of New York was granted a construction license for the Cannonsville hydroelectric project on May 13, 2014. Additionally, FERC may reinstate the construction license if it is expired. The bill was reported by unanimous consent from the Energy and Commerce Committee, and I support its passage on the floor today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2292, a bill to extend the deadline for commencement and construction of a hydroelectric project involving the Cannonsville Dam.

On May 13, 2014, FERC licensed construction of a hydroelectric facility at the Cannonsville Reservoir located on the west branch of the Delaware River in Delaware County, New York. The licensee for this project was not able to commence construction by the deadline of May 2016.

The additional reviews and repairs to the dam, which are necessary to begin construction of the hydroelectric project, will delay construction commencement beyond the expiration date of the original license and the 2-year extension which FERC is authorized to grant.

The bill would, therefore, authorize FERC to extend up to 8 years the date by which the licensee is required to commence construction.

Similar legislation passed the House during the 114th Congress by a vote of 417–2. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. FASO).

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express support for my legislation, H.R. 2292, which would extend the construction period for the hydroelectric project at New York City's Cannonsville Dam in Delaware County, New York.

Once completed, the Cannonsville hydroelectric project will generate over 42,000 megawatt hours of electricity each year, enough to avoid the emission of 24,000 tons of greenhouse gases. But, unfortunately, the project is in jeopardy due to this time lag.

Current Federal Energy Regulation Commission regulations allow a licensee 2 years to begin construction of a hydroelectric project once the license has been issued. The FERC may extend the deadline for an additional 2 years, but this may only be done once.

If construction has not begun on the project by the expiration of the second extension, the Commission will terminate the license, risking all of the hard work and planning that had been put into the project development.

I introduced this legislation to further extend the deadline for construction at the Cannonsville site, because the second FERC-granted extension will expire shortly, and construction has not yet begun.

By allowing for additional time for commencement of construction, we can help protect downstream communities and ensure the safe development of a clean and renewable energy project on this New York City-owned facility.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Mr. UPTON, the chairman of the subcommittee, and Ms. DEGETTE, the ranking member of the subcommittee, and also thank the sponsors from New York State on this bipartisan legislation, including Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. MENG, Mr. NADLER, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. TONKO, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. COLLINS, and Mrs. MALONEY.

By bringing together the stakeholders from across the Empire State, we have ensured that a variety of constituent concerns have been met in the development of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2292 so that we can further protect public water supplies for New York City and help strengthen and modernize our Nation's energy infrastructure.

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

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2292.

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. UPTON. 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.

J. BENNETT JOHNSTON WATERWAY HYDROPOWER EXTENSION ACT OF 2017

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2457) to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2457

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 ''J. Bennett Johnston Waterway Hydropower Extension Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbers 12756, 12757, and 12758, the Commission may, at the request of the licensee for the applicable project, and after reasonable notice, in accordance with the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of that section and the Commission's procedures under that section, extend the time period during which such licensee is required to commence the construction of its applicable project for up to 3 consecutive 2-year periods from the date of the expiration of any extension issued by the Commission under that section for such project.

(b) OBLIGATION FOR PAYMENT OF ANNUAL CHARGES.—Any obligation of a licensee for a project described in subsection (a) for the payment of annual charges under section 10(e) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 803(e)) shall commence when the construction of the project commences.

(c) REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE; EFFECTIVE DATE FOR EXTENSION.—

(1) REINSTATEMENT.—If the time period required for commencement of construction of a project described in subsection (a) has expired prior to the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission may reinstate the license for such project, effective as of the date of the expiration of the license.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE FOR EXTENSION.—If the Commission reinstates a license under paragraph (1) for a project, the first extension authorized under subsection (a) with respect to such project shall take effect on the effective date of such reinstatement under paragraph (1).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2457, as amended. This bill was introduced by Mr. JOHNSON from Louisiana and was reported by unanimous consent from the Energy and Commerce Committee. The bill, H.R. 2457, authorizes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, to extend the time period during which a licensee is required to commence the construction of Commission project numbers 12756, 12757, and 12758 for up to three consecutive 2-year periods.

Mr. Speaker, I would encourage all Members to join me and support passage of this bill, as amended.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this is the last bill in our cohort of six extension bills that we are considering today, which I hope Mr. PETERS' bill will absolve us from having to do in the future.

This bill, the J. Bennett Johnston Waterway Hydropower Extension Act of 2017 was introduced by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON) on May 16, 2017. It would extend the time period during which the licensee is required to commence the construction of the project for up to three consecutive 2-year periods from the date of expiration of the original extension.

Additionally, the legislation defers the obligation on the licensee to pay any annual charges required under section 10(e) of the Federal Power Act until the project actually commences construction.

Finally, the legislation allows for the prospective reinstatement of the license should that license expire prior to the legislation's date of enactment.

I just have to add a few words to what Mr. PETERS said earlier. Hydropower is so important. It is such an important renewable energy source in this country. We need to do everything we can on a bipartisan basis to make sure that we expedite these dams, that we really work together to get hydropower, even more important in our energy portfolio.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will favorably consider this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I echo the words from my good friend from Colorado. Hydro is an important renewable energy source, and it is one that supports all of the above. It is an increasing force across the country so that is why these bills are so important, and it also shows why they are so bipartisan.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2457, as amended.

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. UPTON. 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.

ENERGY AND MANUFACTURING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 338) to promote a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 338

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

SECTION 1. ENERGY AND MANUFACTURING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy (in this Act referred to as the ''Secretary'') shall prioritize education and training for energy and manufacturing-related jobs in order to increase the number of skilled workers trained to work in energy and manufacturing-related fields when considering awards for existing grant programs, including by—

(1) encouraging State education agencies and local educational agencies to equip students with the skills, mentorships, training, and technical expertise necessary to fill the employment opportunities vital to managing and operating the Nation's energy and manufacturing industries, in collaboration with representatives from the energy and manufacturing industries (including the oil, gas, coal, nuclear, utility, pipeline, renewable, petrochemical, manufacturing, and electrical construction sectors) to identify the areas of highest need in each sector and the skills necessary for a high-quality workforce in the following sectors of energy and manufacturing:

(A) Energy efficiency industry, including work in energy efficiency, conservation, weatherization, or retrofitting, or as inspectors or auditors.

(B) Pipeline industry, including work in pipeline construction and maintenance or work as engineers or technical advisors.

(C) Utility industry, including work in the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity and natural gas, such as utility technicians, operators, lineworkers, engineers, scientists, and information technology specialists.

(D) Nuclear industry, including work as scientists, engineers, technicians, mathematicians, or security personnel.

(E) Oil and gas industry, including work as scientists, engineers, technicians, mathematicians, petrochemical engineers, or geologists.

(F) Renewable industry, including work in the development, manufacturing, and production of renewable energy sources (such as solar, hydropower, wind, or geothermal energy).

(G) Coal industry, including work as coal miners, engineers, developers and manufacturers of state-of-the-art coal facilities, technology vendors, coal transportation workers and operators, or mining equipment vendors.

(H) Manufacturing industry, including work as operations technicians, operations and design in additive manufacturing, 3–D printing, advanced composites, and advanced aluminum and other metal alloys, industrial energy efficiency management systems, including power electronics, and other innovative technologies.

(I) Chemical manufacturing industry, including work in construction (such as welders, pipefitters, and tool and die makers) or as instrument and electrical technicians, machinists, chemical process operators, chemical engineers, quality and safety professionals, and reliability engineers; and

(2) strengthening and more fully engaging Department of Energy programs and labs in carrying out the Department's workforce development initiatives including the Minorities in Energy Initiative.

(b) PROHIBITION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the Secretary or any other officer or employee of the Federal Government to incentivize, require, or coerce a State, school district, or school to adopt curricula aligned to the skills described in subsection (a).

(c) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall prioritize the education and training of underrepresented groups in energy and manufacturing-related jobs.

(d) CLEARINGHOUSE.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall establish a clearinghouse to—

(1) maintain and update information and resources on training and workforce development programs for energy and manufacturing-related jobs, including job training and workforce development programs available to assist displaced and unemployed energy and manufacturing workers transitioning to new employment; and

(2) provide technical assistance for States, local educational agencies, schools, community colleges, universities (including minority-serving institutions), workforce development programs, labor-management organizations, and industry organizations that would like to develop and implement energy and manufacturing-related training programs.

(e) COLLABORATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary—

(1) shall collaborate with States, local educational agencies, schools, community colleges, universities (including minority-serving institutions), workforce-training organizations, national laboratories, State energy offices, workforce investment boards, and the energy and manufacturing industries;

(2) shall encourage and foster collaboration, mentorships, and partnerships among organizations (including industry, States, local educational agencies, schools, community colleges, workforce-development organizations, and colleges and universities) that currently provide effective job training programs in the energy and manufacturing fields and entities (including States, local educational agencies, schools, community colleges, workforce development programs, and colleges and universities) that seek to establish these types of programs in order to share best practices; and

(3) shall collaborate with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Department of Commerce, the Bureau of the Census, States, and the energy and manufacturing industries to develop a comprehensive and detailed understanding of the energy and manufacturing workforce needs and opportunities by State and by region.

(f) OUTREACH TO MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall—

(1) give special consideration to increasing outreach to minority-serving institutions and Historically Black Colleges and Universities;

(2) make existing resources available through program cross-cutting to minority-serving institutions with the objective of increasing the number of skilled minorities and women trained to go into the energy and manufacturing sectors;

(3) encourage industry to improve the opportunities for students of minority-serving institutions to participate in industry internships and cooperative work/study programs; and

(4) partner with the Department of Energy laboratories to increase underrepresented groups' participation in internships, fellowships, traineeships, and employment at all Department of Energy laboratories.

(g) OUTREACH TO DISLOCATED ENERGY AND MANUFACTURING WORKERS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall—

(1) give special consideration to increasing outreach to employers and job trainers preparing dislocated energy and manufacturing workers for in-demand sectors or occupations;

(2) make existing resources available through program cross-cutting to institutions serving dislocated energy and manufacturing workers with the objective of training individuals to re-enter in-demand sectors or occupations;

(3) encourage the energy and manufacturing industries to improve opportunities for dislocated energy and manufacturing workers to participate in career pathways; and

(4) work closely with the energy and manufacturing industries to identify energy and manufacturing operations, such as coal-fired power plants and coal mines, scheduled for closure and to provide early intervention assistance to workers employed at such energy and manufacturing operations by—

(A) partnering with State and local workforce development boards;

(B) giving special consideration to employers and job trainers preparing such workers for in-demand sectors or occupations;

(C) making existing resources available through program cross-cutting to institutions serving such workers with the objective of training them to re-enter in-demand sectors or occupations; and

(D) encouraging the energy and manufacturing industries to improve opportunities for such workers to participate in career pathways.

(h) ENROLLMENT IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall work with industry and community-based workforce organizations to help identify candidates, including from underrepresented communities such as minorities, women, and veterans, to enroll in workforce development programs for energy and manufacturing-related jobs.

(i) PROHIBITION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing the creation of a new workforce development program.

(j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CAREER PATHWAYS; DISLOCATED WORKER; IN-DEMAND SECTORS OR OCCUPATIONS; LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD; STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD.—The terms ''career pathways'', ''dislocated worker'', ''in-demand sectors or occupations'', ''local workforce development board'', and ''State workforce development board'' have the meanings given the terms ''career pathways'', ''dislocated worker'', ''in-demand sectors or occupations'', ''local board'', and ''State board'', respectively, in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

(2) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The term ''minority-serving institution'' means an institution of higher education with a designation of one of the following:

(A) Hispanic-serving institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1101a(a)(5)).

(B) Tribal College or University (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)).

(C) Alaska Native-serving institution or a Native Hawaiian-serving institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059d(b)).

(D) Predominantly Black Institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059e(b)).

(E) Native American-serving nontribal institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059f(b)).

(F) Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059g(b)).

SEC. 2. REPORT.

Five years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall publish a comprehensive report to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on the outlook for energy and manufacturing sectors nationally. The report shall also include a comprehensive summary of energy and manufacturing job creation as a result of the enactment of this Act. The report shall include performance data regarding the number of program participants served, the percentage of participants in competitive integrated employment two quarters and four quarters after program completion, the median income of program participants two quarters and four quarters after program completion, and the percentage of program participants receiving industry-recognized credentials.

SEC. 3. USE OF EXISTING FUNDS.

No additional funds are authorized to carry out the requirements of this Act. Such requirements shall be carried out using amounts otherwise authorized.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased that we are considering this legislation, H.R. 338, a bill to promote a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce, introduced by my friend and great colleague, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH), and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HUDSON).

This bipartisan bill takes steps to help make training for energy manufacturing jobs available to women and minorities as well as veterans.

By way of background, the bill was unanimously approved by the House last Congress by a voice vote. It was also included in the energy bill conference negotiations. But, unfortunately, even though the bill received overwhelming support in both the House and the Senate, it didn't make it to the President's desk before time ran out.

The U.S. has undergone an energy renaissance, driven by newly discovered resources, technological innovation, and a skilled workforce. Millions and millions of new jobs had been created, and many more are opening up, but we have got to continue to invest in our workers in order to maintain global leadership and maximize the economic potential of our energy abundance.

This bill, H.R. 338, takes important steps in the right direction by requiring that the Department of Energy modernize and improve coordination among the numerous workforce development programs and activities that expand the Department's programs, offices, labs, and technology centers.

This bipartisan bill places an emphasis on maximizing the Department's existing resources and increasing the diversity of our energy and manufacturing workforce by increasing opportunities for women, minorities, and veterans.

It also improves reemployment opportunities for out-of-work and dislocated workers, which, for example, would provide welcome relief to workers discouraged by sharp downturns in the coal industry.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation before us today is a good government bill that is going to increase benefits for American workers. I would encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

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

□ 1630

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased we are considering this bill sponsored by my friend and colleague, the ranking member of the Energy Subcommittee of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. RUSH.

I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH).

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I must begin by commending Chairman WALDEN; Chairman UPTON; Ranking Member PALLONE; our friend and colleague from the great State of Colorado, Congresswoman DEGETTE; and the committee staff and all for working with my office to bring the 21st century workforce legislation to the House floor today.

I must also publicly acknowledge the leadership of my colleague Mr. HUDSON of North Carolina and his staff, who played an instrumental and very important role in helping us to get to this point.

Mr. Speaker, the 21st century workforce bill represents hope and represents opportunity for many of our fellow citizens who feel as though they have been locked out of the American Dream. Mr. Speaker, this workforce bill also provides an example of how Congress should function and work on behalf of the American people.

This legislation enjoys the overwhelming support of Members of Congress who represent various constituencies from diverse regions of our Nation and who come with different and varying political persuasions. However, Mr. Speaker, we were able to put aside our political differences, our regional differences, and our cultural differences and focus our efforts on bringing forth a jobs bill that would benefit all communities and help lift up the American economy for all its people.

Mr. Speaker, this bill directs the Secretary of Energy to prioritize the training of underrepresented groups, including minorities, women, and veterans, as well as displaced and unemployed energy and manufacturing workers. This bill directs the Secretary of Energy to take into full recognition the hurt and the pain of the White middle class, of the White working class,

the African-American, the Black working class, and the Brown working class in order to increase the number of skilled candidates trained to work in the related fields that were brought to bear by the energy renaissance in our Nation.

This bill will strengthen and more fully engage Department of Energy programs and national laboratories in order to carry out the Department's workforce development initiatives. This legislation will help to develop a skilled labor force trained to work in a wide array of sectors, including renewables, energy efficiency, oil and gas, coal, nuclear, utility, pipeline, and alternative fuels, as well as energy-intensive and advanced manufacturing industries.

Mr. Speaker, as we know, the energy and manufacturing industries are two of the most critical and fastest growing sectors both domestically as well as internationally. The potential of these two industries can help bolster the American economy and are also vital to the growing number of people seeking middle class status—not just a change of lifestyle, but seeking more money. They are satisfied with their lifestyle; they just need more income.

It is important, Mr. Speaker, that we equip our citizens with the skills needed to meet this growing demand so that we can tap into these tremendous opportunities, and this bill, Mr. Speaker, will help us accomplish that goal.

Mr. Speaker, this 21st century workforce legislation addresses an issue that is neither partisan nor bipartisan, but, rather, it is nonpartisan. It is a nonpartisan issue that benefits communities, benefits industry, and benefits the overall American economy.

This bill brings together government agencies, including the national labs, the energy and manufacturing industries, unions, schools, community colleges and universities, among others, and promotes cooperation and collaboration to ensure that we are tapping into a wealth of underutilized talent and are training and preparing workers for the energy and manufacturing jobs of the present and also of the future.

Mr. Speaker, one of the challenges that many of my constituents—and constituents all across the land—have brought to my attention pertains to individuals participating in training programs that, in many cases, don't even lead to finding a job.

With that in mind, Mr. Speaker, this bill will help industry, schools, and community-based workforce organizations to identify candidates for enrollment into training and apprenticeship programs. The objective will be to ensure that the skills learned are immediately transferable to good-paying jobs and good-paying careers within the energy and manufacturing sectors regionally, nationally, and, indeed, internationally.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is important because it matches up the needs of industry with a willing and able workforce and, in the process, helps start new cycles of hope and opportunity for groups who have, in many cases, been overlooked and underserved: the White working class, the Black working class, and the Brown working class.

This legislation can help to open new pathways to jobs, careers, and entrepreneurial opportunities for women, minorities, our veterans, and all the different working classes that comprise the American workforce while also helping to move our overall economy forward.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when African-American and Latino unemployment rates are too high, when coal miners throughout the Rust Belt and beyond are finding themselves without work, when too many female heads of household cannot find adequate employment to take care of their families, and when veterans returning from defending our country still cannot find a job, it is a travesty—Mr. Speaker, a travesty—that eager employers still cannot locate the trained workers that they so desperately need.

This is common sense, Mr. Speaker, and this is a commonsense jobs bill that will help match up trained and qualified candidates with good-paying jobs and careers that will help lift up communities, strengthen the energy and manufacturing industries, and bolster the entire American economy as a whole.

With its focus not only on underserved communities such as minorities, women, and veterans, but also displaced and unemployed coal miners and other out-of-work energy workers, I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that when this legislation ultimately becomes law, it will go a long way in helping not only communities that look like the one I represent on the south side of Chicago, but look like communities all across the Nation, including communities in West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, and New Mexico—all across this country, every community and every district throughout this Nation.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HUDSON).

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 338, a bipartisan jobs bill to promote a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce.

By and large, we all share the same goals of creating more jobs and building a healthy economy; but, as we have seen too often in Washington, progress can get caught up in partisan gridlock. I am focused on cutting through the partisanship and the noise and finding commonsense solutions to the problems our country faces. H.R. 338 is a prime example of that.

Much like the bipartisan Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act that I was honored to help get signed into law several years ago, H.R. 338 strengthens job training programs—specifically in the energy and manufacturing industries—to invest in our workforce. This legislation will help connect individuals with job training programs while also making current programs more efficient, and it takes important steps to increase opportunities for women, veterans, and minorities.

As I have traveled across my district, I have seen firsthand just how effective local, high-skilled job training programs can be:

In Kannapolis, Rowan-Cabarrus Community College has partnered with A.L. Brown High School on a welding program that will open doors for so many students;

At both Stanly Community College and Sandhills Community College, the advanced manufacturing programs are the critical training grounds for high-skilled manufacturing workers;

At Fayetteville Tech, veterans get the support and the skills they need to find meaningful employment outside of the Armed Forces.

I want to thank Chairman UPTON, Chairman WALDEN, and Ranking Member PALLONE for their support. I want to thank Ranking Member BOBBY RUSH for his leadership and for working with me in a bipartisan manner for a cause that is important to all of us, that is, to help people get back to work.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and to continue to stay focused on America's priorities: jobs and the economy.

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, my home State of Colorado has an economy strongly based in the energy industry. Of course, my district, which is primarily an urban district, has many, many workers who could be working in this industry, so I want to commend both of these gentlemen for sponsoring this legislation.

It is a good bill. We need to get it across the finish line. Hopefully, because we are doing it early in this Congress, we can get that done. Please vote ''yes.''

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I just want to say I have watched these two gentlemen, Mr. RUSH and Mr. HUDSON, work together, something that our committee does a lot on lots of different issues, from oversight to energy, to healthcare, to telecommunications.

Mr. RUSH has had an outstanding career. The gentleman's district is close to mine. He and I have been in each other's districts quite a bit over the last number of years. This bill is a legacy to Mr. RUSH. The gentleman has cared with real passion about energy jobs and making sure that we have the expertise and the technical training knowing that we want to compete with the rest of the world. I commend the gentleman again for working with Mr. HUDSON—a brilliant star on our side of the aisle—to get this bill done.

We look forward to the President's signing it into law, and we are looking

forward to having the Senate move similar bipartisan legislation so we can get the job done. That is what it is all about.

So I want to thank the gentleman for his tireless commitment to getting this issue done.

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

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 338, to Promote a 21st Century Energy and Manufacturing Workforce Future Act.

For years, many of the industries I represent have complained of workforce shortages.

In East Houston and Harris County, if we were able to recruit every union electrician in the country, we would still have a shortage.

The same is probably true for pipefitters, welders, etc.

The economy in our part of the country is rapidly expanding thanks to the development of the Eagleford shale and the Permian Basin.

We must ensure that this economic prosperity is shared across all of our community.

In Texas, workforce diversity has to be a reality.

I am pleased that Representative RUSH has crafted this legislation and I am proud to be an original co-sponsor.

I am also proud to support workforce development opportunities for Hispanics, African-Americans, and women in the energy field.

The industry needs skilled workers and we need to create opportunity for everyone, including many of those I represent in and around the area.

The bill will encourage the Department of Energy to conduct outreach to these communities to ensure they have access to the knowledge, skills and abilities required to fill high paying jobs in the energy field.

Thanks to efforts by ExxonMobil and the Texas Gulf Coast Community College Consortium, we are already addressing the workforce needs of our industries but more needs to be done and this bill will help us achieve these goals.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 338.

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.

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 45 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 2292, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 2457, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The second electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

EXTENDING A PROJECT INVOLVING THE CANNONSVILLE DAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2292) to extend a project of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission involving the Cannonsville Dam, 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 Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 400, nays 1, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 300]

YEAS—400

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Hanabusa
Harper
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lee
Levin
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Neal
Newhouse
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pittenger
Pocan
Poliquin
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—1

Amash

NOT VOTING—29

Bishop (UT)
Blum
Brooks (AL)
Carter (TX)
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
DeSantis
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Granger
Gutiérrez
Harris
Johnson, Sam
Lawson (FL)
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Lofgren
Maloney, Carolyn B.
McEachin
Meng
Napolitano
Noem

Pingree
Poe (TX)
Polis
Renacci
Rohrabacher
Tiberi

□ 1852

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN changed her vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

J. BENNETT JOHNSTON WATERWAY HYDROPOWER EXTENSION ACT OF 2017

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2457) to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects, as amended, 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 Michigan (Mr. UPTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 402, nays 1, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 301]

YEAS—402

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Hanabusa
Harper
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Neal
Newhouse
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pittenger
Pocan
Poliquin
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—1

Amash

NOT VOTING—27

Bishop (UT)
Blum
Brooks (AL)
Carter (TX)
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
DeSantis
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Frelinghuysen
Granger
Gutiérrez
Harris
Johnson, Sam
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Lofgren
Meng
Napolitano
Noem
Pingree
Poe (TX)
Polis
Renacci
Rohrabacher
Tiberi

□ 1859

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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 300 (motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 2292), and 301 (motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 2457), I did not cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both of the votes.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2581, VERIFY FIRST ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 1094, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ACCOUNTABILITY AND WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT OF 2017

Mr. BUCK, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115–177) on the resolution (H. Res. 378) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2581) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require the provision of social security numbers as a condition of receiving the health insurance premium tax credit, and providing for consideration of the bill (S. 1094) to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2372, VETERANS EQUAL TREATMENT ENSURES RELIEF AND ACCESS NOW ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2579, BROADER OPTIONS FOR AMERICANS ACT

Mr. BUCK, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115–178) on the resolution (H. Res. 379) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2372) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the rules relating to veteran health insurance and eligibility for the premium tax credit, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2579) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the premium tax credit with respect to unsubsidized COBRA continuation coverage, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LGBT PRIDE MONTH

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize June as LGBT Pride Month, a time in which we celebrate the progress our country has made toward equality and honor the contributions of LGBT Americans to the diverse fabric that is our Nation.

I would like to thank the many organizations in my congressional district, SAVE, Unity Coalition-Coalicion Unida, the National LGBTQ Task Force, just to name a few, and recognize their invaluable work to promote acceptance and fight harassment, bullying, and discrimination wherever it takes place.

This month we also celebrate 2 years of marriage equality. The union of two people in marriage should not be based on gender, but on love, and those legally married couples deserve equal respect and treatment under the law.

Mr. Speaker, this month of celebration is also, sadly, a stark reminder that we have a lot more work to do to end LGBT violence. We also commemorate the 1-year anniversary of the Pulse Nightclub terrorist shooting. As we honor the memories of those we have lost, we must also make a commitment to stand together to disarm hate and demand the equality, dignity, and respect for all individuals at home and abroad.

LGBT PRIDE MONTH

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

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, after 18 years of a loving partnership, my friends, Tim and Mike, were finally allowed to do what billions of men and women have been doing for many centuries, enter a legal commitment called marriage.

Yesterday, I had the joy of celebrating LGBT Pride Month on the National Mall with Tim and Mike and hundreds of thousands of people of all genders and sexual orientations. We rejoiced our common humanity and the right for each person to be their true self. Miley Cyrus, the festival headliner, said it best: It was a party in the USA.

And, yes, our country has come a long way from the Stonewall riots of June 1969. The thing is, there is more work to be done.

Today, we remember the horrific Orlando Pulse Nightclub shooting 1 year ago. We must keep striving for a world where all people can live away from violence and free to love who they want to love without recrimination.

LITTLE ROCK'S CHI ST. VINCENT INFIRMARY

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Little Rock's CHI St. Vincent for being named to the 2017 list of 100 Great Hospitals in America by Becker's Hospital Review.

CHI St. Vincent Infirmary's history of excellence in patient care dates back to 1888, when it began as a 10-bed charity hospital and the first hospital in Little Rock.

Over the years, to meet increasing demand for patient care, in addition to expansion for construction, the hospital has made four moves to larger facilities. In 1906, the hospital opened Arkansas' first nursing school, the St. Vincent's Infirmary School of Nursing.

I am proud to have come into this world at St. Vincent, as did our two children.

I would like to thank CHI St. Vincent for continuing its 129-year legacy of leadership in patient care centered on service and quality care in central Arkansas.

AHCA TO REPEAL AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI. Mr. Speaker, last month, House Republicans passed the AHCA, which would repeal the Affordable Care Act, and now Republican Senators are working on their own version.

So far, we know the plan they are developing will be a disaster for our economy and for countless Americans who will either pay more for their healthcare or struggle to afford coverage at all. The Senate plan would force working families to pay higher premiums, end Medicaid as we know it, and could make health insurance nearly unaffordable for people with preexisting conditions and older Americans.

At this point, we don't know more details of the Senate plan because the Republican leadership is attempting to deny the American people a voice in their own healthcare system.

We need a healthcare reform that lowers cost, expands coverage, and strengthens our economy. We need legislation written in the light of day that can survive public debate. We do not need this.

HONORING PENN STATE'S OLDEST ALUMNUS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week, Penn State community lost a legend. Mr. Ray Walker passed away Friday at his home. He was 105 and Penn State's oldest living alumnus.

Ray told our local newspaper that he saw the university grow a lot over the years from ''just a cow college'' to becoming one of the largest universities in the Nation.

Penn State truly shaped Ray Walker's life. Back in 1931, he thought he wanted to be a doctor, but there was a requirement that he needed to take German. After failing twice, he reevaluated his major and decided to pursue business.

Around that time, his father told him that he would have to leave Penn State because the family money was lost in the bank crash. But Ray went to work: He started selling potatoes and coal to fraternity houses, and by the time he graduated in 1935, he was sending money home to help his family.

He founded Bradford Coal and was the driving force in surface mining all over the world.

Penn State and I will miss Ray Walker. He was a friend. He was a distinguished alumnus and loved by all who knew him.

May he rest in peace.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S MUSLIM BAN

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, the tired, the poor, the huddled masses yearning to breathe free are still welcome in America, no thanks to President Trump. Today, for the second time, President Trump lost a ruling on his Muslim ban in the Federal courts of appeal.

The purpose of the President's ban is clear. The then Presidential candidate Trump explicitly called for a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States. Just last week, President Trump criticized his revised ban as politically correct and called for a much tougher version.

The President's executive order is a Muslim ban, plain and simple. Any argument to the contrary is undercut by the President's own tweets.

President Trump, by his own words and by his own actions, is abdicating America's moral leadership. The greatness of America is not built on isolation and discrimination. It is built on the rule of law and the ideals of equality and inclusion and on the rich history of immigration.

SUPPORT THE STAPLE ACT

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, brilliant minds from around the world come to the United States to pursue advanced degrees. Unfortunately, for many of these individuals, after we train them, after we educate them, we force them to return to their home countries due to our outdated immigration policy. And then guess what? They compete with us. They compete with the American economy, and this makes no sense.

That is why I am authoring the bipartisan Stopping Trained in America

Ph.D.'s from Leaving the Economy Act, the STAPLE Act, along with my colleague Congressman QUIGLEY.

The STAPLE Act exempts individuals born outside the United States from the limits of employment-based green cards and H–1B visas that are awarded annually if that individual has earned a Ph.D. from an American institution in the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering, or math.

Mr. Speaker, by retaining the talent that has benefited from our education system, we can unleash even more economic and innovative opportunity here at home. Not only does the STAPLE Act help promote the American Dream for those from overseas, but it also brings the potential for new invention and ideas that benefit American families and jobs here at home.

REMEMBERING 49 AMERICANS GUNNED DOWN AT THE PULSE

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, on June 12, 2016, 49 Americans were gunned down at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando. Tonight we remember the beautiful lives lost and all those who suffered injury in this horrific attack.

Sadly, LGBT Americans continue to be the target of horrific hatred and violence here and around the world. Don't let anyone tell you that we have full equality in this country. We don't. There is too much hatred in this country.

Anytime an LGBT American is mocked or treated as less than equal, it is an attack on the values that all of us share as Americans. These expressions of bigotry and intolerance only serve to exacerbate hatred and violence. We cannot let them go unanswered.

Over the last few days, so many have joined in showing their support for the LGBT community and remembering the victims in Orlando. We are strongest when we stand united toward a common purpose of equality for all Americans.

It is my sincere hope that we will build greater understanding toward one another and move closer toward ensuring that every American can live free from discrimination and violence of any kind and in a world where everyone is valued and treated with dignity and respect.

EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE TO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ENTERING THE MILITARY

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and to express my gratitude to the young men and women who are answering the call to serve in our military upon graduation from high school this year.

Throughout New York's 22nd Congressional District, countless men and women are serving our country. We are thankful to those who will now join them in the armed services. They have taken upon themselves a duty and a responsibility far greater than themselves.

General MacArthur famously said: ''Duty, honor, country: those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, and what you will be.''

We as a community and as a country are thankful for their dedication and service. We wish them tremendous success in their service to our great Nation.

I also wish to acknowledge specifically the Conklin Kiwanis Club's ''First to Say Thank You'' program that was held to honor the men and women of the Southern Tier who are joining the military service. From the 22nd District, there are 35 individuals who are being recognized, and their names will be permanently commemorated in the official CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I congratulate them and thank them.

□ 1915

RECOGNIZING BEATRICE AND FRED SORKIN

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased to rise today to honor two remarkable constituents and their extraordinary achievement that should stand as a model for us all.

Last month, Beatrice and Fred Sorkin of Lincolnshire, Illinois, celebrated their 77th wedding anniversary—77 years of love, family, and commitment.

Bea and Fred met as teenagers in Brooklyn, New York. Fred was a sheet metal worker by trade and in 1950 started his own business that he ran for over 40 years. Bea worked in a bank. She began selling savings bonds and rose to become a bank teller and eventually assistant vice president.

Their family has been blessed with two children, Rae and Herbert; their spouses, Michael and Gloria; four grandchildren: Jeffrey, Andrew, Alyse, and Sharon; and, now, seven great-grandchildren.

According to the data collected by the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Organization, Bea and Fred are the longest married couple in all of Illinois. Bea and Fred Sorkin's enduring lifelong connection is an inspiring example for us all.

On behalf of Illinois' 10th District, it is my privilege to congratulate Bea and Fred on their 77th wedding anniversary. I wish them and their family many more years of health and happiness together.

REPUBLICANS NEED TO PRODUCE A BUDGET SO WE CAN SERVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this House needs to get the job done for the American people and make sure that we operate by regular order. That means we want to pass bills here so that we can operate the Government of the United States, whether it is the Department of Defense, the Small Business Administration, or across the range of departments and agencies. But you can't do that well unless you have a budget.

Now, the Republicans control this House, the Republicans control the Senate, and the Republicans control the White House. They should be able to agree among themselves to pass a budget; and then when, as an appropriator, we pass our 12 appropriation bills, we are given a number and we mark up those 12 bills and we don't go over budget.

But guess what. The Republicans can't produce a budget.

Later this week, we are told the Military-Veterans Affairs appropriation bill will be marked up in committee and money will be put in that bill. The problem with that is, if we put the money in that bill, how do we know that we will be able to have money left over for the other 11 bills to fund seniors' Meals on Wheels or the infrastructure bill that people are talking about?

We have a real problem. The Republicans need to do the job and produce a budget so that we can serve the American people as they expect us to do.

TEXAS WOMEN VETERANS DAY

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great jubilation and excitement to recognize and congratulate the Catholic Charities as they celebrate this day, June 12, being an historic day in Texas because it has been named as Texas Women Veterans Day.

The Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston wants to ensure that the Texas legislators who supported this are, in fact, congratulated. And we are grateful that it was signed into law.

Texas has the highest number of women veterans of any State in the country—last year, 183,597—and these heroes and sheroes could soon have a special day when the State will annually recognize their sacrifices.

June 12 now has historic significance. On June 12, 1948, the Women's Armed Services Integration Act was passed nationally, allowing women to serve as regular members of the military.

''We are delighted that this special population that has bravely served our Nation will be honored in this important way,'' says Cynthia N. Colbert,

Catholic Charities president and CEO. ''We serve women veterans through several programs, and we love having the opportunity to recognize those who have served and sacrificed for all of us.''

So this is a great day. Thank you Texas and the legislators who sponsored it. I look forward to working with legislation to ensure we have a national day here in the United States.

But to the staff of Catholic Charities, those who travel to Austin and all of those who recognize that we must honor these veterans as the heroes and sheroes of the Nation, congratulations. You have a day, June 12. Now, forever, we will honor you on this day.

God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MAST). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to coanchor this CBC Special Order hour.

I would like to acknowledge the great work and the leadership of our chair, CEDRIC RICHMOND of Louisiana, and, of course, my coanchor, MARC VEASEY of Texas, as we lead the discussion for the next 60 minutes.

In these next 60 minutes, we have a chance to speak directly to the American people on issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, and the constituents that we represent.

In this hour, we would like to discuss racism and discrimination in America and, specifically, hate crimes and the radicalization and the domestic terrorism that they present to the American people.

The conclusion of Dylann Roof's trial a few month's ago is the latest reminder that homegrown terrorism has become part of the fabric of life in America. This problem shows no signs of fading yet reveals a threat that is both rare and more complex than simple explanation suggests.

Solving the issue of domestic terrorism through hate crimes involves understanding the true nature of the problem—violent domestic extremism—so that effective steps can be taken to protect the Nation from it.

It is legitimate to ask whether homegrown terrorists are being radicalized. We talk about jihadi narratives and Islamic extremism, the Islamic State group recruiting online; but there are other groups in this Nation which are radicalizing our youth, radicalizing young people to be a threat against other Americans. This is a subject and a discussion that has rarely been discussed and which we believe is very important.

Since 2001, almost 40 percent of the nearly 150 terrorism fatalities in the United States were related to domestic motivations, not jihadi narratives. It is my hope that in the discussion we will have this hour we are able to discuss in depth the effect that these hate crimes and this domestic violence has on the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter that was written June 7, 2017, by the Congressional Black Caucus to the Honorable Jeff Sessions, Attorney General; Andrew McCabe, Acting Director of the FBI; and John Kelly, Secretary of Homeland Security, in which we express our concern over the alarming number of hate crimes reported across the country, particularly in the wake of the election of President Donald J. Trump.

CONGRESSIONAL
BLACK CAUCUS,
Washington, DC, June 7, 2017.

Hon. JEFF SESSIONS,
Attorney General, Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

ANDREW MCCABE,
Acting Director, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Washington, DC.

Hon. JOHN KELLY,
Secretary of Homeland Security, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC.

DEAR ATTORNEY GENERAL SESSIONS AND ACTING DIRECTOR MCCABE: I write today to express my concern over the alarming number of hate crimes reported across the country, particularly in the wake of the election of President Donald J. Trump. In addition to speaking out against this rising tide of hate, violence, and intolerance, it is critical that your agencies proactively investigate each and every incident of a potential hate crime and aggressively prosecute these cases to the fullest extent of the law.

During the presidential campaign, then-candidate Donald Trump employed starkly divisive rhetoric to connect with a segment of his base that relished in cultural grievance and hatred. His tone and the arguments that he made were incredibly offensive to minority communities, and his campaign rallies were forums for some of the ugliest public displays of race-based violence and animus in modern political times. Numerous Black Americans were assaulted at his rallies and scenes of deep racial resentment against Blacks, Hispanics, immigrants, and Muslims were frequently paraded and celebrated.

Since the election, it seems hate-filled individuals have been emboldened to terrorize minority communities. In just the first 34 days after the election, the Southern Poverty Law Center counted a total of 1,094 bias incidents around the nation. Disturbingly, the Center also calculated that 37 percent of these cases directly referenced either President-elect Trump, his campaign slogans, or his infamous remarks about sexual assault. This data is just from the immediate aftermath of the election. The numbers have increased since then, with national news providing coverage. These are not isolated incidents, but rather a frightening trend forming before our eyes.

In fact, this is occurring in Congress' own back yard, like the horrific hate crime that took place just a few miles away at the University of Maryland when Richard Collins III, a promising young man, was stabbed to death on the eve of his graduation from Bowie State University by an admitted white supremacist. There have also been several reports of nooses hung throughout the District of Columbia, including in the African American Museum of History and Culture and on American University's campus. To add insult to injury, a Mississippi lawmaker recently called for Louisiana politicians to be ''lynched'' for supporting the removal of racist confederate monuments from New Orleans.

Surely there is no greater cause of a government than to protect the lives of its citizens, particularly those uniquely vulnerable to hate, intolerance, and violence. The federal hate crimes statutes were designed with that mission in mind and serve as a critically important tool in combatting the most insidious elements of our society. That is why I implore you to dedicate additional resources within your respective agencies to address the increasing frequency of these deplorable acts. you should and must investigate each and every potential hate crime and prosecute offenders to the fullest extent allowed under the law. You should also ensure that community leaders, including state and local law enforcement, understand the federal resources available to investigate and prosecute hate crimes.

Your leadership is required to not only bring justice to the victims of hate crimes, but also to send a clear message that these acts of domestic terrorism will never be tolerated in this country.

Sincerely,

CEDRIC RICHMOND,
Chair, Congressional Black Caucus.

Ms. PLASKETT. In addition to speaking out against the rising tide of hate, violence, and intolerance in this country, it is critical that those agencies—the FBI, the Department of Justice, as well as Homeland Security—speak out and proactively investigate each and every incident of potential hate crime and aggressively prosecute these cases to the fullest extent of the law.

Since the election, it seems that hate-filled individuals have been emboldened to terrorize minority communities. In just the first 34 days after the election, the Southern Poverty Law Center counted a total of 1,094 bias incidents around the Nation. Disturbingly, the center also calculated that 37 percent of these cases directly referenced either President-elect Trump at the time, his campaign slogans, or infamous remarks about sexual assault. This data is just from the immediate aftermath of the election. The numbers have increased since then.

It is the responsibility of this Congress as well as those agencies to stem this flow of violence that is occurring in this Nation. We know that our President would not tolerate these sorts of matters, and we are hopeful that he, the Justice Department, the FBI, and Homeland Security will do whatever is necessary to protect American lives from hate crimes that are occurring, domestic terrorism, and the radicalization of our young people to exert hate against other Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY), my coanchor, to speak on this issue. Then we will have an opportunity to hear from other members of the Congressional Black Caucus about this.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. PLASKETT for starting off this Special Order hour on racism and discrimination in the age of Trump.

I really think that this is important and timely that we talk about this because, as you mentioned, these incidents are on the rise and we need to start to discuss them. We need to have open and honest, frank discussions about them, to be quite forward, because, if we don't, then we are never going to be able to move past this or be able to have a better America in regards to racism, hate, and discrimination if we don't begin to have that open dialogue.

Not only does the country need to have an open dialogue, but I think that, as Members of Congress, we need to be the leaders in this area, and we should be the ones who are kicking off the dialogue and starting this.

Make no mistake about it, I know a lot of people will tell you that racism is dead, that discrimination is a thing of the past, that it was something that happened to people that are baby boomers and older and that the effects of discrimination are no longer with us, but we know that is not true.

We know that, again, as Ms. PLASKETT just mentioned a second ago, since 2016, there has been a disturbing number of incidents that have occurred, a disturbing number of things that have been said, things that have been tweeted, the rise of the alt-right, and so many other things that we should be concerned about.

The Southern Poverty Law Center supports this very claim. This organization has collected over 1,300 reported bias incidents between the day after the election and February 7.

Let me point out, because I know that, sadly, there are some people that will cast doubt towards the Southern Poverty Law Center, but the Southern Poverty Law Center has done a tremendous job over the last couple of decades or so of not only helping identify people that commit acts, but groups like the KKK, neo-Nazi groups, and others.

Quite frankly, I don't know why anyone would want to try to undermine or put down an organization that wants to put down groups like that, like the KKK, skinheads, and Nazis. It makes no sense. I hate when I hear people say bad things about the Southern Poverty Law Center because of the time, money, and effort that they put into fighting groups like I just mentioned.

Let me be clear, because oftentimes when we talk about race, it turns into a very divisive topic, and we don't need for this to be a divisive topic. We need to sit down, come together, and talk because we need to create an opportunity here in America where we can change people's attitudes and make sure that our Nation's history is not repeated.

□ 1930

I also think that, as parents, we have to openly talk about race, bigotry, and hate with our children. One of the things that disturbs me as a parent and, quite frankly, just as a proud American is I will hear people say: Well, I don't say racist things in my house, so my kids would never hear that. If kids are saying racist things, then it must be because they are hearing it at home.

But I have to tell you, as a parent of an 11-year-old, I know that there are influences outside of my home. I know that there is a lot of peer pressure on kids. I know there are a lot of things on social media, and kids want to fit in. Kids want to be cool. So you can never utter one bad thing about a different nationality or race or someone of a different sexual orientation than yours in your house, and your kid could still end up being caught up in something bad like bigotry or racism just because of inappropriate influences at school.

That is why it is important, in my opinion, that, as parents, we talk about this with our children, as uncomfortable as it may make us, but we need to have the discussion. We need to know and our children need to know that it is important to us that we recognize other people's culture; that we recognize other people's faith and sexual orientation and religion so that, as they are forming and they are growing, they understand that this is a nation that is a great nation that is open to everybody, regardless of race, ethnic, or gender background.

I know that for some people, having to talk about racism, it can be very uncomfortable because it makes people guilty. A lot of times when it comes up or you are talking about this, you just—you hear people trying to come up with different examples to sort of assuage any sort of guilt that they may have. It makes them very uncomfortable.

But, again, we have to tackle this head-on. We have to come together to confront these issues of social injustice because it really is time that our Nation heals. It is time that our Nation heals and it is time that we break the chains of our plagued history.

I know that we have other Members here on the House floor that want to talk, and I have some things that I am going to mention a little bit later, just some of the unfortunate incidents that have happened with the President, with the Commander in Chief, the history that he has with racism that I would, quite frankly, like to see him address. Whether it is HUD discrimination, Central Park joggers, after they were exonerated by DNA, I think that his comments were: ''Well, they still did something bad,'' so on and so on. Just some of the issues at the casino that he owned in New Jersey, we need to talk about those.

Quite frankly, he can be a leader—he can actually be a leader in discussing these incidents that happened under his control and under his command, whether it was at his private corporation or whether it was commenting on the Central Park joggers, about how it was a learning experience for him, how he is never going to let it happen again, and how he is never going to let those words utter out of his mouth.

But before I go into that, I am going to turn it back over to the Representative PLASKETT from the Virgin Islands. I, again, thank her very much for kicking this off.

Ms. PLASKETT. Congressman VEASEY, I think it is important, one of the things you talked about is what is going on in our homes and the fact that our children can be radicalized outside of the home. This is an opportunity for us as Americans to see the victimization even of those children who become a part of the alt-right, who become a part of neo-Nazi groups; that they are, in fact, being radicalized by these very disturbing groups, and that we, as leaders in America, have a responsibility.

That is why I am asking unanimous consent to have the letter that was written by Chairman CEDRIC RICHMOND put into the RECORD—the letter of June 7 that went to the FBI, to Homeland Security, as well as to the Justice Department to ask them to investigate and take proactive stances; not just to protect those individuals who are victimized when violence occurs, but to protect those young people and others who may be untowardly influenced by social media to become part of these groups.

I think that is a great point that you bring up, as well as our President becoming someone who can lead the charge against this. We see the rise of this activity during his campaign and after his election. Well, then our President needs to be the one to be Presidential and to stem this influence and this rise of hate crimes that are taking place.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I am asking that our colleague, DONALD PAYNE, from the great State of New Jersey, who has done an amazing amount of work in his own community in the area of Newark in trying to stem violence and criminal justice, the reform work that he is doing, to speak on this matter this evening. I thank him so much for the time that he is giving us. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Well, first, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands, Congresswoman PLASKETT, and the gentleman from Texas, MARC VEASEY, for hosting tonight's Special Order hour on such an important topic: racism and discrimination.

Before I begin, I want to take a moment to mark the 1-year anniversary of the Pulse Nightclub shooting and to remember the 49 lives that were cut short in the deadliest mass shooting in our Nation's history.

As we grieve for the victims and their families, we must continue to stand in solidarity with the survivors and with the LGBTQ community against hate, intolerance, for love, in support of our Nation's values of equality and dignity for all.

The kind of intolerance, hate, and violence on display that day in Orlando has become an alarming trend in this country, a trend that has disturbingly been fueled by President Trump. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, 37 percent of the 1,094 bias-related incidents in just the first month after the election referenced the President, his campaign slogans, or his remarks about sexual assault.

As he did throughout his campaign, President Trump continues to speak the language of racial and cultural grievance, pitting Americans against one another and perpetuating the viciousness he pretends to despise. The result is what you would expect: a spike in hate crimes and hate speech.

I have seen in my district in New Jersey where anti-Semitic graffiti was plastered on a pedestrian bridge. We have seen it at American University and just down the road at the National Museum of African American History and Culture, where nooses were found last month. Communities of color know this pain all too well.

Mr. Speaker, I am really fortunate to be able to discuss an issue of such importance to this Nation. This is one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

You know, I have been very fortunate in my life to have been born into a situation where a great American prior to me held this seat for 23 years in the 10th Congressional District of the State of New Jersey. His name was Donald Payne. He was my father and he afforded me a lifestyle, one of which I did not know of his suffering and pain growing up as a young African American in this country. But even in that situation, I have found myself—irrespective of being in that position, I found myself in situations that have been dangerous and uncomfortable.

As a young, 20-year-old—you know, when we are 20, we do things that we probably shouldn't be doing at times. I was on my lunchtime going downtown to pay a bill at a department store where I had my first credit card, and I was running late. So what I decided to do was make a U-turn on the main street, Broad Street, in Newark, New Jersey, which is the largest street in the town. And I made a U-turn to come in front of the store.

Naturally, you know, with my luck, a motorcycle police officer was coming down the street at the same time. So he pulled me over, as he should, and I was wrong. But I was using my cousin's car. So when he asked me for my license and registration, I could not find the papers that I needed and I was fumbling and nervous.

The officer leaned into the car and used the N-word and said: If you don't find those documents in a minute, I will throw you so far under the jail that they will never find you.

So this is very frightening for any citizen to go through. So I was able to get my license, and I handed it to him. Just before that, they would throw me so far under the jail that they would never find me again. Once I handed him my license and it said that I was DONALD PAYNE, Jr., whose father was a sitting councilman in the city of Newark, his whole attitude changed.

''Don't you know that you could get hurt, or you could hurt someone, or you have to be careful.'' A minute ago I was nothing. I would be so far under the jail, they would never find me. But now that I am connected to something or someone, all of a sudden we have become paternal.

Mr. Speaker, there are millions of people in this country that aren't connected to someone, and these are the types of things that they go through. So I am just here to say that we must be vigilant. I believe in this country; I believe in its greatness. I believe in the words in the Pledge of Allegiance. I believe in the Constitution. We must make it work for all Americans.

Ms. PLASKETT. Thank you so much, Mr. PAYNE, for your words, your enlightenment, and for sharing that very personal piece of you and your own experience. There are so many African Americans and so many people of color in this country who have those exact same experiences.

Whether it is us, personally—I know I have mine exactly like that. You know, I have four sons, and each one of them have had that kind of experience here in this country.

With the rise of hate that is occurring, we have to be careful for every American and we need to be concerned that this country is no longer becoming a safe place for groups of individuals; that there are people that are rising up and attempting to terrorize other Americans. This should be of concern to Congress. This should be of concern to our President.

I thank Mr. PAYNE again for that.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield to Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE from Texas, who sits not only on the Budget Committee, but, very relevant to our discussion this evening, is one of the senior members of the Judiciary Committee, as well as Homeland Security Subcommittee, where so many of these issues form a confluence.

Thank you so much for being with us this evening, Congresswoman JACKSON LEE. We look forward to your remarks and to the enlightenment that you will be giving us here in this Chamber as well as the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Well, first of all, it is my honor and privilege to thank Congresswoman PLASKETT for her ongoing leadership in speaking to our colleagues and the American people. Let me take a moment of personal privilege to say to her that, over the weekend in Texas, I was with a number of individuals from the Virgin Islands, and it certainly was my first task to tell them of the excellent representation that they were getting by her leadership on so many issues.

But to you, I want to say that we were at the commissioning of the USS Gabrielle Giffords, and proudly so. The commander of that ship is from the Virgin Islands, so there was a contingent of individuals from all over the country for recognizing the commander and his wife. Let me say that I made sure that those sailors knew who was supporting them as well. It certainly was a great honor to former Congresswoman Giffords, and there wasn't a dry eye as we did that. So I just wanted to add that and thank you for your indulgence of that.

If I might, let me also acknowledge my colleague on the floor, Congresswoman VAL DEMINGS, and Floridians who are here, just to make note of the commemoration of the tragedy at the Pulse Nightclub.

□ 1945

This is the area in which the Congresswoman policed, if you will, and her spouse still there leads the community in law enforcement. I will honor to those who lost their lives, but to the recognition that terrorism and hateful acts are not to be accepted by any of us.

As a good friend of mine, a Muslim, said yesterday as we stood against hateful acts against Muslims around the world, and particularly around the United States, he said that the way that we deal with this danger is to love in recognition of the human dignity of all.

To the LGBTQ community, my deepest sympathy and recognition in this month that we honor and have Pride Month that we recognize your deep involvement in this country and your right to human dignity. So I thank Congresswoman PLASKETT for allowing me to engage in that statement.

Let me say that I would hope that none of us would have wanted to be on the floor tonight to talk about the changing face of America since the election of the President of the United States but, in fact, to recognize that there has been a surge in discrimination throughout this Nation.

The roots of racial extremist violence against peaceful Black communities runs deep in American history: from this country's dark path of chattel slavery; to the southern lynch mobs that sought to permanently disenfranchise the Black vote; to the church bombing that killed four little Black girls in Birmingham; to the dismantling of an entire economic district in Tulsa; and to the senseless stabbing, just a few weeks ago, of a bright, young man by the name of Richard Collins III.

I am sad that the election of President Trump—and I am not sure whether this has been brought to his attention. I would like to bring it to his attention—has created a divisive atmosphere. Trump's political debut was centered on the racist birther movement, which questioned the citizenship of then-President Obama.

He was not in office then. And to some, it was a little humorous; some were shocked. Certainly, the Black community did not take it humorously. This was a Senator who had been duly elected by the citizens of Illinois. He had done nothing to bring in commentary on himself personally. He sought the Presidency of the United States. He offered to the American people all of the documentation that would be required, yet Donald Trump persisted for 5 years in insisting, through fake news, that he was not a citizen of the United States of America.

During his political campaign, he repeatedly refused to reject the endorsement of White supremacist groups. He failed to condemn supporters who shouted out racist slurs, and, on occasion, violently attacked protestors who happened to be an African-American woman, in particular.

In a nation completely comprised of immigrants, he has built a hateful movement around building a wall. And to my friends who are Hispanic, particularly Mexicans, he called them drug dealers and any number of names.

This country has prided itself on the value of immigration, of diversity, and, certainly, freed slaves who have come to make this country the great country that it is. Overall, his anti-immigrant incidents were the most reported, 315 incidents; followed by anti-Black, 221; anti-Muslim, 112; and anti-LGBT, 109.

So I just want to take a moment to add to my commentary, the things that I think are grossly horrific; that we should realize that this is not a time for the CBC to be on the floor casting blame.

Let me also, as I acknowledge Congresswoman PLASKETT, thank our chairperson, Congressman CEDRIC RICHMOND, for his really unceasing leadership of the Congressional Black Caucus and the work that he has done to make sure that we astutely have the information to be the conscience of Congress.

These are the pictures of hatred. This is the individual who killed the young man that—I don't want to show the wrong picture—but this is a picture of an individual who was engaged in the killing of two individuals, I believe in Portland, Oregon, because they were trying to defend someone of a different background.

We have a noose found hanging near a school in Washington, D.C. This is a picture of that. This has all happened since the election of President Trump.

We have an incident, June 9, 2017, The Washington Post says, "'Shut up, Slave!': A spilled Starbucks drink led to a racist tirade and sidewalk fight. . . ."

I don't know if people are under extreme tension, but this is all happening in 2017.

We have another one: A day without racism? Not for Trump's administration. The Department of Justice is dismantling, or lowering the Civil Rights Division, cutting the staffing that is there.

Hate crimes in the U.S. rising. These are the kinds of things. And tragically, here is a handsome, beautiful, young man who was taking his commission and getting ready to graduate, Richard Collins III, and he was killed.

Let me finish on these points about the criminal justice system that I think is very important.

Black Americans are more likely to have their cars searched.

Black Americans are more likely to be arrested for drug use.

Black Americans are more likely to be jailed while awaiting trial.

Black Americans are more likely to be offered a plea deal that includes prison time.

Black Americans are more likely to serve longer sentences than White Americans for the same offense.

Black Americans are more likely to be disenfranchised.

We also know that we have statistics, that I will offer into the RECORD, of Black American youth who are more likely to be included in the juvenile detention center, police stops, police searches, use of force during arrest, juvenile arrests, transgender arrests. Sixty percent of the transgender arrests are Black or Latino; arrests for marijuana.

Most Blacks are not likely to get pretrial release. More Blacks are likely to be prosecuted. More Blacks are likely to get prison versus community service. Length of incarceration is longer than Whites.

State judge incarceration, there are 208,000 people in State prison for drug offenses; 32 percent are White, 68 percent are Black.

Federal drug convictions are higher among African Americans. Forty-seven percent were Hispanics, and we are higher than those.

Federal court sentencing, and, of course, incarceration of women African Americans are higher. Sentencing to life without parole, African Americans are higher, 65 percent.

Hiring people with criminal records, that makes it very difficult for us to work, and eliminating the right to vote.

So, Congresswoman, I will close by simply saying, where is the President on standing with the moral compass of asking the hatred to stop; to really empower a Department of Justice not to be led by an individual who has fought against voting rights, fought against the rights of those who are seeking to be rehabilitated in the criminal justice system; to join a bipartisan army of individuals against mass incarceration? Where is the President in standing against the hatred that has impacted the African-American community?

The words that he has said, where is the President in stopping this onslaught that is generating into violence in the streets?

Where is the moral compass of this administration? If it is not you, Mr. President, the Congressional Black Caucus will not take a back seat to you. We will fight and bring this country back to where it should be, and that is a country that believes in the equality of all Americans, and the African Americans who have died and bled in wars, and have been slaves, and, in essence, came through a reformation to be free. We will not take a back seat to all of this hatred.

I ask you, Mr. President, where are your answers?

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues, Congressman VEASEY and Congresswoman PLASKETT for anchoring this important special order on "Racism and Discrimination in America."

For over 40 years the CBC has been at the forefront in the fight against the evils of racism, discrimination, marginalization, and the various manifestations of institutionalized racial bias.

In today's uncertain times, we must be more steadfast than ever to continue that fight.

No matter what your party identification is, I believe we can all agree that we must root out extremist violence everywhere, and especially within our borders.

And while we are all committed to eliminating ISIS and all its sympathizers, we must not underestimate the threat of domestic terrorism and domestic violence by racial extremists.

Throughout the history of this country, African-American communities have faced innumerable threats from those who don't comprehend that there is value within our nation's diversity.

The roots of racial extremist violence against peaceful Black communities runs deep in American history: From this country's dark past of chattel slavery, to the southern lynch mobs that sought to permanently disenfranchise the Black vote, to the church bombing that killed four little girls in Birmingham, to the dismantling of an entire economic district in Tulsa, to the senseless stabbing of a bright young man by the name of Richard Collins III just a few weeks go.

As a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, or the "Conscience of the Congress", I call on this body to do all it can to stem the rising tide of racial violence.

Although progress has been made, President Trump's divisive rhetoric, and the actions of his followers, have shown us that we still have much work to do before all of America can feel safe.

Consistent rhetoric of intolerance coming from Trump's campaign and now his administration has not only put a target on African-American communities, but also on Mexican-Americans, Muslim-Americans, women, and those within the immigrant population.

The election of Donald Trump has had a significant effect on the nation's race relations:

Trump's political debut was centered on the racist "birther movement", which questioned the citizenship of then President Obama for months.

During his political campaign, he repeatedly refused to reject the endorsement of white supremacist groups.

He failed to condemn supporters who shouted out racist slurs and on more than one occasion, violently attacked protesters.

In a nation completely comprised of immigrants, he has built a hateful movement around building a wall to keep them out.

This country has prided itself on being the melting pot of the world. The bastion of freedom of equality. Violence against any person based on their class, color, or creed is not only immoral, it's anti-American.

We must condemn, denounce, and seek to eliminate these acts of racial terror with the same fervor that we would when dealing with religious extremists.

I have to quote former Attorney General Eric Holder who stated, ''Though this nation has proudly thought of itself as an ethnic melting pot, in things racial we have always been and continue to be, in too many ways, essentially a nation of cowards.''

Regardless of who resides at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., this body, the people's chamber, has a responsibility to do all that it can to ensure the safety of all Americans. That is why I, along with my colleagues from the Congressional Black Caucus, have sent out a letter to the Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the acting director of the FBI urging them to allocate more time and resources to curbing the recent uptick in violence.

Incidents of Racialized Violence Since the Election:

The Southern Poverty Law Center has conducted a report on incidents of racialized violence following the Presidential election.

There were over 1000 violent attacks reported within a month of the election.

Overall, anti-immigrant incidents were the most reported at 315 incidents, followed by anti-black (221 incidents), anti-Muslim (112 incidents), and anti-LGBT (109 incidents).

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Congresswoman for her leadership on issues related to the Judiciary Committee and to others.

At this time, I would like to invite the Congressman, not just from New York, but from, of course, what I believe is the best, most illustrious borough in New York City—Brooklyn, of course, which is where I was born and raised.

Thank you so much, Congressman JEFFRIES, for your leadership on the Judiciary Committee, your discussions about the issues that we are discussing here this evening, and I am waiting to hear what you are going to not only present to us here in this Chamber but to the American people on this issue.

I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES).

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands for yielding, and for the phenomenal job that you have done, along with my classmate, the distinguished gentleman from Texas, Representative MARC VEASEY.

As you know, I have great affection for the fact that you have a significant connection to Brooklyn. We say back home, there are two types of Americans: those who live in Brooklyn, and those who want to live in Brooklyn.

But, certainly, this is a significant issue, that the Congressional Black Caucus has gathered here today to discuss during this hour of power, the opportunity for members of the Congressional Black Caucus to speak directly to the American people on an issue of great significance.

Since January 20, we have seen a disturbing increase here in America in anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim, anti-Black, anti-LGBT, and anti-Semitic acts.

And the question is: Is this just a coincidence, or could it possibly have something to do with the election of the 45th President of the United States of America?

Now, in part, what we are seeing is connected to a historic backlash that has often occurred throughout this journey that we have been on here in America, that whenever we make significant progress, there is always a backlash amongst some in America who have got a problem with the fact that we have done things designed to be more consistent with our values of liberty and justice for all, equal protection under the law.

We know slavery was the original sin here in America. That was corrected in the aftermath of the North's victory during the Civil War. We had the reconstruction amendments: the 13th Amendment, abolish slavery; 14th Amendment, equal protection under the law; 15th Amendment, the right to vote regardless of race. That was progress in America followed by the inevitable backlash.

The imposition of Jim Crow laws; a lynching epidemic; Black code, segregation, particularly through just the Deep South. Progress followed by backlash.

And then finally, in the 1960s, in an effort to create a more perfect union and address the unfinished business in America, you had the civil rights movement, anchored with the '64 Civil Rights Act, effectively ended Jim Crow; the '65 Voting Rights Act, giving African Americans in the Deep South, people of color throughout the country the right to vote, unimpeded from things like grandfather clauses, and poll taxes, and other types of shenanigans that people were practicing; the 1968 Fair Housing Act capped off the civil rights movement, followed by the inevitable backlash.

Richard Nixon ran a racist campaign, a southern strategy, designed to appeal to aggrieved Whites in parts of this country, particularly in the Deep South, ushered in an era of resistance to the progress that had been made, antibusing, antiaffirmative action.

And then, of course, we have got Barack Obama who was elected in what many of us viewed as an incredible step in the right direction. African Americans, having gone from the outhouse to the White House. Eight years of tremendous progress in moving this country forward, followed by the election of Donald Trump, a man who spent 5 years perpetrating the racist lie that Barack Obama was not born in the United States of America.

And many of us are wondering, why were so many people who worship at the altar of White supremacy drawn to Donald Trump's campaign? What was it about this individual that so many folks dripping in hatred flocked to his candidacy? That is not to say that everyone who voted for Donald Trump is a racist. We do know that every racist in America voted for Donald Trump. That is a problem.

And so, again, I just ask the question in closing: Is this all a big coincidence? We know part of it is the backlash that has often occurred whenever we have made progress in America. But this President has a responsibility to address the rise in hate crimes that have taken place on his watch, whether or not his election is directly connected to it.

Many of us have our own suspicions, but he is the Commander in Chief.

□ 2000

He has got to tell his Attorney General, who is straight out of central casting in terms of the good old boys: Your job as chief law enforcement officer in the land is to enforce the laws whether you like them or not.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

The gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands may continue.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES).

Mr. JEFFRIES. In closing, Mr. Speaker, I will simply say that every single thing that has been said—and I would urge you to challenge anything as a fact. In fact, there are facts that have been left out in terms of my remarks about the 45th President of the United States. I have actually been kind of gentle as it relates to the person who is occupying 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue right now, but more to come. I would welcome the Speaker to dispute anything that has been said in the name of us trying to move this country forward consistent with the notions of equal protection under the law and liberty and justice for all.

Ms. PLASKETT. I thank Congressman JEFFRIES and I really appreciate his remarks. I know that this House has rules and is concerned about decorum in here. We at the Congressional Black Caucus are also very concerned about decorum. While we uphold the position of the President of the United States, many individuals—particularly constituents, the underserved within our communities—are fearful about us actually speaking out, specifically to the personage and to the person of President Donald Trump.

What we are trying to do in this Special Order is speak unrefutable facts; not about the personality, not subjective discussion about the President, not our feelings, and not our fears, but the actual facts of what has happened in this country and what is happening in this country because that is life for our children, that is the very essence of us continuing, and that is what democracy is about.

If we cannot critique the actions of our President, then that is very fearful

to us as Americans and very fearful to this House, which is supposed to be a separate branch of government and which I recall maybe a year ago it speaking very vehemently against the person who was in the White House at that time.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN), who is my classmate. I thank Congresswoman WATSON COLEMAN for her work, particularly in working with other Congressional Black Caucus women to found the Caucus for Black Women and Girls, which is very important right now because this is a forgotten group quite often here in the United States, and the gentlewoman is advocating and speaking out for those individuals.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Congresswoman so much for her leadership and this Special Order hour and considering this subject matter that we are going to discuss.

I want to talk a little bit about something that has sort of been my observation and my experiences for a very long period of time and I think that are actually exacerbated by this Presidency that we currently have in this House. Let me, by way of association, just comment positively to the remarks of my colleague and the former speaker, HAKEEM JEFFRIES from New York.

I entitled my remarks ''From the Cradle to the Grave.''

From the cradle to the grave, Black people in America are required to be resilient, courteous, and persistent. The rules are always different.

From the cradle to the grave, Black people in America must be comfortable and confident in ourselves, but only so much so that we do not intimidate or aggravate.

From the cradle to the grave, Black people in America are told our plight, our struggle, and our sacrifice is a mere fantasy in post-racial America while we witness the reality of institutional racism, conscious discrimination, and our rich history erased or appropriated.

From cradle to grave, Black people in America experience this racism and discrimination walking home from the corner store eating a pack of Skittles, listening to music at a gas station, or simply sitting in our neighborhood park.

We experience this racism and discrimination showing up to school in our natural hairstyles, shopping in our favorite stores, or even just showing up to work—including the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Last Wednesday, it was reported that Black troops are far more likely than their White counterparts to face court-martial or other forms of military punishment.

National data shows us that Black girls are 5.5 times more likely to be suspended from school than White girls. That rate actually balloons in my State of New Jersey to 8.5 percent. More than 60 years after Brown v. Board of Education, school systems in the United States are still separate and unequal.

As of 2014, California had 31 open desegregation cases. In 2016, a Presidential candidate ran a campaign on divisive rhetoric that targeted our communities, our well-being, and our safe spaces. It only gets worse.

From the cradle to the grave, we are told to calm down, sit down, and be courteous and humble. From the cradle to the grave, the experiences, the challenges, the stories, our history, and even our very being are kept out of boardrooms, classrooms, voting booths, department stores, history books, movie screens, television scripts, and the like.

But let me just tell you that, from the cradle to the grave, we are built to persevere, we are strengthened to overcome, we are born to lead, we are committed to uplift, and we are fully equipped to soar with weights on our shoulders even in these times and even under this Presidency. And guess what. We do.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman very much for her inspiring words and motivation to us all.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. EVANS). We always bring up the fact that Congressman DWIGHT EVANS is a freshman, but he isn't really a freshman. Everybody acknowledges his leadership in his work in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the State house that transcends him as a freshman. We call the gentleman a superfreshman in that respect because he comes with a great deal of experience and wisdom here to the House floor. I am very anxious to hear what the gentleman has to speak about related to hate crimes and the rise of domestic terrorism against people of color and against minorities here in this country.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands for her leadership, along with my colleague from Texas, because both of them have demonstrated real clear leadership for the Congressional Black Caucus and the leadership of our chairman, CEDRIC RICHMOND. So I thank both of them publicly for what they have done and all of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, we have a lot to lose under the Trump administration. It has been very clear, as has been stated by all of my colleagues, from healthcare to food policy, to education, to affordable housing, the President and his party continue to look for ways to take away what we have come to know as fundamental programs behind building stronger neighborhoods.

Our Nation is facing challenging times and we simply cannot afford to carry on business as usual. From the nooses found at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture to the racial slur spray-painted on LeBron James' house during the NBA finals and attacks against Jewish community centers and vandalism in Jewish cemeteries, our country and our globe are sadly seeing horrific increases in discrimination and racially biased incidents.

Dr. King always said: We have come over here in different boats, but we are now in the same boat.

I really mean just that. Think about it: an attack against one of us is an attack against all of us. We know we have come a long way in our fight against racial intolerance and hate in our country, but our journey continues. It doesn't matter if you are Black, Jewish, Hispanic, or LGBT. We are stronger together when we celebrate both our similarities and our differences.

When we watch the news, it is incredibly upsetting to see what is still happening in 2017. A little over a week ago at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture here in D.C., we found another noose on the Smithsonian grounds. The museum's founding director said: ''It is a painful reminder of the challenges that African Americans continue to face.''

We know that we are not only seeing violence and intolerance against the African-American community, but it is everywhere. This year at the Mount Carmel Cemetery, a Jewish cemetery just outside of my district in northeast Philadelphia, countless tombstones were toppled and vandalized. Days after this, the JCC in Wynnewood in my district received a bomb threat.

These are just a few of the truly cowardly acts of violence taking place in our neighborhoods, yet our Attorney General, Jeff Sessions, and the President claim to be tough on crime. They want to put more people in cities behind bars.

This weekend, Mr. Speaker, I was the keynote speaker at Gaudenzia, an addiction treatment and recovery center in my district. The graduates are some of the strongest individuals in our city, and their stories of perseverance and hard work are truly inspiring. I always say: Where you start is not where you end up.

Throughout my career, I have been dedicated to trying to find ways to build stronger neighborhoods block by block. To do this, we have to make good jobs, great schools, and access to healthcare a reality.

We know the tradition and reentry back into our neighborhoods isn't always easy. In Philadelphia, ShopRite supermarket is hiring to give good-paying jobs to those who formerly were incarcerated. The company estimates they have given over 500 jobs to formerly incarcerated individuals. This is the result in one city.

Sadly, we know that racism and bigotry are still a factor in our communities. We have to confront this head-on. As the Congressional Black Caucus

collectively stands here today, we will not accept what is taking place. We are prepared to face these challenges, and we are asking others to join us because we recognize that we can move this country forward, but it will take all of us.

So what we are doing here today is raising the awareness because we must have this conversation in a public way. We must deal with this issue of racism, noninclusion, and discrimination. No longer can we accept this.

Mr. Speaker, I say to you today: As a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, we are prepared to do our part.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for his remarks and continued work to discuss middle communities, middle neighborhoods, and the importance of these communities and how they need to be protected.

Congressman VEASEY, we have had a discussion here this evening about so much of the rise in hate crimes and the rise of racial tensions. I know that this weekend Puerto Rico had its plebiscite in which they talked about becoming a State.

One of the things that I often talk to people about is the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, and Puerto Rico, all of us are territories now after 100 years.

It was never the intent of Congress for areas of the United States to be a territory for 100 years except for the fact that these are now people of color. These are communities of people of color. So based on the insular cases 100 years ago which said that the people living in the territories and offshore territories were people of alien races who couldn't understand Anglo-Saxon principles of law, that is why we were not able to have the full-fledged rights of American citizens.

□ 2015

Now we are seeing, even here on the mainland, individuals, people of color, who are being treated as second-class citizens and who are not afforded the full protection of this country.

When you have incidents like on May 20 with Richard Collins, on May 26 with Jeremy Joseph Christian, who began shouting racial slurs at two women on a Portland, Oregon, train, and as the two men stepped in to de-escalate the situation, those two great men were stabbed to death, and a third man was wounded, much needs to be done.

We have our moments of silence when there are mass shootings. We mourn for the families of Pulse nightclub and for what happened in those areas. But it is not enough for us to have Special Order hours, to have discussions, or even have moments of silence. Action must be taken by this administration.

Mr. VEASEY. Absolutely. We do need action taken by this administration, Representative PLASKETT.

I mentioned to you earlier that I wanted to talk about the President's history on racism and some of the things that came out in the campaign—not anything new but, nevertheless, very disturbing—and why we need for the President honestly to lead this discussion.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order hour.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SMUCKER). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I know that there were other issues that the gentleman wanted to discuss with regard to some of these and examples that he wanted to give as well, and I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. VEASEY. Very briefly, we have the President's history on racism from the very beginning of his candidacy, of course, and the way he disparaged Mexicans and Mexican Americans in this country by calling people rapists and accusing people of bringing disease and crime into the United States, pretending that he didn't know who David Duke was. It is unbelievable, pretending to not know who David Duke was.

Ms. PLASKETT. I think he knows now.

Mr. VEASEY. Even condoning the beating of a Black Lives Matter protester, his history extends before that.

Of course, it was very well covered, very well chronicled during the campaign about the Justice Department suing his real estate company and his father's real estate company for not renting apartments to Black people, not renting apartments to African-American potential tenants. Of course, they ultimately settled that lawsuit because of the wrongdoing that happened there.

Ms. PLASKETT. That was in the 1970s, I believe.

Mr. VEASEY. The gentlewoman is absolutely correct.

In 1989, he encouraged and celebrated the wrongful imprisonment of the Central Park Five and took out full-page ads in New York area newspapers calling for the return of the death penalty in response to a very infamous case in which a woman was beaten and raped while jogging in Manhattan's Central Park.

Back then, before he was President, Donald Trump said: They should be forced to suffer, and when they kill, they should be executed for their crimes. I want these murderers and always will.

Of course, there was a lot of public outrage over that case. It was very well talked about. It was on all the talk shows and what have you.

Those men wrongfully spent time in prison because the DNA evidence exonerated them.

Ms. PLASKETT. Actually, they weren't men at the time. They were teenagers.

Mr. VEASEY. They were teenagers at the time.

Even after the DNA evidence exonerated them, he still said that maybe they could be guilty of something. I thought that was a terrible thing to say.

Of course, the New Jersey Casino Control Commission fined Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino $200,000 in 1992 because managers would remove African-American car dealers at the request of certain big-time gamblers that would come in.

In 1996, 20 African Americans in Indiana sued Trump for failing to honor a promise to hire mostly minority workers for a riverboat casino on Lake Michigan.

Let me tell you why, even despite this, the President has the ability to lead a discussion on race.

You might remember Shirley Sherrod. I don't know if that name rings a bell with you. She was an African-American agricultural worker who worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Georgia Department of Agriculture, and was given an example of how she overcame her own bias and her own racism.

Of course, her comments were misconstrued and the tapes were made to sound one way. She ultimately lost her job. She was offered her job back after it was proven this conservative newspaper had actually tried to disparage her so they could have some sort of a racism equivalent or something to try to make the readers feel better.

The reason why I bring that up is because here was a woman that was being honest about and trying to give an example about how she overcame bias and how she overcame prejudice. The President has an opportunity to talk about Central Park, to talk about racism in his apartments, to talk about the issues at the casino, to talk about the other areas in his life where he has fallen quite short when it comes to fairness and honesty and racism. So we need him to lead that discussion so we can begin to talk more and begin to heal our country.

Ms. PLASKETT. Part of leadership is expressing your shortcomings and using that as an opportunity to move forward and to move the Nation forward. So many people look to our President for his leadership and for his thoughts and his out-of-the-box thinking. This would be tremendous not only to the people who are being oppressed, but to others as well.

One of the things I wanted to leave us with was a quote and some work that the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law is working on, that has a mission to secure equal justice for all through the rule of law, targeting, in particular, the inequities confronting African Americans and other racial and ethnic minorities.

In December 2016, Kristen Clarke, who is the president, stated: ''Hate

crimes and hate-filled incidents stand as a dark cloud over our democracy. The recent spike in hate crimes is attributable, in part, to racially charged rhetoric that characterized the 2016 election cycle and the rise of 'alt-right' white nationalist extremism. This is a moment that calls for Federal, State, and local officials to use every tool in their arsenal to fully investigate and prosecute these incidents when they occur.''

And we from the Congressional Black Caucus say, as well, to eradicate this from our Nation.

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

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the 2016 presidential election was an exceptionally bitter fight between Republicans and Democrats. The election highlighted many of the existing divides between many Americans and the underlying frustrations that we have been wrestling with as a people. Couple this with the resentful partisanship that we have experienced in Congress, and it is quite clear that there are deep rifts dividing our country. However, one of the biggest consequences of this partisan bickering and inability to compromise has been the increase in the frequency of hate crimes across America.

The latest figures from the Southern Poverty Law Center estimate that there have been nearly 1,372 bias incidents between the day after the election and February 7, when these statistics were last reported. SPLC is collecting self-reported data from across the country in an effort to monitor ''bias incidents''—or acts of hostility that are motivated by racism or other prejudices—across the United States. While it is important to acknowledge the limitations of self-reported data, this trend is consistent with several other incidents reported nationwide that have challenged the notion that we are living in a post-racial society.

For example, several nooses were found throughout our nation's capital this month—one near an elementary school, another in the African American Museum of History and Culture, and on American University's campus. On June 2, a Muslim couple was allegedly harassed in Oregon and told to go back to their country. More prominently, two men in Portland were stabbed to death and another wounded when they tried to intervene on behalf of two women, one of whom was wearing a hijab, who were being verbally assaulted by a man yelling slurs.

Mr. Speaker, these are just a few of the horrendous incidents being reported in the wake of this election and the hateful rhetoric that has come to define the political narrative. However, I am here to join my colleagues not only to denounce these actions and hateful words, but also to remind ourselves that we are better than this. We are better than this as a people and a nation, and we must all do our part to discourage this behavior and hold these violators accountable. Until we all take active roles within our society and democracy, we cannot reasonably expect our society to overcome these challenges and emerge a stronger society. I am proud to join my colleagues tonight in sending a clear message that these acts of hatred and violence will not be tolerated. Not today, not ever.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING PULSE NIGHTCLUB VICTIMS IN ORLANDO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, as I stand here tonight before you, in my hometown of Orlando, thousands of people are gathered at Lake Eola Park like they were 1 year ago to mourn, honor, and pay tribute to the 49 lives we lost on January 12, 2016. We were with them earlier today. We would love to be with them tonight, as we were last year, but we are here doing the job we were elected to do.

I am joined tonight by my colleague—I am absolutely honored to serve with him—Representative DARREN SOTO. We stand here tonight on the floor of the House of Representatives together so the world will not forget the lives we lost in the Pulse nightclub shooting.

It was supposed to be like any other Saturday night for the men and women inside the Pulse nightclub. I can only imagine the excitement they shared that evening as they celebrated birthdays and friendships. Mr. Speaker, they were out for what my bishop likes to call late-night fellowship.

Then, at 2:20 a.m., when everyone was closing their tabs for the night and about to head home, it was then that an ISIS-inspired gunman, motivated by hate, walked into the club and opened fire. Within a matter of minutes, he was able to kill 49 people and wound so many others. The innocent men and women in the club didn't stand a chance against him that night.

We lost 49 lives. Their full potential will never be known, and we will always wonder, when we think about their lives, what could have been. Many others continue to recover from their visible and invisible wounds.

In the days and weeks following the Nation's deadliest mass shooting, we saw our community come together in beautiful ways. We mourned with those who lost their loved ones. We came out in droves to donate blood for the survivors who needed it. We showed support and gratitude for our law enforcement officers, our first responders, and the nurses and doctors who acted with courage and bravery in the face of unimaginable tragedy.

We embraced and celebrated the diversity that makes Orlando ''The City Beautiful.'' We showed the world that we are a city who defeats hate with love.

One year after the shooting, the wounds are still fresh and the scars are still not fully healed, but our community is resilient and united in the face of this tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my colleague from Florida, (Mr. SOTO).

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Florida, Representative VAL DEMINGS. First of all, I thank her for her service in law enforcement and also for her husband, Jerry Demings' service in law enforcement and to remember the 1-year mark of the Pulse nightclub shooting.

□ 2030

I wrote a poem entitled: ''Our Pulse Still Beats.''

Inspiration from a brother lost too soon
A place for his memory to play the tune
Alas his pulse ceased
A safe place for a rainbow of people
Full expression was presented throughout this steeple
They all danced to the pulsating sounds
Then came a night of celebration
For many friends from many nations
On the move to impulsive grooves
In the midst of the night a dark figure entered
Hate-filled heart and soul a splintered
His guns pulsating death.
Horrors, and cries, as bullets fly
Some they ran and some they died
Their pulses ceased to be
Brave officers infiltrated the scene
A melee ensued amidst the smoke and gleam
And in the end terror was silenced, the repulsive vanquished
Medics and firefighters quickly came to the rescue
Seeking out those who cried out with fading hues
Come quick he is still breathing, wait she has a pulse
In makeshift ambulances staining ER floors in red
One by one saved from the dead
On the monitor, pulses finally steady beep, beep, beep
In the morn Orlando awakes in sadness
But comes together as One above the madness
The pulse of the city is unspeakable grief and unbreakable love
From everywhere we came to the Center, the Bloodbank, the Lake, and the Streets
We gave our time, our pennies, our blood, our hugs, and our eats
Donors with a strong pulse are needed to replenish our stock
Makeshift monuments grew before our eyes
We gathered at Dr. Phillips for those we lost and those still alive
As the bell rang 49 times, sorrow became the natural impulse, but so was unity
This emotion, this grief, this love was felt around the world
By mothers and fathers, boys and girls
A community pulsating with sadness and defiant hope
Our happy little tourist town known for magic
Became the site of history's most violent shooting, tragic
But our community's pulse still beats
One year later one community stronger
Our pulse still beats
For those who survived

Our pulse still beats
And for those we lost
Our love still remains
For the 49 angels our love still remains
Though pain will ever be in our hearts
Our love still remains.

Mrs. DEMINGS. I want to thank my colleague from Florida (Mr. SOTO) for that very beautiful and inspiring poem that really captures not only the tragedy that occurred in Orlando at the Pulse Nightclub that night, but the heroic acts, how our community came together, and really provides the hope that our community needs in moving forward.

Mr. Speaker, no one can tell the story better than the family members who lost their loved ones that night, the survivors who were within the club that night. At this time, we would like to share some of the letters from family members and survivors.

The first letter that I would like to share comes from a mother who, if you were watching at all during the early hours of this tragic incident, this particular mother was going around asking anyone who she could about her son, trying to find him, trying to get word of him. I would like to share a mother's story from Christine Leinonen.

''My son was one of the 49 people killed at Pulse Nightclub on June 12 of 2016. Those were 49 humans who collectively could have lived another 2,500 years. That is longer than we have had civilization. They were moms, dads, siblings, kids, straight, gay, Latino, Asian, Caucasian. They were your constituents. They deserved better than to die in a flurry of bullets.

''My son Chris was a happy, quirky, goofy young man and had been from baby on. He was every mother's dream to hit the kid lottery. He was an only child, and I never married. I couldn't have loved him more.

''He became a licensed mental health therapist. He loved his work and his personal life.

''Chris had many friends. Chris and his boyfriend, Juan, were one of at least three couples to die together that night: another Juan and two Luises. Chris was one of two Christophers to die that night and at least six Christophers who died or survived. The magnitude of the killing is that there were so many names repeated.

''My son was a loving and giving person. He was someone who was going to be my right-hand man as I became old and incapacitated. Now I have no one.

''Chris lived his life with love and kindness. He was a walking, talking United Nations, inclusive of all; not by design, but because he cared about character, not race, gender, sexuality, or ethnicity. He lived a life of inclusion. You would have loved him if you knew him, whether he was your child or friend or cousin or coworker. The world has a little less joy without him in it.

''Hugs and kisses, Christopher's mom.''

And at this time, I would like to yield to my colleague from Florida (Mr. SOTO), who will continue to share.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman DEMINGS for sharing Chris' story.

A coworker of mine, Ramses Tinoco, who survived the Pulse Nightclub shooting, sent me this letter entitled ''Everlasting Unity.''

''My name is Ramses Tinoco, and I am a Pulse Nightclub shooting survivor. I thank God for giving me the opportunity to continue with my life so that I can spread empowerment, compassion, love, and unity.

''I want to express my feelings and point of view. Realistically, as a community and nation, we all suffered a tragic attack of terror on this one-year remembrance of June 12, 2016. Today, this is known as the biggest mass shooting in American history. Here at the doorsteps of Pulse Nightclub, let's take in consistent consideration of the ones who ultimately suffered the most: the victims, families of the deceased, the injured survivors, the other survivors who were there and escaped by God's grace, and the community who stood by, grieved in the aftermath.

''As a community, we have been given an opportunity to rebuild ourselves as stronger individuals and help those that are falling behind in depression, anguish, lament, and grief. As a community, we must show that constantly we are not alone, we are united more than ever, and, above all, that we are better than yesterday.

''This attack was a terrible and unfortunate tragedy to live through. It was an ultimate reminder that there is still a lot of discrimination and hate in this world. However, we must engage, learn from it, and utilize it to confront and prevent future fear in our community and ultimately the rest of the world. We can't be stronger if we fuel hate and negativity. We can't be stronger by pointing fingers and censoring others based on their race, financial status, sexual orientation, and religious beliefs.

''Our world is facing some hard times. Everyone is becoming a victim. How can we stop this and end the fear? We must stand up and speak out for our rights, for our peace and protection, and for the safety of our country. Above all, we need to engage solidarity and equality for the love of humanity. We can begin to make this world a better place, right here, right now. It starts with you going out and doing something nice for someone. We need to live in a world free of fear. That time begins now.

''Ramses Tinoco'' of Orlando, Florida.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative SOTO for his remarks.

I would like to continue to share letters from the survivors of Pulse. The next letter that I will share comes from Brandon Wolf.

''It is hard to believe it has been a year. That Saturday night was like any other: loud music, skinny jeans, cheap drinks. Alongside my best friends, Drew Leinonen and Juan Guerrero, I was as free as ever. Standing outside on the patio, in his typical way, Drew tossed his arm around my shoulders and spoke his last words to me: 'You know what we never say enough? That we love each other.' ''

Those were the last words that Drew spoke that evening.

'' . . . I learned a lesson from Orlando's recovery: that equality and unity aren't trophies, and the journey we are on isn't over. We can't take our eyes off the prize or forget what lies ahead.

''We have to disarm hate. Silence it. Snuff it out. Replace it with the same message Drew had for me: love.

''Brandon Wolf.''

At this time, I yield to my colleague from Florida (Mr. SOTO) to share another letter regarding this tragic incident.

Mr. SOTO. I thank the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) for sharing Brandon's story.

Next we have a story from a friend.

''My name is Jim McDermott, and I am a good friend of Chris Brodman who was the first survivor of the Pulse massacre to pass away of a rare brain aneurysm on September 11 of last year. Chris came to Orlando and made it his home in the fall of 2007. His outgoing, natural interest in other people and their stories made him quite popular in our community—and we are still grieving his loss to this day. It is hard to imagine that his constant, wonderful smile is not around anymore to brighten our days.

''He was and is the best friend one could ever have.

''Chris was celebrating at Pulse a few days late because he had to work on the actual day of his birthday itself. He was lingering with friends, enjoying the festive atmosphere of the club that was one of his favorites, when the attack began. In what I find to be an example of his character, Chris pushed his friends to safety over the back fence first before escaping himself. Not one person who knows him finds this to be a surprise, as Chris was always our protector, our confidante, and our hero.

''As we come upon the one-year mark of the assault on Pulse, we wanted to remind the world of his heroism and his day-to-day loving example of how a great person can affect your life for the better. Chris loved people that were utterly themselves and unique. He prized authenticity and loyalty wherever he went. He had high standards, and he lived by them, and it made us want to live up to them as well.

''I know in my heart that he would want us to bridge the divides that separate us. He believed strongly in forgiveness and kindness. He was open to new ideas and new ways of thinking if it would lead people to a better life. My favorite recent picture of him was after the shooting where he proudly held up

a sign at the LGBT Center downtown saying: 'Love always wins.'

''In his memory, let us strive to remember not just the victims of this tragedy but the survivors as well. Let us ensure that they are getting the counseling and medical care that they continue to need. We should strive to maintain the loving bubble of hope that has surrounded our city, because of this event, despite all of the strife and division elsewhere in this country. We need to tell, preserve, and remember their stories, for they are worth hearing.''

□ 2045

''They have important lessons to teach all of us. Orlando is known as being the premier destination in the world for families of all kinds—a rainbow of diversity that is infused in every aspect of our city beautiful. So today let us protect the loving vision Orlando has become around the world in the face of this tragedy. Let us stay Orlando Strong. And in so doing, we remain the beautiful haven that drew Chris to us.

''And let us never forget the red-haired boy from Shirley, New York, who taught us about unconditional love and friendship from the day he arrived.

''We love you forever, Chris.

''Sincerely,

''Jim McDermott.''

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to share a survivor's letter by the name of Joshua McGill.

''My name is Joshua McGill, and I was there the night of the Pulse shooting a year ago.

''Although nothing will ever take away that tragic night for me and the fellow LGBTQ community, not only for Orlando, but for all people around the world that were affected by this form of hate towards our community, I must say that we have not let hate win thus far, and continue to spread love and prayers for one another and for the other families and victims that were either there that night, or affected in some way.

''It has been a true honor in seeing how close everyone has come together. It shows our strength as a whole and the love that we can all provide for one another in a time of need.

''The continuance of all of this gives me hope for my future in the community and in the world. May God bless you and everyone out there.

''I've become a stronger person since then, and if my strength can help others, I want to.

''Thank you for hearing my words.

''Joshua McGill.''

Mr. Speaker, I yield again to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO), my colleague.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida, Congresswoman DEMINGS, my colleague, for reading the letter of Joshua. How inspiring it really was.

Next we have a statement from our dear friend, Eric Rollings, who is one of our supervisors of the Orange County Soil and Water Board, and who also is one of our only openly gay elected officials.

''As an openly gay elected official and Orlando resident for 27 years, I know the city and Orange County very well. We are a loving, caring community that supports the rights and pursuit of happiness for all of our residents. One year ago this very day, we were devastated to feel the loss of so many lives from every part of all of Orlando. Yes, Pulse by name was a gay nightclub, but it was attended by everyone and all walks of life felt safe dancing and having a good time for more than a decade.

''As the night became dawn and the horror of the extent of what happened became painfully available by every media outlet, I didn't need to listen to news reports because I live right across the street from Pulse. The sound of the blades from the helicopters above my house cut through June air, day after day, looking for a better camera angle. Out of so much pain came so much love.

''Immediately Orlando went into action. The outpouring of love from everywhere in the world is still so incredible. The help came from faith-based organizations, the small stores, corporate America. Most of all, it came out of love and our neighbors. I hope this never happens to your community or any community, but it most likely will. Let me offer some advice.

''Love thy neighbor, know your neighbor, and take care of your neighbor. Do not wait until another tragedy. Talk to your children about violence. Let's help the persons that suffer from mental illnesses.

''There is a significance and real difference between a city that is tolerant, a city accepting, and a city that embraces the LGBTQ and all its communities and individuals within those communities. I am proud to live in a city and a county that embraces! We are Orlando Strong and we are Orlando United.''

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share this last survival letter for tonight. It is from Eric Borrero. It says:

''Dear Congress,

''It is to me how fast one year has gone by. The horrifying emotions and feeling of that night have not fleeted. Instead, they lay dormant in the recesses of my mind, bubbling up like lava in a moment's notice from unforeseen triggers.

''It is like living on a roller coaster: having great moments over the past year, making things feel absolutely normal; and extreme lows, feeling as if I will never come out of the darkness.

''Even through the disturbing images of the past, I am optimistic about the future I have ahead of me. I can fully grasp that life will never go back to the normal that I once knew, but this experience has helped me focus on what is needed in the world. That is love and inclusion for all people.

''Over the past year, I have had the most amazing support system of friends and family, who have been there for me as I have cried and battled the demons that lay with me when I sleep.

''These feelings have not changed since that night, but I remain positive and stand with my LGBTQ and Latinx brothers and sisters for a better future for everyone.

''Regards,

''Eric Borrero.''

Mr. Speaker, I would like to share that, today, Representative SOTO, Representative STEPHANIE MURPHY, and I introduced a resolution to recognize and mark one year since the Pulse tragedy. We were joined by 143 Members of Congress, Democrats and Republicans, who are standing to show the community of Orlando that we stand with them in support; that Congress will not forget the victims, the survivors, the first responders, and the communities that are shattered by the hands of domestic terrorists; and that we will do everything we can to prevent future mass shootings, and take care of the people who are left standing in the wake of these tragedies.

Mr. Speaker, our community declared June 12, 2017, Orlando United Day, a day of love and kindness. All across our community, people are coming together to honor the victims by volunteering and attending vigils and memorials.

We are a community that will never forget. We won't forget those 49 innocent men and women who were sons, daughters, mothers, husbands, wives, students, teachers, entrepreneurs, and dreamers, who had a lot of life left to live. We are a community that will continue to honor these men and women, not through our words, but through our actions.

Mr. Speaker, I thank God for Representative SOTO, for his service to our community. I am honored to serve with him in the United States Congress. I appreciate the work that he has done for the last several years throughout our community. I was honored to share this Special Order with him.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO).

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a list of the names of those who perished in the Pulse Nightclub shooting.

[From www.cityoforlando.net, June 12, 2017]

VICTIM'S NAMES

Stanley Almodovar III, 23 years old; Amanda L. Alvear, 25 years old; Oscar A. Aracena Montero, 26 years old; Rodolfo Ayala Ayala, 33 years old; Antonio Davon Brown, 29 years old; Darryl Roman Burt II, 29 years old; Angel Candelario-Padro, 28 years old; Juan Chavez Martinez, 25 years old; Luis Daniel Conde, 39 years old; Cory James Connell, 21 years old.

Tevin Eugene Crosby, 25 years old; Deonka Deidra Drayton, 32 years old; Simón Adrian Carrillo Fernández, 31 years old; Leroy Valentin Fernandez, 25 years old; Mercedez Marisol Flores, 26 years old; Peter Ommy Gonzalez Cruz, 22 years old; Juan Ramon

Guerrero, 22 years old; Paul Terrell Henry, 41 years old; Frank Hernandez, 27 years old; Miguel Angel Honorato, 30 years old.

Javier Jorge Reyes, 40 years old; Jason Benjamin Josaphat, 19 years old; Eddie Jamoldroy Justice, 30 years old; Anthony Luis Laureano Disla, 25 years old; Christopher Andrew Leinonen, 32 years old; Alejandro Barrios Martinez, 21 years old; Brenda Marquez McCool, 49 years old; Gilberto R. Silva Menendez, 25 years old; Kimberly Jean Morris, 37 years old; Akyra Monet Murray, 18 years old.

Luis Omar Ocasio Capo, 20 years old; Geraldo A. Ortiz Jimenez, 25 years old; Eric Ivan Ortiz-Rivera, 36 years old; Joel Rayon Paniagua, 32 years old; Jean Carlos Mendez Perez, 35 years old; Enrique L. Rios, Jr., 25 years old; Jean Carlos Nieves Rodríguez, 27 years old; Xavier Emmanuel Serrano-Rosado, 35 years old; Christopher Joseph Sanfeliz, 24 years old; Yilmary Rodríguez Solivan, 24 years old.

Edward Sotomayor Jr., 34 years old; Shane Evan Tomlinson, 33 years old; Martin Benitez Torres, 33 years old; Martin Benitez Torres, 33 years old; Jonathan A. Camuy Vega, 24 years old; Juan Pablo Rivera Velázquez, 37 years old; Luis Sergio Vielma, 22 years old; Franky Jimmy Delesus Velázquez, 50 years old; Luis Daniel Wilson-Leon, 37 years old; Jerald Arthur Wright, 31 years old.

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

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my colleagues' tribute to the victims of that terrible tragic murder spree by a radical Islamist who said he was doing it for the Islamic State. The attorney general herself indicated that we have a tape of him saying he is doing it for the Islamic State.

There is nothing that justifies such an outrageous murder of even one innocent victim, much less the dozens that were mowed down by what could normally, in the old days, be said to have been a crazed killer. But he wasn't so much crazed as he was driven by a radical Islamic agenda, the same radical Islamic agenda that caused 30 million, mostly Muslim, Egyptians to rise up. Coming near the anniversary of that event in Egypt, the greatest peaceful uprising in the history of the world, the Egyptians said: We don't want a Muslim brother, we don't want a radical Islamist controlling our country.

It was rather tragic that the shooter—and I don't want to give him any more notoriety than necessary, so I won't mention his name—was not a lone wolf, as is so often supposed and we were led to believe repeatedly during the Obama administration. But as Reporter Patrick Poole indicates, he was yet another known wolf. The FBI knew he was and the local law enforcement knew who he was, which brings me to a point I wanted to discuss tonight.

Robert Mueller is the special prosecutor who now needs to resign. He was the FBI Director that had the FBI training materials purged so FBI agents could not know what they were looking for in a radical Islamist. He changed the training. He purged it to please the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

As one intelligence officer said: We blinded ourselves of the ability to see our enemy.

That is what FBI Director Robert Mueller did.

When challenged in a hearing where I was questioning him over the pitiful investigation of the Tsarnaev older brother after Russia had notified us twice in the United States of his radicalization, after the second time, finally, ho-hum, Mueller's FBI not being adequately trained to recognize what a radical Islamist believes, how they act, what they do, what they are studying, what they are memorizing, what they wear, what their personal appearance is, they are not trained to recognize, they didn't know what they were looking for.

□ 2100

They didn't know what they were looking for. They go out. The best we can find out, they talked to Tsarnaev, and he said, ''No, I'm not a terrorist,'' basically.

So, not knowing what else to do, since Mueller had destroyed the proper training to recognize radical Islamists, they went and talked to his mother who assured them, ''No, he's a good boy; he's not a terrorist,'' and the result was people murdered and maimed at the Boston Marathon.

The result of the FBI going after those who would try to teach others what real radical Islam was, the results of dumbing down the FBI and their ability to spot people who wanted to kill others in the name of Allah: people killed at Boston, people killed in Orlando. And it wasn't any more the fault of guns in Orlando than it was the fault of a white truck in London.

It is the people who use those weapons to kill; otherwise, it is a matter of defense, the great equalizer. The truck is a great means of conveyance.

But Robert Mueller has created problems for this country, and there are a lot of people that are buried now. Perhaps they would, perhaps they would not be deceased if Robert Mueller had done his job and had been as concerned about finding radical Islamists in America as he was—as he told me, they didn't go to the Boston mosque where Tsarnaev surely gave evidence of being radicalized. That is not his words. I said: You didn't even go to the mosque to find out, to talk, to investigate.

The best he could do is come back and say: We did go to that mosque as part of our outreach program, part of the lovely sit down, chat, have some tea, whatever—I don't know what they had, water, whatever it was—make merry, chat. While Tsarnaev was plotting to murder many people, as many as he could at the Boston Marathon, Bob Mueller and his FBI are making merry at the Boston mosque that he did not even know who started it. I asked him that. He didn't know.

I said: Did you even know that al-Hamoudi started that mosque? No, he didn't know that. Al-Hamoudi is doing 23 years—23 years—in Federal prison for supporting terrorism. And as I understand, I had heard that that was more to the credit not of Mueller's folks, but of help from England. How ironic is that?

But I see that I have a friend here. I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON).

HONORING THE LIFE OF COACH SPIKE DYKES

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I love everything about west Texas. I love the beautiful sunsets and the starry nights. I love that our farmers and ranchers feed and clothe the American people. I love that we produce more fossil and renewable energy than any other region in the United States.

People from all over the country rely on west Texas to make America great, but the greatest contribution from our region is our people. The people of west Texas have a distinct friendliness, a can-do spirit, a humble demeanor, a unique sense of humor; and on April 10, 2017, we lost one of our very own who embodied these attributes like no one else.

Former head football coach at Texas Tech and favorite son of west Texas, Spike Dykes carved his legacy into the bedrock of our region and into the hearts of hundreds of student athletes and thousands of fans across this country.

A small town kid from Ballinger, Texas, who achieved his wildest dreams of becoming a Division I head football coach, Coach Dykes went on to lead the Red Raiders to seven straight bowl seasons and was later inducted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame.

I had the honor of calling Spike Dykes ''Coach'' for a short time when I walked on the Texas Tech football team, and later I had the honor of calling him my friend.

We are all saddened by his passing, and our prayers are with his children and my friends, Rick, BeBe, Sonny, and their families.

Thank you, Coach, for your colorful wit and country wisdom. Thank you for leaving a legacy of love for people and all things west Texas. Thank you for teaching us that in life, like the game of football, it is not whether you win or lose; it is who you are; it is how you play the game.

God doesn't make them any better than you, Coach. God bless.

Mr. GOHMERT. I thank my friend from Texas, a great, noble tribute.

I wish that it were I who was standing here to say glowing things about people that have been running the FBI; but President Trump as a candidate said he wanted to come drain the swamp, and the more we dig, the more it appears to be a swirling cesspool up here.

We had a man who had been running the FBI who came before the Senate, a Senate committee and testified that he did a memo after talking to President Trump, that he had never felt the need to do a memo after talking to President Obama or President Bush or to take notes like he did; but he was afraid that Trump might lie sometime in the future, and so he felt it important to do a memo, to write some notes. That is what he said.

Rather incredibly, he didn't find a need to do a memo after Attorney General Loretta Lynch, according to him, told him what really has to be a lie. She knew that Hillary Clinton was being investigated for a crime. It was a criminal case, a criminal investigation. She directed FBI Director Comey not to use ''investigation,'' use ''matter.'' Well, it was an investigation, and to say anything other than that was a lie.

But how ironic that he was afraid Trump might lie in the future; whereas, he had an Attorney General that made him feel a little uneasy, but he didn't write any notes. So what about his credibility?

Well, he said he took those notes as a recollection refreshed. And those of us that have tried cases, been judges, you know, we know that past recollection recorded can be an exception to the hearsay rule. But if he signed an FBI employment agreement, which people are supposed to sign, it should have included these words: ''All information acquired by me in connection with my official duties with the FBI and all official material to which I have access remain the property of the United States of America. I will surrender upon demand by the FBI, or upon my separation from the FBI, all materials containing FBI information in my possession.''

That means that if an FBI agent, Director, FBI employee makes notes, makes a memorandum to refresh his recollection later, it is not a personal piece of property any more than what Sandy Berger stuffed in his socks was personal property to him. It doesn't matter that he prepared it. It was done while being paid by the FBI, on FBI time, regarding FBI matters. As FBI Director, he was talking to the President.

How ironic, also, we have no memos after President Obama made the basic statement that he didn't think Hillary should be prosecuted. We haven't heard any outcry from the great Director Comey about how wrong that was. What an obstruction of justice by President Obama. We didn't hear any of that.

I mean, that is about as direct as you can get when the President was talking on television and told the world, and the fact that you may say it out front to the world doesn't make it any less intimidating or directional than if you look somebody in the face one on one and tell them. It is not a defense to say it on television, and yet he wasn't concerned by that.

So we start looking a little deeper since it appears he wasn't being honest about being his personal property, and you would like to think that he had a good legal education, but Alan Dershowitz has made clear that the FBI—there is nothing wrong if the President tells him we are not prosecuting this individual for this crime. I am pardoning him here and now. He has the power.

All power that Director Comey has is derived from his boss, the President. So why would he go back and do a memo and consult or, I believe the more proper word is ''collude'' with others at the Justice Department about what the President said?

Because, make no mistake, if any of those individuals at the Justice Department who were colluding with James Comey after he met with the President, if they thought there was an obstruction of justice and they didn't report it as they did not, then they committed a crime. So why would they not report it?

It appears there can only be one answer. Surely they did not intend to commit a crime by misprision of a felony if they really believed it were obstruction. So it appears, since they clearly did not think that there was obstruction of justice in the President's use of the word ''hope,'' then they must have surely applauded James Comey's writing of a memo, writing of notes so that he could pull it out later and use it to go after the President. There can be no other reason that he did what he did.

He either committed a crime by not reporting obstruction as soon as he possibly could, or he was colluding with his colleagues to bring down the President of the United States. So, the more we find as we dig, the more of a cesspool it appears to be here in Washington.

Mollie Hemingway has done an extraordinary job today from The Federalist. She goes through, she has an article: ''James Comey Has a Long History of Questionable Obstruction Cases.''

I wish I had remembered these, and I feel a bit guilty that I didn't realize at the time these things were going on, the miscarriage of justice that was occurring at the hands of James Comey and Bob Mueller.

She brings up Frank Quattrone, ''a banker who Comey pursued relentlessly on banking-related charges without fruition. But while he couldn't find any wrongdoing or criminal conduct, he went after him for supposed 'obstruction of justice' because of a single ambiguous email. Sound familiar?

''Before he was indicted''—talking about Quattrone, before Quattrone was indicted—''Comey made fall statements about Quattrone and his intent. The first trial ended in a hung jury, but the second one got a conviction.

''That conviction was overturned in 2006. Quattrone was so scarred by the harassment''—by Comey—''he began funding projects designed to help innocent people who are victims of prosecutorial overreach or other problems.''

□ 2115

''He said his motivation for supporting such projects was that at the very moment he was found guilty in the second trial, he realized there must be innocent people in prisons who lacked the financial resources to fight for justice. He also started the Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice at the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

''Quattrone has noted, with interest, the disparities in how he was treated by Comey for a single ambiguous email compared to his handling of Hillary Clinton's email server scandal,'' with thousands, tens of thousands of email.

How about Martha Stewart? ''You might remember Martha Stewart being sent to jail. You might not remember that James Comey was the man who put her there, and not because he was able to charge her for anything he began investigating her for. The original investigation was into whether Stewart had engaged in insider trading. They didn't even try to get her on that charge. Gene Healy wrote about it in 2004, warning about Federal prosecutorial overreach.''

By Comey, of course. He said, ''Comey didn't charge Stewart with insider trading. Instead, he claimed that Stewart's public protestations of innocence were designed to prop up the stock price of her own company . . . and thus constituted securities fraud. Stewart was also charged with making false statements to Federal officials investigating the insider trading charge—a charge they never pursued. In essence, Stewart was prosecuted for 'having misled people by denying having committed a crime with which she was not charged,' as Cato Institute Senior Fellow Alan Reynolds put it.

''The pursuit was described as 'vindictive' in The New York Times and 'petty and vindictive' in The Daily Beast.

''But she still served a 5-month prison sentence.''

Stephen Hatfill, and this is one that really gets me to my core. I did not remember the outcome, and I feel guilty, but I was handling felony cases back in Texas at the time.

''The FBI absolutely bungled its investigation into the Anthrax attacker who struck after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Carl Cannon goes through this story well, and it's worth reading for how it involves both Comey and his dear 'friend' and current special counsel Robert Mueller. The FBI tried—in the media—its case against Hatfill. Their actual case ended up being thrown out by the courts:

''Comey and Mueller badly bungled the biggest case they ever handled. They botched the investigation of the 2001 anthrax letter attacks that took five lives and infected 17 other people, shut down the U.S. Capitol and Washington's mail system, solidified the

Bush administration's antipathy for Iraq, and eventually, when the facts finally came out, made the FBI look feckless, incompetent, and easily manipulated by outside political pressure.

''More from Cannon, recounting how messed up the attempt to convict Steven Hatfill for a crime he didn't commit was:

''In truth, Hatfill was an implausible suspect from the outset. He was a virologist who never handled anthrax, which is a bacterium. Ivins, by contrast, shared ownership of anthrax patents, was diagnosed as having paranoid personality disorder, and had a habit of stalking and threatening people with anonymous letters—including the woman who provided the long-ignored tip to the FBI. So what evidence did the FBI have against Hatfill? There was none, so the agency did a Hail Mary, importing two bloodhounds from California whose handlers claimed could sniff the scent of the killer on the anthrax-tainted letters. These dogs were shown to Hatfill, who promptly petted them. When the dogs responded favorably, their handlers told the FBI that they had 'alerted' on Hatfill and that he must be the killer.

''When Bush administration officials were worried about the quality of the case Mueller and Comey had, the two men assured them. 'Comey was ''absolutely certain'' that it was Hatfill,' Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said.

''Such certitude seems to be Comey's default position in his professional life,'' Cannon wrote. He shouldn't have been certain in this case. After the six years the FBI spent destroying his life, they settled a $4.6 million lawsuit he filed and officially exonerated him.''

Good work, James Comey and Bob Mueller. You ruined the life of a man with no evidence at all, but told the Bush administration, oh, we are absolutely certain this is the guy.

What about Scooter Libby, and Judith Miller? I didn't remember this: ''After pressuring John Ashcroft—I am reading through the article—''After pressuring John Ashcroft to recuse himself from the responsibility on the grounds of potential conflicts of interest, Comey gave Patrick Fitzgerald, his close personal friend and godfather to one of his children, the role of special counsel into the investigation of the leak of Valerie Plame's identity as a CIA employee. Some conflicts of interest are more important to Comey than others, apparently.

''Fitzgerald immediately discovered that Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage was the leaker. Of course, the FBI and Department of Justice had known that all along, so Comey's push for a special counsel is . . . intriguing.''

There was no reason for a special counsel. The FBI knew it. The Department of Justice knew it. They pushed for one anyway. Comey was at the middle of it.

Mueller, you know, his close friend, of course, but Fitzgerald was the godfather of one of his children, for heaven's sake.

''The 3-year investigation was a cloud over the Bush administration''—which didn't seem to bother Comey at all, oh, of course not—''and resulted in nothing but the jailing of a journalist''—who was protecting a source, even though they didn't need it. Wow, how mean-spirited—''. . . and a dubious prosecution of Scooter Libby for, wait for it, obstruction of justice. Comey was unconcerned about the jailing of journalists and never threatened to resign over this infringement on First Amendment freedoms.''

And it talks about Hillary Clinton in this article, but I am telling you, Mr. Speaker, this is a scary time in America.

You have this article from John Hinderaker, June 10, Power Line, quoting Senator WARNER:

''And so, in all of your experience''—he is talking to Director Comey—''this was the only President that you felt like, in every meeting, you needed to document, because at some point, using your words, he might put out a non-truthful representation of that meeting?''

Comey says: ''That's right, Senator.''

He goes on: ''. . . I had a one-on-one meeting with President Bush about a very important and difficult national security matter.

''I didn't write a memo documenting that conversation either—sent a quick email to my staff to let them know there was something going on, but I didn't feel, with President Bush, the need to document it in that way, again, because of—the combination of those factors just wasn't present with either President Bush or Obama.''

This article goes on to point out that is simply not true. That was a lie.

And whoever remembered that a book named ''Angler'' was written by Barton Gellman, with Comey as his big chief source, went so far as to be able to quote the conversation after working with Comey, and in the footnotes from the ''Angler,'' it says: ''Quotations from the Bush-Comey conversations are taken verbatim from unclassified notes describing Comey's report of the meeting shortly afterward.''

But Comey's email that he says he just let them know that there was something going on, here is what he said in his email, because it was printed in ''Angler.''

''The President just took me into his private office for a 15-minute, one-on-one talk. Told him he was being misled and poorly served. We had a very full and frank exchange. Don't know that either of us can see a way out. He promised he would shut down 5/6 if Congress didn't fix FISA. Told him Mueller was about to resign. He just pulled Bob into his office.''

Yeah, he didn't just say something was going on. He told him what happened. He memorialized that visit with a note, and then in the book, it is word-for-word, according to Mr. Comey, what was said, and it makes him to be out all American, clean, honest, upstanding, fine law enforcement officer, when it turns out he was anything but that.

''The real pattern,'' as it says here at the end of the article is that, ''Comey is a snake in the grass who creates tendentious, self-serving memos that can later be used to cover his own rear end or to discredit presidents, but only if they are Republicans.''

Gellman's phrasing was clumsy in the article, but this is serious stuff that it turns out, oh, four members of Mueller's team have donated to Democrats. Well, isn't that cozy? Comey closely coordinated with Mueller on Trump testimony. We heard from the FBI Director that he actually did collude with other members at the Justice Department.

It is so clear. There are people at the Justice Department out to get President Trump, out to get Attorney General Sessions. They are out to get every one of them, and just the way they did, the man they said there was no question was the culprit in killing people with anthrax, that was a lie.

And they don't care who gets hurt. It is time to dismiss the special prosecutor; see if we really need one because now we know that Comey manipulated the system exactly the way he manipulated it when he told John Ashcroft he should recuse himself so he could appoint Patrick Fitzgerald, give him the appointment, that is.

Enough is enough of Comey, of Mueller. It is time to drain the swamp, and they will go down the drain when we do.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CURBELO of Florida (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of his flight being canceled.

Mr. POE of Texas (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today through June 16.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION REFERRED

A joint resolution of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S.J. Res. 45. Joint resolution condemning the deadly attack on May 26, 2017, in Portland, Oregon, expressing deepest condolences to the families and friends of the victims, and supporting efforts to overcome hatred, bigotry, and violence; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 13, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

1576. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Recordkeeping (RIN: 3038-AE36) received June 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1577. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Whistleblower Awards Process (RIN: 3038-AE50) received June 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1578. A letter from the Administrator, Agriculture Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's affirmation of interim rule as final rule — Pistachios Grown in California, Arizona, and New Mexico; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No.: AMS-SC-16-0076; SC16-983-2 FIR] received June 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1579. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Jon M. Davis, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1580. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Larry D. Wyche, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1581. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Belarus that was declared in Executive Order 13405 of June 16, 2006, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1582. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to North Korea that was declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1583. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans that was declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1584. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burundi that was declared in Executive Order 13712 of November 22, 2015, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1585. A letter from the Acting Chairman, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the Commission's Annual Performance Report for FY 2016; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1586. A letter from the Acting Deputy Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report to Congress covering the 6-month period ending March 31, 2017; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1587. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's 56th Semiannual Report to Congress on Audit Follow-up, covering the six-month period ending March 31, 2017; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1588. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress for the period October 1, 2016, through March 31, 2017, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, Public Law 95-452; ; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1589. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's semiannual report to Congress from the Treasury Inspector General and the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration for the period of October 1, 2016, through March 31, 2017, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1590. A letter from the Director, Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission's semiannual report from the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2016, through March 31, 2017, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1591. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Management Directorate, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a notification of a federal nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1592. A letter from the General Counsel, National Endowment for the Humanities, transmitting a notification of a federal vacancy and designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1593. A letter from the Chairman and the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting the Board's Semiannual Report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 2016, through March 31, 2017; ; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1594. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of a change in previously submitted reported information and designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1595. A letter from the Chief Human Capital Officer, Small Business Administration, transmitting nine (9) notifications of a federal vacancy, designation of acting officer, nomination, action on nomination, or discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1596. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a notification of a federal nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1597. A letter from the Vice Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting the Board's Annual Performance Report for FY 2016 and Annual Performance Plan for FY 2017-2018, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1115(b); Public Law 111-352, Sec. 3; (124 Stat. 3867); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1598. A letter from the Executive Director, United States Access Board, transmitting the Board's FY 2016 No FEAR Act report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1599. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Addition of Certain Persons and Revisions to Entries on the Entity List [Docket No.: 170303229-7229-01] (RIN: 0694-AH36) received June 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1600. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2017 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for South Atlantic Vermilion Snapper [Docket No.: 130312235-3658-02] (RIN: 0648-XF424) received June 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1601. A letter from the Acting Deputy 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; Deep-Water Species Fishery by Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 160920866-7167-02] (RIN: 0648-XF418) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1602. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; 2016-2017 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for King Mackerel in Western Zone of the Gulf of Mexico [Docket No.: 101206604-1758-02] (RIN: 0648-XF414) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec.

251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1603. A letter from the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Amendments to the Reef Fish, Spiny Lobster, and Corals and Reef Associated Plants and Invertebrates Fishery Management Plans of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands [Docket No.: 160810719-7353-02] (RIN: 0648-BG29) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1604. A letter from the Acting 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 Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Gulf of Alaska; Final 2017 and 2018 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish [Docket No.: 160920866-7167-02] (RIN: 0648-XE904) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1605. A letter from the Acting 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 Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Amendment 26 [Docket No.: 160426363-7275-02] (RIN: 0648-BG03) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1606. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2017 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for South Atlantic Golden Tilefish Longline Component [Docket No.: 120404257-3325-02] (RIN: 0648-XF382) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1607. 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 Northeastern United States; Northeast Skate Complex; Adjustment to the Skate Wing and Skate Bait Inseason Possession Limits [Docket No.: 160301164-6694-02] (RIN: 0648-XF146) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1608. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries [Docket No.: 150121066-5717-02] (RIN: 0648-XF346) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1609. A letter from the Acting Deputy 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 Cod by Catcher/Processors Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 160920866-7167-02] (RIN: 0648-XF325) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1610. A letter from the Acting Deputy 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 Cod by Catcher Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 150916863-6211-02] (RIN: 0648-XF248) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1611. 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 Cod by Catcher Vessels Greater Than or Equal to 60 Feet Length Overall Using Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 150916863-6211-02] (RIN: 0648-XF190) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1612. A letter from the Acting Deputy 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; Pollock in Statistical Area 610 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 160920866-7167-02] (RIN: 0648-XF339) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1613. A letter from the Acting Deputy 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; Pollock in Statistical Area 610 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 160920866-7167-02] (RIN: 0648-XF310) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1614. A letter from the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; 2017 Recreational Fishing Seasons for Red Snapper in the Gulf of Mexico [Docket No.: 140818679-5356-02] (RIN: 0648-XF369) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1615. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; 2017 Sector Quota Transfer Adjustment [Docket No.: 151130999-6594-02] (RIN: 0648-XF247) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1616. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; 2017 Recreational Accountability Measures and Closure for Gulf of Mexico Greater Amberjack [Docket No.: 1206013412-2517-02] (RIN: 0648-XF166) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1617. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Possession and Trip Limit Implementation for the Common Pool Fishery [Docket No.: 150105004-5355-01] (RIN: 0648-XF377) received June 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1618. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Commercial Blacktip Sharks, Aggregated Large Coastal Sharks, and Hammerhead Sharks in the Western Gulf of Mexico Sub-Region; Closure [Docket No.: 160620545-6999-02] (RIN: 0648-XF211) received June 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1619. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Reopening of the Commercial Sector in the Western, Northern, and Southern (Gillnet) Zones for King Mackerel in the Gulf of Mexico [Docket No.: 160426363-7275-02] (RIN: 0648-XF351) received June 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1620. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Economic Exclusive Zone Off Alaska; Deep-Water Species Fishery by Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 160920866-7161-02] (RIN: 0648-XF368) received June 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1621. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; 2017-2018 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments [Docket No.: 160808696-7010-02] (RIN: 0648-BG76) received June 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1622. A letter from the President and Chief Executive Officer, National Railroad Passenger Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's General and Legislative Annual Report and Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Request, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 24315(b); Public Law 103-272, Sec. 1(e); (108 Stat. 918); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1623. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report titled ''Child Welfare Outcomes 2010-2014: Report to Congress'', pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 679b(a)(5); Public Law 105-89, Sec.

203(a); (111 Stat. 2127); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1624. A letter from the Chief, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security and Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Departments' final rule — Extension of Import Restrictions Imposed on Archaeological and Ethnological Materials from Peru [CBP Dec. 17-03] (RIN: 1515-AE29) received June 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1625. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report titled ''Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016'', pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395ff(f)(7); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XVIII, Sec. 1869(f)(7) (as amended by Public Law 106-554, Sec. 1(a)(6)); (114 Stat. 2763A-546); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

1626. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on contributions received to carry out training and equipping of Iraqi forces, pursuant to Public Law 113-291, Sec. 1236(k)(1); (128 Stat. 3561); jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Armed Services.

1627. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report titled ''Annual Report to Congress on the Open Payments Program April 2017'', pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1320a-7h(d); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XI, Sec. 1128G (as added by Public Law 111-148, Sec. 6002); (124 Stat. 693); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

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. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1873. A bill to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to enhance the reliability of the electricity grid and reduce the threat of wildfires to and from electric transmission and distribution facilities on Federal lands by facilitating vegetation management on such lands; with an amendment (Rept. 115–165, 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. 1654. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to coordinate Federal and State permitting processes related to the construction of new surface water storage projects on lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture and to designate the Bureau of Reclamation as the lead agency for permit processing, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115–166). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1109. A bill to amend section 203 of the Federal Power Act (Rept. 115–167). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 338. A bill to promote a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce (Rept. 115–168, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 446. A bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project (Rept. 115–169). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 447. A bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project (Rept. 115–170). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 627. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for the dissemination of information regarding available Federal programs relating to energy efficiency projects for schools, and for other purposes (Rept. 115–171). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 951. A bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project (Rept. 115–172). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2274. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to provide for extended periods relating to preliminary permits and commencement of construction, and for other purposes (Rept. 115–173). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2292. A bill to extend a project of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission involving the Cannonsville Dam (Rept. 115–174). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2122. A bill to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Jennings Randolph Dam (Rept. 115–175). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2457. A bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects; with an amendment (Rept. 115–176). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BUCK: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 378. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2581) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require the provision of social security numbers as a condition of receiving the health insurance premium tax credit, and providing for consideration of the bill (S. 1094) to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (Rept. 115–177). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. COLE: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 379. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2372) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the rules relating to veteran health insurance and eligibility for the premium tax credit, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2579) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the premium tax credit with respect to unsubsidized COBRA continuation coverage (Rept. 115–178). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Agriculture discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1873 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. COLLINS of Georgia (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Missouri):

H.R. 2870. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax benefits for investments in gigabit opportunity zones; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRIFFITH (for himself and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 2871. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to compounding pharmacies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BUCSHON:

H.R. 2872. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to promote hydropower development at existing non-powered dams, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. EVANS, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PERRY, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. MARINO, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. DENT, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 2873. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncote, Pennsylvania, as the ''Staff Sergeant Peter Taub Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 2874. A bill to achieve reforms to improve the financial stability of the National Flood Insurance Program, to enhance the development of more accurate estimates of flood risk through new technology and better maps, to increase the role of private markets in the management of flood insurance risks, and to provide for alternative methods to insure against flood peril, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 2875. A bill to make administrative reforms to the National Flood Insurance Program to increase fairness and accuracy and protect the taxpayer from program fraud and abuse, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 2876. A bill to require States to automatically register eligible voters to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. LEE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 2877. A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to prohibit any

subsidy for flood insurance coverage for any property owned or operated by the President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. POCAN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 2878. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit employment of children in tobacco-related agriculture by deeming such employment as oppressive child labor; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri (for himself and Mrs. BUSTOS):

H.R. 2879. A bill to reform apportionments to general aviation airports under the airport improvement program, to improve project delivery at certain airports, and to designate certain airports as disaster relief airports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRIFFITH:

H.R. 2880. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to promote closed-loop pumped storage hydropower, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. JENKINS of Kansas (for herself, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. MOOLENAAR):

H.R. 2881. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide payment under part A of the Medicare Program on a reasonable cost basis for anesthesia services furnished by an anesthesiologist in certain rural hospitals in the same manner as payments are provided for anesthesia services furnished by anesthesiologist assistants and certified registered nurse anesthetists in such hospitals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER):

H.R. 2882. A bill to authorize Federal agencies to establish prize competitions for innovation or adaptation management development relating to ocean acidification; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. MULLIN (for himself and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas):

H.R. 2883. A bill to establish a more uniform, transparent, and modern process to authorize the construction, connection, operation, and maintenance of international border-crossing facilities for the import and export of oil and natural gas and the transmission of electricity; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 2884. A bill to amend section 2201 of title 44, United States Code, to require the preservation of presidential social media accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. REICHERT (for himself and Mr. KILMER):

H.R. 2885. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dust Off crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (for herself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. GUTIÉRREZ):

H.R. 2886. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to strengthen the provisions relating to child labor; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER (for himself, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. CONAWAY, and Mr. TROTT):

H.R. 2887. A bill to regulate certain State impositions on interstate commerce; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH of Missouri:

H.R. 2888. A bill to establish the Ste. Genevieve National Historic Site in the State of Missouri, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. DEMINGS (for herself, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. SOTO, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. EVANS, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. HIMES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KIHUEN, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. LEE, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RASKIN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. VELA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. DENT, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. HOYER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. HECK, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. CLAY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. BEYER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. BASS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California):

H. Res. 380. A resolution commemorating one year since the Pulse nightclub shooting in Orlando, Florida, on June 12, 2016; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia:

H.R. 2870.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 17.

By Mr. GRIFFITH:

H.R. 2871.

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 of the United State Constitution.

By Mr. BUCSHON:

H.R. 2872.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 2873.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution under the General Welfare Clause

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 2874.

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

Article I, section 8, clause 1 (relating to the general welfare of the United States); and Article I, section 8, clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate interstate commerce).

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 2875.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 2876.

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

This proposal is introduced pursuant to Article I.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 2877.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution gives Congress the broad authority to provide for the ''general Welfare of the United States.''

By Mr. CICILLINE:
H.R. 2878.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.
By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri:
H.R. 2879.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8: To regulate Commerce . . . among the several states; to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers
By Mr. GRIFFITH:
H.R. 2880.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.
By Ms. JENKINS of Kansas:
H.R. 2881.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.
Article I, Section 9:
No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law.
By Mr. KILMER:
H.R. 2882.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. MULLIN:
H.R. 2883.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. QUIGLEY:
H.R. 2884.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. REICHERT:
H.R. 2885.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Pursuant to Clause I of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution and Amendment XVI of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 1 (relating to providing for the general welfare of the United States) and clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress), and Article IV, section 3, clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).
By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD:
H.R. 2886.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:
H.R. 2887.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause to ''regulate commerce . . . among the several States,'' Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation exercises legislative power granted to Congress by that clause ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''
By Mr. SMITH of Missouri:
H.R. 2888.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2: The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and regulations respecting the Territory of other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice and Claims or the United States, or any particular State.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 15: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 110: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 173: Mr. RASKIN and Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 184: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 305: Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 350: Ms. BROWNLEY of California and Mr. NUNES.
H.R. 351: Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 355: Mr. BUDD.
H.R. 358: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.
H.R. 367: Mr. WALDEN and Mr. COFFMAN.
H.R. 371: Ms. GABBARD.
H.R. 377: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona and Mr. BRADY of Texas.
H.R. 463: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 539: Mr. NUNES.
H.R. 553: Mr. BRIDENSTINE.
H.R. 564: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. FERGUSON, and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
H.R. 592: Mr. AMODEI, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, and Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 627: Mr. MESSER.
H.R. 671: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 681: Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 714: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 721: Mr. DENT, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. BLUM, and Mr. CONAWAY.
H.R. 741: Mr. DUFFY.
H.R. 747: Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. BERGMAN.
H.R. 750: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 807: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 820: Mr. VEASEY, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. BASS, Mr. PERRY, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 828: Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 830: Mrs. LOWEY and Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 846: Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. TSONGAS, and Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 849: Mr. FASO, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. DESJARLAIS, and Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 873: Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. SUOZZI, and Ms. SINEMA.
H.R. 916: Ms. ROSEN and Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 927: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 959: Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 960: Mr. WALZ.
H.R. 1017: Mr. GAETZ.
H.R. 1034: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 1038: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1046: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. COMER, and Mr. KINZINGER.
H.R. 1057: Mr. FERGUSON and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 1059: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1090: Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. VALADAO, and Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 1094: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 1097: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 1098: Mr. HOLDING.
H.R. 1111: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 1136: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H.R. 1148: Mr. POLIQUIN and Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 1150: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1154: Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida.
H.R. 1158: Mr. WENSTRUP and Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 1164: Mr. BOST, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri.
H.R. 1168: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 1196: Mr. ROHRABACHER and Mr. PITTENGER.
H.R. 1200: Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. NUNES, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. ROSS, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. ESTES of Kansas, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Mr. GOODLATTE.
H.R. 1223: Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida.
H.R. 1225: Mr. MEADOWS.
H.R. 1243: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 1247: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 1265: Mr. KILDEE and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 1270: Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. SCHIFF, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.
H.R. 1272: Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 1276: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 1279: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 1291: Mr. ESPAILLAT.
H.R. 1299: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 1316: Mr. FERGUSON and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1317: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 1318: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1334: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 1361: Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. KIND, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 1393: Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1405: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 1422: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 1434: Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
H.R. 1441: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. COOK, and Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 1444: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1445: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 1456: Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 1472: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 1478: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 1501: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 1515: Mrs. LOWEY.
H.R. 1587: Ms. GABBARD.
H.R. 1606: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 1614: Ms. PINGREE and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 1626: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 1635: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 1639: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 1661: Mr. KILMER and Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 1673: Mr. ESPAILLAT.
H.R. 1676: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 1697: Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mr. BERGMAN.
H.R. 1698: Mr. HECK and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 1731: Mr. LAHOOD and Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.
H.R. 1817: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1838: Mr. GAETZ.
H.R. 1841: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1865: Mr. STIVERS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. LANCE, and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 1884: Mr. BACON, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. O'ROURKE.
H.R. 1902: Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 1933: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 1953: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 1955: Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 1988: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 1991: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 2023: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 2029: Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 2046: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.
H.R. 2047: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.
H.R. 2048: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.
H.R. 2055: Mr. BUDD.
H.R. 2091: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
H.R. 2147: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 2150: Mr. COOK, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. LANCE, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BOST, Mr. ZELDIN, and Mr. HUNTER.
H.R. 2152: Mr. MEADOWS.
H.R. 2174: Mr. BUDD and Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 2193: Mr. AMODEI, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. BARTON, Mr. KILMER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 2205: Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 2276: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2310: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 2315: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 2327: Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 2339: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.
H.R. 2340: Mr. GARAMENDI and Mr. DUNN.
H.R. 2358: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 2428: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 2450: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 2451: Mr. SOTO and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 2452: Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. HECK.
H.R. 2472: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 2476: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 2480: Mr. CLAY, Ms. BASS, and Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 2499: Mr. TAKANO and Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 2505: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 2514: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 2519: Mr. HUNTER and Mr. CRAMER.
H.R. 2532: Mr. OLSON and Mr. HARPER.
H.R. 2587: Mr. TONKO and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 2608: Mr. KNIGHT.
H.R. 2616: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 2640: Mr. RASKIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 2652: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 2659: Mr. VELA and Ms. ROSEN.
H.R. 2678: Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. KIND, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. BRAT, and Mr. COFFMAN.
H.R. 2690: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 2701: Mr. DUFFY, Mr. HIMES, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 2707: Mr. GALLEGO.
H.R. 2723: Mr. GROTHMAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MESSER, and Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 2747: Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. COOK, and Mr. PEARCE.
H.R. 2756: Mr. NOLAN, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 2774: Mr. MEEHAN and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 2775: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 2776: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 2777: Ms. SINEMA and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 2798: Mr. LANCE and Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 2819: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 2823: Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. BARTON, and Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 2827: Ms. PINGREE, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 2831: Ms. MCSALLY.
H.R. 2840: Mr. POLIS, Mr. NOLAN, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. KIHUEN.
H.R. 2841: Mr. ELLISON, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 2845: Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. RUSH, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 2855: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.J. Res. 51: Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, and Mr. CALVERT.
H.J. Res. 102: Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. EVANS, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.
H. Con. Res. 8: Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. BACON, and Mr. BARR.
H. Con. Res. 49: Mrs. LOWEY.
H. Con. Res. 61: Mr. BARLETTA.
H. Con. Res. 62: Mr. POE of Texas.
H. Res. 28: Mr. LIPINSKI and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H. Res. 69: Mr. MOULTON and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H. Res. 129: Mr. COLE.
H. Res. 188: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H. Res. 259: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. VALADAO.
H. Res. 279: Mr. DEUTCH.
H. Res. 282: Ms. ROSEN.
H. Res. 307: Mr. FERGUSON.
H. Res. 310: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. HECK.
H. Res. 317: Mr. MEADOWS and Mr. CHABOT.
H. Res. 359: Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. ROYCE of California, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BOST, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H. Res. 368: Mr. SOTO, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 163 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2017 No. 99

Senate

The Senate met at 4 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.

Almighty God, great is Your faithfulness. We find strength in difficult times because our thoughts about Your mercy and providential care sustain us.

Lord, guide our lawmakers to make You their sure foundation. From this foundation, may they gain strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow. Help them to base their hope on Your exceedingly great and precious promises, as You do for them more than they can ask or imagine. May they have such an inner sense of Your presence that they will desire to commune with You throughout this day.

And, Lord, bless our incoming summer page class. May these young people increase intellectually, physically, socially, and spiritually.

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 (Mrs. ERNST). The majority leader is recognized.

SANCTIONS LEGISLATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, last week, the Senate voted on an overwhelmingly bipartisan basis to advance the Iran sanctions bill currently before us, and we will take another vote today to proceed to that bill. I want to thank the chairs and ranking members of the Foreign Relations and Banking Committees—Chairman CORKER, Chairman CRAPO—for their efforts to craft additional, much-needed sanctions on Russia as well. I would encourage Members of both parties to keep working together so we can pass the critical Iran sanctions legislation very soon.

HEALTHCARE LEGISLATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, 7 years ago, Senate Democrats and the Obama administration forced ObamaCare on the American people, but ObamaCare never actually lived up to what Democrats had promised. From rising costs to shrinking choices and collapsing markets, the problems associated with ObamaCare grew across the country as the years passed, leaving the American people to literally pick up the pieces.

ObamaCare's years-long legacy of failure will only get worse unless we act. Consider the latest examples of how it is threatening to hurt more Americans. In Washington State, people in two counties just learned they could have zero insurance options under ObamaCare plans next year. Thousands of Ohioans across 18 counties just found out they could also be left with absolutely zero choices under ObamaCare. Iowans could be left without a single major insurance option to choose from statewide as well. And in Nebraska, nearly 100,000 residents learned they could be left with just one insurance option on the ObamaCare exchanges next year or potentially none at all.

At the rate things are going, Americans living in nearly half of all counties could be left with just one or even zero insurance options under ObamaCare next year. Think about that. Millions of people in nearly half of all the counties across America are at risk of having no options or a single option of insurance plans because of ObamaCare.

Worse still, as choices continue to drop, premiums keep rising, often by double digits, meaning those lucky enough to have a choice under ObamaCare may not even be able to afford the plan they select. It is a fact underlined by reports released just this afternoon by the Centers for Medicare and Medicare Services, or CMS. These reports show that hundreds of thousands of Americans who selected an ObamaCare plan ended up canceling their coverage after just a few weeks, and the most common reason they cited for doing so was because it was too expensive. Is it any wonder? As another groundbreaking report revealed last month, premiums have on average doubled—and in some cases even tripled—in the vast majority of States on the Federal exchange since ObamaCare's full enactment in 2013.

You would think the Democrats would want to work with us now to clean up the years-long mess they created. Instead, they are defending the status quo or trying to shift the blame for the failures of their own law—a law Democrats designed, a law Democrats forced on our country, a law Democrats defended year after year as it hurt Americans over and over. There is just no serious way to try to spin these years of ObamaCare failures at this late date.

It is also clear that the status quo is simply unsustainable and demands action. That is why Republican Senators have been working hard on solutions that could help rescue American families who have been hurt by this law's failures. Members will keep working this week because bringing relief from ObamaCare may not be easy, but it is necessary. We are going to keep working hard to get this done.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

● 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 senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE PULSE NIGHTCLUB MASS SHOOTING IN ORLANDO

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, before I begin, I would like to take a moment to remember the victims of the shooting at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando that occurred 1 year ago today. It was the deadliest shooting by a single gunman in our Nation's history. Forty-nine Americans died that night, and 53 more were injured. They were children, parents, sisters, brothers, and friends. They went out that night to celebrate with their friends and instead came face to face with a soul twisted by an inexplicable hate.

The best way I can see to honor their memory is to honor them with action. We should redouble our efforts to make this country safer from the scourge of terrorism and gun violence to ensure that our schools and our churches, our theaters and our nightclubs are safe places where all Americans can be who they truly are. Let that be our mission as we remember the 49 victims of the Orlando attack and keep their families in our prayers.

SANCTIONS LEGISLATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, on Russia sanctions, soon we will move to a cloture vote on the motion to proceed to the Iran sanctions legislation. The two leaders, Chairmen CORKER and CRAPO, the two ranking members, BROWN and CARDIN, continue to negotiate a package of strong Russia sanctions that can be offered as an amendment to the bill. I am hopeful we can come to an agreement soon, one that at the very least includes legislation put forward by Senators GRAHAM and CARDIN that would establish a process for Congress to review any Russia-related sanctions relief. Senator MCCAIN, along with Senator CARDIN, has also submitted an amendment for tough, new sanctions, which I very much support. Democrats feel strongly that Russia sanctions should move alongside Iran sanctions, and we are prepared to do what we can to make sure we get a vote on a good amendment and hopefully a bipartisan one.

SPECIAL COUNSEL MUELLER

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, as we continue to grapple with last week's testimony from former Director Comey, it seems the new strategy by some on the right is now to question the credibility of Special Counsel Mueller. Already, former Speaker Gingrich and others have said negative things about Mueller just weeks after praising his selection. They know that Mr. Mueller is the man now responsible for following up on Mr. Comey's testimony so the hard right is trying to discredit him in advance. They know they can't debate the facts or the issues or defend the actions of the White House on the merits, so what do they do? They attack the referee and try to besmirch the reputation of someone like Mr. Mueller.

Mr. Mueller is a man of integrity. That is agreed to by just about everybody. He has devoted his entire career to his country. He came out of private life to do a job on behalf of his country and be right down the middle. Even Attorney General Jeff Sessions has praised Mr. Mueller for his service and credibility, saying his ''integrity is undoubted,'' as is his ''experience and love of country.'' Those are Jeff Sessions' words. Now the political right has pulled out their partisan knives to try and defame his reputation.

It is a shameful, shameful ploy. The right must be afraid of what Mr. Mueller is going to find. I would ask Speaker Gingrich a question. Is he afraid of what Mr. Mueller is going to find out? Is that why he is attacking his reputation? The baseless attacks on former Director Mueller ring hollow. Former Director Mueller has been hailed as a paragon of public service by people of all political stripes. This country comes to a low point when that kind of attack is issued.

Despite what Speaker Gingrich may try to imply, we should have every confidence that he will investigate the matters at hand with integrity and thoroughness.

I can tell you one thing, the little bit I know about him, Speaker Gingrich's attack and attacks like that will not do a thing to deter Director Mueller from finding out the truth.

HEALTHCARE LEGISLATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, Madam President, a word on healthcare.

The Republicans continue to work on their healthcare bill behind closed doors, and now it seems they are looking for a vote on a final bill before the July 4th recess.

To all of America, this should be a red alert. This is not a drill. This is a red alert. In a very short time, maybe only 2 weeks, the Republican majority may try to jam through a healthcare bill that no one in America has seen—no committee hearings, no public debate. According to some reports, the Republicans will not publicly release the text until the very last moment.

What Senate Republicans are doing on healthcare is one of the most outrageous examples of legislative malpractice in decades.

Senator MCCONNELL, who believes in regular order, ought to think long and hard before he does this because it will not go down as a fine moment in history for him, for his party, or for the Senate. This is the party that chanted ''Read the bill, read the bill,'' when ObamaCare was being debated, and now they will not even show the bill.

Democrats spent over a year on the Affordable Care Act, the ObamaCare bill, with multiple committee hearings. We actually accepted dozens of Republican amendments. Show us the bill. Senators GRASSLEY, HATCH, and others had amendments that were added to the bill. Show us the bill so we have the same opportunity.

Why would the majority so starkly depart from the normal legislative procedure? Why would they seek to pass in the dark of night a bill that affects one-sixth of the economy, millions of people's lives?

Leader MCCONNELL used to stress the importance of regular order in the Senate. Why is he proceeding with the Republican healthcare bill in the most irregular way? I know why. It is because Republicans don't want the American people to see the bill. They are so ashamed of their healthcare plan, they want to pass it in the dead of night, with no hearings, no amendments—rushing it through.

It is not a bill they are proud of. If they were proud of the bill, they would say: Let's debate it. They are ashamed of the bill. They know they have the hard right on their backs saying: You have to do something. But at least have the decency, the honor, a little bit of courage to put the bill out there and let us debate it and let us amend it.

The Republicans don't want the American people to know their bill will likely gut Medicaid to finance a massive tax break for the wealthiest of Americans, hurt the healthcare of average Americans, middle-class Americans, elderly Americans, those who abuse opioids, so they can have a big tax break for people whose income is above $200,000 a year.

The Republicans don't want the American people to know their bill will make older and sicker Americans pay more for less coverage. Someone 63 or 64 could see their premiums go up three, four, five times, while millionaires and billionaires get a break on their taxes. If it were my bill, I would be ashamed of it too. Thank God it is not.

Republicans don't want the American people to know their bill will cause their costs to go up, their care to go down, while leaving millions of Americans without health insurance. Why are Republicans working so hard in secret for a bill they are clearly not proud of? Because the ideologues on the hard right are pushing them to just repeal and give a tax break to the rich.

It is because they repeated the political slogan ''repeal and replace'' to their base for 7 years without coming

up with a workable healthcare plan when the day came that they were actually in charge.

Now we have this Frankenstein bill from the House, assembled from spare parts intended to buy off different Republican constituencies, and the Republican majority in the Senate, which we thought at one point would show more honor and more courage, seems to be taking the same approach. They are working on modifying the bill so it can get 50 votes in their caucus, no matter what the impact is on the country. Most of the devastating consequences of the House bill will remain.

Mark my words, my Republican friends, the Republican Party will regret the day it passes a bill that looks anything like what is now being considered. Every independent analysis has shown that TrumpCare will devastate sicker, older Americans, folks in rural areas, the working poor, younger couples and middle-aged couples who have a parent in a nursing home. It will raise costs on middle-class families, and those struggling to get there will be left with a healthcare system that works only for the healthiest and wealthiest among us, and the Republicans will own every last shred of the responsibility. They will own it completely because there has not been a scrap of bipartisan input on the bill, not a single Democratic amendment, not a single hearing, and no one even knows exactly what the bill looks like.

A senior GOP aide said in the paper today that they weren't releasing the bill text because ''we are not stupid.'' I challenge that claim. Keeping a bill this bad holed up in secret and then forcing it down the throats of the American people is much more stupid than simply showing the bill, allowing it to be vetted and amended, and allowing it to be improved. It is much more stupid.

The Republicans are going down a dark path, down a dangerous road that will have devastating consequences for their party and of course for the American people. Believe me, this is not what Democrats want.

We Democrats are actually willing to take on some of the responsibility. We are willing to work with our Republican colleagues to make improvements to our healthcare system and to fix problems with the existing law. That involves some political risk. We are willing to take on that risk to try and help more Americans afford healthcare.

The Republicans are doing just the opposite by hiding their bill under lock and key. They are trying to avoid the risk of public backlash on a bill that, at least the polling shows, has the support of a mere sliver of the American people—18 percent. It will backfire. It will do potentially irrevocable damage to their party and more importantly to our country.

The Republicans ought to turn back before it is too late. They will rue the day they rushed this bill, in the dark of night, that does so much damage to the American people.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

COUNTERING IRAN'S DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES ACT OF 2017—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 722, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 110, S. 722, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip is recognized.

HEALTHCARE LEGISLATION

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, before he leaves the floor, I want to say to my friend, the Democratic leader, among his other attributes, he now claims omniscience. He knows everything—even about things that haven't even been written yet, and I, for one, appreciate as a Republican his concern about the Republican Party.

I would challenge his memory because I was here in 2010, when 60 Democrats in the Senate jammed through ObamaCare, a bill that we frankly need to save the American people from as it begins to melt down.

As the distinguished Presiding Officer from Iowa knows, there is not a single carrier in Iowa that is willing to sell ObamaCare insurance on the exchanges because they are simply bleeding money.

Mr. SCHUMER. Will my good friend and gym mate from Texas yield for a question?

Mr. CORNYN. I will yield for a question.

Mr. SCHUMER. Is omniscience a comment of all-knowing, and if I don't know what the bill is all about, then I couldn't be omniscient; isn't that true?

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I would say to my friend from New York that he is omniscient if he claims to know the content of a bill that has not yet been voted on or agreed upon by Republicans in the Senate. I would just put that in the same category as his other advice to folks on this side of the aisle and again challenge his memory to how we got here in the first place.

I was here on Christmas Eve when we voted. I ended up voting against, but Democrats voted to jam ObamaCare through this body and on a strictly party-line vote. The fact is, ObamaCare is failing millions of people because if they have access to coverage at all, many of them have seen their premiums go up an average of 105 percent since 2013. That is the average in the 30-plus States that carry ObamaCare insurance on the healthcare exchanges—a 105-percent increase. Many of them have also seen their deductibles get so big that they cannot even really use the insurance they have because basically they are effectively self-insured.

So I take with a grain of salt the comments from my friend from New York that somehow we are doing something that is so horrible when we are trying to rescue the American people and clean up the mess our Democratic friends created when they jammed ObamaCare through on a party-line vote. If they were serious about it, what they would do is accept our invitation to work with us to improve healthcare for all Americans. It would be much better if we could do this on a bipartisan basis. It would certainly be more durable and be sustained for much longer than things done strictly on party-line votes. Yet, in the absence of any real help from our Democratic friends, who just seem to be standing idly by and not lifting a finger to help the people being hurt by ObamaCare today, we are going to have to do the best we can with the hand we have been dealt on behalf of the people whom we represent.

Madam President, on another matter, as a global leader of state-sponsored terrorism, Iran continues to threaten the very existence of the nation of Israel and destabilize the Middle East by creating a breeding ground for violence and hatred.

For the past several years, the United States and our allies have attempted to contain Iran, often to no avail. For one, President Obama's lopsided nuclear deal left a zero imprint on Iran's terrorist activities. So last week the senior Senator from Tennessee, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, introduced legislation to apply impactful and powerful sanctions on the nation of Iran. This bill will give the President the ability to block any trade that could benefit Iran's ballistic missile programs or support its military buildup.

I plan to introduce a bipartisan amendment to this bill that would target Mahan Air. This is Iran's largest commercial airline that doubles as the preferred mode of transportation for terrorists and their weapons. That is right. It is a civilian airline, but it is actually used to facilitate terrorism and to transport weapons. Mahan Air not only supports the efforts of the Quds Force, which is a special unit of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard

Corps, but it supports Hezbollah as well. This terrorist airline is a conduit for personnel, weapons, and a violent ideology throughout the region.

Unfortunately, despite its proven transgressions, Mahan Air continues to expand international operations by adding more international airports to its flight patterns, including several in Europe. This is an obvious threat to the safety and security of the people where these planes are allowed to land. Not only are the goods they transport a cause for concern, but their very presence is a security risk to Americans who fly in and out of airports at which a Mahan aircraft may land.

Through all of this, of course, Iran continues to support their terrorist activities, indeed carrying on under the guise of commercial civilian aircraft flights.

My amendment would require the Department of Homeland Security to compile and make public a list of airports at which Mahan Air has recently landed and then require the Department of Homeland Security to assess what security measures should be added.

We have a duty to protect American citizens, and I am thankful that Chairman CORKER will bring this legislation to the floor. The fight against terrorism is multifaceted, and it is not easy, but we can start by targeting state sponsors of terrorism like Iran with economic sanctions while we strengthen our military and continue the great tradition of American leadership around the world.

HEALTHCARE LEGISLATION

Finally, Madam President, let me return to where I began—to the issue of ObamaCare.

There is a lot of work to be done here at home as well. I know it is easy for us to get mired in the ''how,'' but it is also important for us to remember why we are repealing ObamaCare and why we are replacing it with something far better for American families.

I want to continue to highlight one of the many stories I am hearing from my constituents. I wonder whether the Senator from New York is hearing some of these same stories from his constituents.

This gentleman is a small business owner in the Fort Worth area who told me that since ObamaCare was implemented, this small business owner has been forced to change his insurance every year. Can you imagine going through that headache and hassle when President Obama said: If you like your health coverage, you can keep it. He was also the one who said: If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. He also promised that premiums would go down an average of $2,500 for a family of four—none of which has proved to be true. In this particular gentleman's case, as is the case for many Americans, his rates have gone through the roof, rising from roughly $350 a month to $800 a month. Despite the higher cost, he now receives less coverage because his out-of-pocket maximum has risen from $3,500 to $14,000. That is simply outrageous. Throughout the entire process, he has been fighting a losing battle.

As is the case with many States, including Iowa, provider after provider has pulled out of my State as well, as they are unable to afford ObamaCare at all.

This small business owner is not only forced to literally find new insurance every year, but he has to change providers each year and has fewer options available. Along the way—this is the other promise President Obama made that has been broken—this gentleman has lost access to his doctor of 20 years. He refers to the hope he had when President Obama looked into the camera and said: Now listen to me. You can keep your insurance, and you can keep your doctor, and you will pay less. That is what President Obama said when he was selling ObamaCare. Instead, this gentleman, this small business owner from Fort Worth, did not get to keep his insurance. He lost his doctor of 20 years, and he now pays nearly three times more for less coverage and higher deductibles.

He closed his letter to me with a question. He asked: Can I count on you?

I look around the Chamber, and I ask all of us: Can the American people count on us?

I know they can because it is our responsibility to provide something far better than what they have had under ObamaCare. They can count on us if we work together to find solutions that actually provide the high-quality healthcare American families deserve at prices they can afford. In many instances, this means getting government out of the way and allowing the marketplace to lower costs and increase quality, which is what markets do much better than government regulation.

Right now, every Senator on this side of the aisle is discussing with our colleagues how best to accomplish that, and we are also discussing this with the people whom we represent—the physicians, the healthcare providers, and others—to try to determine the best way forward. I hope our Democratic colleagues will join us rather than give us lectures from the Senate floor about the way we are conducting our business, particularly when their hands are unclean, to say the least, when it comes to the way they jammed ObamaCare down the throats of the American people to such bad effect. I would encourage them, rather than to just obstruct, to actually work with us in a bipartisan fashion. We would come up with a better product, a more durable product, if our Democratic friends would work with us rather than just sit on their hands or actively obstruct our efforts to get the job done.

I urge our colleagues from both sides to work together to find a solution that repeals what is broken in ObamaCare and replace it with patient-centered, accessible, and affordable healthcare. I hope that eventually others will come around to join us if for no other reason than their constituents are hurting from the status quo.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE PULSE NIGHTCLUB MASS SHOOTING IN ORLANDO

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam President, I rise to recognize the first anniversary of a horrific tragedy that shook this Nation. One year ago, in the early morning hours of June 12, 2016, we all witnessed an unthinkable act of hatred and terror at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, FL. It was Pride Month and Latin night, and dozens of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people, along with friends and family, were gathered simply to have fun in what should have been a place of acceptance, affirmation, and safety. In a matter of moments, what should have been a celebration turned into one of the worst mass shootings in American history—a targeted act of terror and hate, an attack on the freedoms we all hold dear. These 49 innocent people lost their lives in this attack, and 53 others were wounded. Many, many others bear the emotional scars.

This was not only a deadly act of domestic terrorism; it was a hate crime—a crime that targeted victims because of who they were and was designed not just to harm its victims but to terrorize everyone in the community.

Last year, I came to the floor to read the names and tell the stories of the victims of this massacre in Orlando, because we cannot and we must not forget these men and women. Their stories need a voice. Today, I rise again to remember the victims.

As I did 1 year ago, I come to the floor to ask my colleagues to find the courage to stand up, speak out, and act to confront the rising tide of hate crimes and discrimination in America. We must never forget the victims of this hate crime, and we must honor them with action.

While the Pulse shooting was an unimaginable horror, it is, sadly, far from the only act of violence that has been perpetrated out of hatred. Even before June 12 of last year, we had seen an alarming increase in reports of hate crimes against LGBTQ people but also against racial and religious minorities and immigrants. In the aftermath of a divisive election, we saw hundreds of documented instances of discrimination, harassment, and even violence against members of minority communities as well as increased hostility within our Nation's schools. In this year alone, at least 11 transgender people have been murdered, most of them women of color.

The fact is that many members of racial, ethnic, disability, and religious minority communities, as well as LGBT people, live in very real fear for their safety. They are scared, and it is

incumbent upon President Trump as our Nation's leader to demonstrate to them and to all Americans that discrimination and violence against any individual because of who he is, whom he loves, and how he worships will not be tolerated in this country.

When I stood here last year, I called for a greater investment in the Federal Government's effort to both try to prevent hate crimes and fully investigate and prosecute them whenever they happen. After President Trump took office, I was joined by a number of my Senate colleagues in urging him and the Attorney General to support robust funding for the Department of Justice's programs that combat bias-motivated crimes. I believe a documented increase in hate crimes demands an increase in the resources that are committed to fighting this problem. Yet the budget put forward by President Trump and Attorney General Sessions seeks no increases. In fact, it proposes cutting more than 100 staff from the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division.

This administration has failed to step up and speak out against this disturbing trend across our country or to commit the resources necessary to fight it.

Instead of showing the moral leadership our Nation needs in the face of increasing hatred and division, President Trump and his administration have taken steps to roll back our Nation's progress in many areas, including progress for the LGBT community.

Rather than issue a proclamation recognizing Pride Month and committing to address the many challenges still facing LGBT Americans, President Trump recently issued an Executive order that could open the door to discrimination with Federal taxpayer dollars.

Rather than stand up for transgender students facing bullying, harassment, and discrimination, this administration rescinded guidance to schools about the rights of those vulnerable young people under Federal law.

Rather than building on the steps taken to better understand the needs of LGBT people by simply counting us, the Trump administration has walked back efforts to ask about LGBT Americans in Federal surveys at the Department of Health and Human Services and the Census Bureau.

Simply put, President Trump has not lived up to his vow to be a President for all Americans.

But where I come from, in Wisconsin, our State motto consists of one word: ''Forward.'' I believe that no matter who is in the Oval Office, our country must move in only one direction—forward.

Remember, while Pride Month is, of course, about celebration—of who we are and of how far we have come—it is just as much about bravely standing up and speaking out so that others will not feel compelled to live in silence.

To the survivors of the Pulse shooting and the families and friends of those who were murdered and who feel the wounds of this tragedy most deeply, we hear your voices and we are inspired by your strength.

As a community, we have never been deterred by tragedy and will not be now. One of the early leaders in our fight for equality was Harvey Milk, and he was also struck down by violent hatred. Harvey Milk famously said: ''Hope will never be silent.''

So today I rise to remind us of the power of hope in the face of tragedy. We must continue to work to pass on to the next generation a country that is more equal, not less. We must remain strong in fighting any rollback of progress, large or small.

There is more work to be done to ensure that all Americans are protected from hatred and discrimination, and the work toward full equality for LGBTQ people and their families remains far from complete.

For myself and those who stand united this Pride Month, we are guided by our uniquely American values. It is about freedom—the freedom to realize our founding belief that all Americans are created equal under the law. It is about fairness—whether gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Americans deserve to be treated just like their family members, their friends, their neighbors, their fellow workers. It is about opportunity—about whether every American gets to dream the same dreams, chase the same ambitions, and have the same shot at success.

This is the promise of America, and we must fight to make sure we keep it.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session for consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Kenneth P. Rapuano, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 30 minutes of debate on the nomination, equally divided in the usual form.

The Senator from Florida.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE PULSE NIGHTCLUB MASS SHOOTING IN ORLANDO

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I will not be addressing the matter before us because I have just come from Orlando, where so many are feeling such deep, deep sorrow today. It has been 1 year since the tragic attack on the Pulse nightclub in Orlando.

The horror of that early morning still remains fresh for so many, especially those hundreds and hundreds of people who gathered at the Pulse nightclub this morning on the occasion of 1 year since the tragedy. There was quite a ceremony to remember the 49 innocent souls we lost. It was a massacre of huge proportions by a terrorist.

What terrorists want to do is to divide people. They want to terrorize them. They inject fear. Interestingly, the terrorist, whose name was Omar Mateen—although he changed the lives of so many, he took the lives of 49 people. He changed a lot of other lives of those who were wounded, and, of course, the families of the 49 victims are still suffering.

Interestingly, a terrorist wants to divide and inject fear, but this has had the opposite effect in Orlando. It has unified people. It has unified the community as I have never seen before. It has unified our State; indeed, it has unified our Nation. So quite the opposite effect has happened from what the terrorist intended—other than the slaughter of 49 innocent lives. Sadly, these are the 49, and they are all being honored today. It was a very moving ceremony.

One of the causes that came out of the unification of Orlando is that—instead of creating a number of victims' funds—they put it all into one fund. Tens of millions of dollars have now gone into that fund, and it is helping to finance some of the victims who survived and their medical expenses, some of the families and the loved ones of those who were lost.

Interestingly, being there, suddenly those moments came rushing back. I heard about it early on a Sunday morning when the news broke about the massacre the night before, which had occurred in the early morning hours. As I raced from my home to downtown Orlando on South Orange Avenue, I was able to get on the telephone the No. 3 at the FBI, and he gave me authorization to tell what they originally were anticipating had happened. Once I got to the scene, I was able to share that. Of course, they had a representative of the FBI on the scene. They had set up a command post. Mayor Buddy Dyer had taken charge. It was quite a scene.

The tales of heroism are nonstop. The Orlando Police Department SWAT team, which went inside—before they could get the SWAT team there, members of the Police Department and the Sheriff's Department were there. One block away was a fire station that became a triage point. First responders got there and were trying to save people's lives. It was because of the massive number of casualties—49—that while the gunman Mateen was holed up in one of the bathrooms with hostages, some whom he had already shot had bled to death. While he was in the bathroom, police and paramedics were going in and pulling people out in those dark hours of the early morning. Of course, they were using whatever vehicle—if there was a pickup truck, they would put the victims on the truck. Fortunately, Orlando Regional Medical Center is only about six to eight blocks away, and, of course, it is a trauma center hospital.

About a week later, I went to see the trauma surgeons. A resident who had been getting his residency there as a trauma surgeon was so moved by that experience that he put on his Facebook page what he was feeling and showed a picture of his bloody shoes that he didn't even recognize because he was so busy. It was not until the next day that he looked at those shoes. He put a picture of that on his Facebook page, and he wrote: To be a trauma surgeon and have waves of people coming in, I didn't know if they were Black or White; I didn't know if they were gay or straight. All I knew was I was doing everything I could to save lives.

In some cases, they would make an initial prep; then they would get the victim, who was still living, up to the operating room where other surgeons were taking over. In some cases, they did not have time. They had to do the operation right there in the trauma center. Fortunately, the one trauma center in all of Central Florida is right there at Orlando Regional Medical Center.

So a terrorist, perhaps aided and abetted by his wife—this is an open question, and that determination has not been made. A terrorist tried to divide us as a nation, just as they had before on 9/11 and at San Bernardino and in so many other cases where they had been foiled. There are others whom you can't label as terrorists, but they are in their own ways—all the killings that have occurred at schools. If you lump all of that together, they try to divide us. Yet Orlando came together, united. They have a catch phrase for it. It is called Orlando Strong.

America is a nation of compassion, generosity, kindness, and respect. Those are precisely the qualities we saw from the people of Orlando when they came together a year ago, and this Senator saw that again in vivid detail this morning.

We are forever grateful for the bravery and heroism of the police, the first responders, the sheriff's department, the FBI, the families, and victims helping other victims. We are forever grateful for the trauma surgeons and the operating room nurses and doctors, as they saved lives. We are forever grateful for the hospital and how it completely accommodated all of this mass confusion and how it forgave all of the medical expenses for those who had been victims, both the living and the dead. We are forever grateful for those who rushed to the scene that night in the face of uncertainty, in the pitch darkness of that nightclub, not knowing where the shooter was. We are forever grateful for the skills of the negotiators as they tried to talk the shooter down. Ultimately, when he came out with the automatic weapons blazing, they had to take him down.

To all of those heroes, we say thank you. To all of those heroes who are also the families of these victims, we say thank you. To the victims' families and loved ones, we want to say that even though you lost those loved ones, they did not die in vain. Out of evil, what we have seen is good.

Thanks to all of Orlando, not only for what you did that night, but thank you for what you do every day. A year later, I can report to the Senate that we are Orlando Strong.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORAN). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, a year ago today, Americans—myself included—awoke to the shocking news that 49 of our fellow Americans had been killed overnight in one of the deadliest mass shootings, mass attacks in our Nation's history.

I recall that day. It was a Sunday morning. I was home, and we were getting ready to go to church, as we do. The news was on. We don't usually turn on the TV. That day, the text messages were coming in, and it spoke about this horrifying incident that occurred overnight. The news reports were still sketchy.

For whatever reason—be it because of our work here or a bad gut feeling—I remember telling my family that I was going to get in my truck and drive the 3 hours to Orlando to be there because I felt there was something beyond the scale and scope of it, a little bit different about this horrifying attack. As I drove north on the Florida turnpike, the updates on the radio kept coming in. The scale of it was unbelievable. The numbers kept climbing, and there was still not a lot of detail about what was behind it.

After I arrived on the scene and was able to interact with some of our Federal authorities and State authorities who were there, the picture still wasn't abundantly clear, but the one thing that began to emerge was, this was the act of a single individual inspired by an ideology of hate and supported in the pursuit of that ideology by people who before that and since then have been responsible for attacks all over the world.

I think the part that was perhaps most troubling for a lot of people is—especially for me, I found myself at that time, 45 years of age, at the halfway point between the age of the people who would have been there and the age of someone whose child might have been there, and the randomness of it—the notion that a lot of young people went out that night to have a good time with their friends. It was Latin night. This was a well-known nightclub in the LGBT community in Central Florida. I don't think that when you get up at night and get dressed and go out that you think one of the risks involved is you are going to end up interacting with a jihadist terrorist. That is what happened that night.

The other part that was so startling is, so often for so many of us, these bad things happen somewhere else. They happen in France. They happen in London. They happened on 9/11 in New York City. This happened in Florida, just down the street from a place that I had been a year earlier—a small business, furniture store whose owners I had gotten to know as I was writing a book about small businesses and the like. The familiarity of it, how close it was to home, and the idea that the war on terror had not just come to America that day but it had come to Central Florida. Ultimately, we learned it had come to impact people whom we knew through others and whose stories sounded quite familiar.

We now know it was the worst attack on U.S. soil since September 11 of 2001. In this time when we are having so many debates about whom we are going to allow into our country and what criteria we are going to use and from what places they can come, it is important to stop and remember that the individual—whose name I will not even say because I think one of the hopes he had is that he would go down in history as a famous person, but this individual lived in our country for a long time. He lived among us since the day he was born. He was not someone who had come on an airplane or had recently arrived from another culture, another society. He was an American, born and raised in the United States. If my memory doesn't fail me, I believe he was born in Queens, NY.

What strikes me is, he benefited from everything this country offers: freedom, liberty. He knew people. He lived among fellow Americans his whole life. He went to work every morning alongside them. He had all of the blessings and the opportunities and everything this country provides. Yet even that was not enough to somehow inspire him not just to take on this evil ideology but to act on it.

Obviously, the attack was personal for the 49 families with stories of their own and of course the countless others who were injured. I know it was personal to the LGBT community and Central Florida. As I said, Pulse was a well-known cornerstone of the community, particularly for younger people.

As I said earlier, this was deeply personal for Floridians and for the people of Central Florida. I will get to that in a moment because I am extraordinarily proud of that community. I think it was personal for all Americans.

When I arrived, I saw these people, largely still—I don't know what time it was, but the attacks weren't even 12 hours old. I saw family members of people they loved or loved ones who were outside in desperate mode. You know that look on your face where, ''I want to know what happened. I don't know if the person I love is inside there. I haven't heard from them.''

One of the most chilling things I heard from law enforcement was that

the cell phones were still buzzing as people were calling their loved ones. It brought home that this wasn't just 49 as a number. It is so easy to see that scroll across the television set. It is even easy to say it now, 49. They were 49 human beings, 49 human beings with families who loved them, parents who loved them, siblings who loved them. I saw that firsthand when I got there. I saw the look of people behind the yellow rope who had no idea if someone whom they deeply loved and cared for lay dead on the other side of that tape.

I remember not long after, crowds began to form and people started showing up with signs that said things like: ''We're with you.'' ''We love you.'' This was early. I am talking about 12 to 13 hours after the attack happened.

I commend the law enforcement—Federal, State, local—who came together and responded. I saw people coming off duty, people who were not on duty that day, putting on the uniform and showing up to see how they could help. We saw the long lines of everyday citizens bringing food and water to support their efforts. Later that day, we saw long lines of Floridians lined up to donate blood.

There is no doubt that this was a community that was heartbroken, but it was also a community that was unbroken; that I believe woke up stronger and more united than it was when I went to sleep the night before.

I think, ultimately, the man who committed this attack and the people who inspired him to do so would have been horrified by what they saw. I think they would have been horrified to see First Baptist Church in Orlando—a pillar of the Christian evangelical community—opening its doors to the LGBT community and welcoming them and their families and holding services there. I think they would have been horrified by that. I think they would have been horrified by people putting aside, if but for a moment, their voter registration cards, their preferences in the upcoming elections, their backgrounds, the way their last names are pronounced or whom they love. They put all this aside and said: These are 49 Americans—and their families—who just died at the hands of an evil terrorist. We are committed to doing everything we can to provide support for them. I think these terrorists would have been horrified to see what has happened since that time.

In so many ways, Central Florida grew up—and I mean that in a positive way—so much in the last year, in terms of coming together, in the sense of community, and obviously it is sometimes in tragedy that we see that happen. I think it served as an extraordinary inspiration to communities all around the country who hope to achieve the same level of unity without the tragedy.

While the attack may have succeeded in sowing death and heartbreak, it failed in sowing doubt about our way of life. In the year that has followed, we have seen hundreds of thousands of Americans come together in Orlando to celebrate the lives of the victims and to begin that healing process.

In the weeks and months after the attack, memorials were established throughout downtown Orlando, marking the loss of 49 of our brothers and sisters. We saw ceremonies held in every part of the State, from Pensacola to Miami, FL.

One thing that really stands out in particular is, one of the memorials was a set of 49 white crosses that rested aside the Orlando Regional Medical Center, the trauma center where a number of the victims were taken that morning. Those crosses are now at the Orange County Regional History Center. Each one of these crosses is about 3 to 4 feet high and has the name of one of the 49 victims. People from all across the Nation visited this memorial, including, at the time, President Obama and Vice President Biden. They came to pay their respects and to leave a token of their mourning in the honor of those taken that night—cards and pictures, teddy bears and flowers were set around each cross, and people wrote notes and well-wishes on the crosses to honor the memory of each of the 49.

When the crosses were taken by a police motorcade to the history center, one mother—I have chosen not to list her name because it is not for me to do, but she was there to assist that Tuesday with moving that cross that represented her daughter. She and her husband, I think, by now know this, but we share a mutual friend in the Orlando area, and I have learned firsthand from him just how hard the loss of their daughter was for them.

In the end, before I am a Senator or anything else I do, I am a husband and a father, and I have a child whose name is the same as their daughter. I, for the life of me, cannot begin to fathom what they have gone through in the past year, along with 48 other families.

As they moved her cross with her name on it, they saw a note on it that had been written by someone in the community. They don't know who it was. The note was very simple, but it was very powerful. The note said: ''I never knew you but I love you.''

It strikes me that line, ''I never knew you but I love you,'' for those of us in the Christian faith, reminds us of what Christ said is one of our greatest Commandments, to love your neighbor as yourself.

For the past year, we have felt the deep pain. We have also seen in Orlando that it is united. ''One Orlando.'' At a time when we can always find something to divide us, a community came together to honor the memory of those who were lost. Each of them was a son or a daughter, a brother, a sister, a mother, a father, a husband, a wife, or a partner. In the end, they were a part of our families and our communities. Each of them, like all of us, had immense promise and hope. Each in their own way were a part of what makes this country a great nation, and they were lost that terrible night 1 year ago, but they were loved.

A year later, we remember them and those they left behind. I hope we will honor them by finding a way as a nation to remember that despite our differences on a vast number of issues, we are still one nation under God, the greatest Nation on Earth, the most extraordinary people who have ever lived, a nation that is not simply a people bound together by a common blood or common heritage, a common ethnicity. America is more than a country. It is an idea, the idea that every single human being has a God-given right to live life as they so choose and to fulfill their potential. I hope we will continue to work here and everywhere we can to live up to that powerful idea that changed the world.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

All time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Rapuano nomination?

Mr. ALEXANDER. 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 North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE), and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 95, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 142 Ex.]

YEAS—95

Alexander	Cortez Masto	Hatch
Baldwin	Cotton	Heinrich
Barrasso	Crapo	Heitkamp
Bennet	Cruz	Heller
Blumenthal	Daines	Hirono
Blunt	Donnelly	Hoeven
Booker	Duckworth	Inhofe
Boozman	Durbin	Isakson
Brown	Enzi	Johnson
Cantwell	Ernst	Kaine
Capito	Feinstein	Kennedy
Cardin	Fischer	King
Carper	Flake	Klobuchar
Casey	Franken	Lankford
Cassidy	Gardner	Leahy
Cochran	Gillibrand	Lee
Collins	Graham	Manchin
Coons	Grassley	Markey
Corker	Harris	McCain
Cornyn	Hassan	McCaskill

McConnell	Roberts	Thune
Menendez	Rounds	Tillis
Merkley	Rubio	Toomey
Moran	Sasse	Udall
Murkowski	Schatz	Van Hollen
Murphy	Schumer	Warner
Murray	Scott	Warren
Nelson	Shaheen	Whitehouse
Paul	Shelby	Wicker
Peters	Strange	Wyden
Portman	Sullivan	Young
Reed	Tester	

NAYS—1

Sanders

NOT VOTING—4

Burr	Risch
Perdue	Stabenow

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. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

COUNTERING IRAN'S DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES ACT OF 2017—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the vote on the motion to proceed to S. 722, the Senate proceed to a period of morning business for debate only, with Senator WICKER recognized for 12 minutes, to be followed by Senator MERKLEY for 12 minutes; and that following those remarks, the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, all postcloture time has expired.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

COUNTERING IRAN'S DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES ACT OF 2017

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 722) to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Countering Iran's Destabilizing Activities Act of 2017''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definitions.
Sec. 3. Regional strategy for countering conventional and asymmetric Iranian threats in the Middle East and North Africa.
Sec. 4. Imposition of additional sanctions in response to Iran's ballistic missile program.
Sec. 5. Imposition of terrorism-related sanctions with respect to the IRGC.
Sec. 6. Imposition of additional sanctions with respect to persons responsible for human rights abuses.
Sec. 7. Enforcement of arms embargos.
Sec. 8. Review of applicability of sanctions relating to Iran's support for terrorism and its ballistic missile program.
Sec. 9. Report on coordination of sanctions between the United States and the European Union.
Sec. 10. Report on United States citizens detained by Iran.
Sec. 11. Exceptions for national security and humanitarian assistance; rule of construction.
Sec. 12. Presidential waiver authority.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ACT OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.—The term ''act of international terrorism'' has the meaning given that term in section 14 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note).

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' has the meaning given that term in section 14 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note).

(3) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term ''foreign person'' means a person that is not a United States person.

(4) IRANIAN PERSON.—The term ''Iranian person'' means—

(A) an individual who is a citizen or national of Iran; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of Iran or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of the Government of Iran.

(5) IRGC.—The term ''IRGC'' means Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

(6) KNOWINGLY.—The term ''knowingly'' has the meaning given that term in section 14 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note).

(7) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term ''United States person'' means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity.

SEC. 3. REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR COUNTERING CONVENTIONAL AND ASYMMETRIC IRANIAN THREATS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of National Intelligence shall jointly develop and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a strategy for deterring conventional and asymmetric Iranian activities and threats that directly threaten the United States and key allies in the Middle East, North Africa, and beyond.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The strategy required by subsection (a) shall include at a minimum the following:

(1) A summary of the near- and long-term United States objectives, plans, and means for countering Iran's destabilizing activities, including identification of countries that share the objective of countering Iran's destabilizing activities.

(2) A summary of the capabilities and contributions of individual countries to shared efforts to counter Iran's destabilizing activities, and a summary of additional actions or contributions that each country could take to further contribute.

(3) An assessment of Iran's conventional force capabilities and an assessment of Iran's plans to upgrade its conventional force capabilities, including its acquisition, development, and deployment of ballistic and cruise missile capabilities, unmanned aerial vehicles, and maritime offensive and anti-access or area denial capabilities.

(4) An assessment of Iran's chemical and biological weapons capabilities and an assessment of Iranian plans to upgrade its chemical or biological weapons capabilities.

(5) An assessment of Iran's asymmetric activities in the region, including—

(A) the size, capabilities, and activities of the IRGC, including the Quds Force;

(B) the size, capabilities, and activities of Iran's cyber operations;

(C) the types and amount of support, including funding, lethal and nonlethal contributions, and training, provided to Hezbollah, Hamas, special groups in Iraq, the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria, Houthi fighters in Yemen, and other violent groups across the Middle East; and

(D) the scope and objectives of Iran's information operations and use of propaganda.

(6) A summary of United States actions, unilaterally and in cooperation with foreign governments, to counter destabilizing Iranian activities, including—

(A) interdiction of Iranian lethal arms bound for groups designated as foreign terrorist organizations under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189);

(B) Iran's interference in international commercial shipping lanes;

(C) attempts by Iran to undermine or subvert internationally recognized governments in the Middle East region; and

(D) Iran's support for the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria, including—

(i) financial assistance, military equipment and personnel, and other support provided to that regime; and

(ii) support and direction to other armed actors that are not Syrian or Iranian and are acting on behalf of that regime.

(c) FORM OF STRATEGY.—The strategy required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 4. IMPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS IN RESPONSE TO IRAN'S BALLISTIC MISSILE PROGRAM.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of State should continue to implement Executive Order 13382 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property of weapons of mass destruction delivery system proliferators and their supporters).

(b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—The President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to any person that the President determines, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) knowingly engages in any activity that materially contributes to the activities of the Government of Iran with respect to its ballistic missile program, or any other program in Iran for developing, deploying, or maintaining systems capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, including any efforts to manufacture, acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer, or use such capabilities;

(2) is a successor entity to a person referred to in paragraph (1);

(3) owns or controls or is owned or controlled by a person referred to in paragraph (1);

(4) forms an entity with the purpose of evading sanctions that would otherwise be imposed pursuant to paragraph (3);

(5) is acting for or on behalf of a person referred to in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4); or

(6) knowingly provides or attempts to provide financial, material, technological, or other support for, or goods or services in support of, a person referred to in paragraph (1), (2), (3), (4) or (5).

(c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subsection are the following:

(1) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The President shall block, in accordance with the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), all transactions in all property and interests in property of any person subject to subsection (a) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) EXCLUSION FROM UNITED STATES.—The Secretary of State shall deny a visa to, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall exclude from the United States, any person subject to subsection (a) that is an alien.

(d) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of subsection (c)(1) or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out that subsection shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

(e) REPORT ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO IRAN'S BALLISTIC MISSILE PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing each person that—

(A) has, during the period specified in paragraph (2), conducted any activity that has materially contributed to the activities of the Government of Iran with respect to its ballistic missile program, or any other program in Iran for developing, deploying, or maintaining systems capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, including any efforts to manufacture, acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer, or use such capabilities;

(B) is a successor entity to a person referred to in subparagraph (A);

(C) owns or controls or is owned or controlled by a person referred to in subparagraph (A);

(D) forms an entity with the purpose of evading sanctions that could be imposed as a result of a relationship described in subparagraph (C);

(E) is acting for or on behalf of a person referred to in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D); or

(F) is known or believed to have provided, or attempted to provide, during the period specified in paragraph (2), financial, material, technological, or other support for, or goods or services in support of, any material contribution to a program described in subparagraph (A) carried out by a person described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E).

(2) PERIOD SPECIFIED.—The period specified in this paragraph is—

(A) in the case of the first report submitted under paragraph (1), the period beginning January 1, 2016, and ending on the date the report is submitted; and

(B) in the case of a subsequent such report, the 180-day period preceding the submission of the report.

(3) FORM OF REPORT.—Each report required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 5. IMPOSITION OF TERRORISM-RELATED SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE IRGC.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The IRGC is subject to sanctions pursuant to Executive Order 13382 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property of weapons of mass destruction delivery system proliferators and their supporters), the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8501 et seq.), Executive Order 13553 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property of certain persons with respect to serious human rights abuses by the Government of Iran), and Executive Order 13606 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking the property and suspending entry into the United States of certain persons with respect to grave human rights abuses by the Governments of Iran and Syria via information technology).

(2) The Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps–Quds Force (in this section referred to as the ''IRGC–QF'') is the primary arm of the Government of Iran for executing its policy of supporting terrorist and insurgent groups. The IRGC–QF provides material, logistical assistance, training, and financial support to militants and terrorist operatives throughout the Middle East and South Asia and was designated for the imposition of sanctions by the Secretary of Treasury pursuant to Executive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism) in October 2007 for its support of terrorism.

(3) The IRGC, not just the IRGC–QF, is responsible for implementing Iran's international program of destabilizing activities, support for acts of international terrorism, and ballistic missile program.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to the IRGC and foreign persons that are officials, agents, or affiliates of the IRGC.

(c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subsection are sanctions applicable with respect to a foreign person pursuant to Executive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism).

SEC. 6. IMPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a list of each person the Secretary determines, based on credible evidence, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) is responsible for extrajudicial killings, torture, or other gross violations of internationally recognized human rights committed against individuals in Iran who seek—

(A) to expose illegal activity carried out by officials of the Government of Iran; or

(B) to obtain, exercise, defend, or promote internationally recognized human rights and freedoms, such as the freedoms of religion, expression, association, and assembly, and the rights to a fair trial and democratic elections; or

(2) acts as an agent of or on behalf of a foreign person in a matter relating to an activity described in paragraph (1).

(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may, in accordance with the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), block all transactions in all property and interests in property of a person on the list required by subsection (a) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of paragraph (1) or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out paragraph (1) shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

SEC. 7. ENFORCEMENT OF ARMS EMBARGOS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (d), the President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to any person that the President determines—

(1) knowingly engages in any activity that materially contributes to the supply, sale, or transfer directly or indirectly to or from Iran, or for the use in or benefit of Iran, of any battle tanks, armored combat vehicles, large caliber artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, missiles or missile systems, as defined for the purpose of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, or related materiel, including spare parts; or

(2) knowingly provides to Iran any technical training, financial resources or services, advice, other services or assistance related to the supply, sale, transfer, manufacture, maintenance, or use of arms and related materiel described in paragraph (1).

(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—

(1) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The President shall block, in accordance with the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), all transactions in all property and interests in property of any person subject to subsection (a) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) EXCLUSION FROM UNITED STATES.—The Secretary of State shall deny a visa to, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall exclude from the United States, any person subject to subsection (a) that is an alien.

(c) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of subsection (b)(1) or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out that subsection shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

(d) EXCEPTION.—The President is not required to impose sanctions under subsection (a) with respect to a person for engaging in an activity described in that subsection if the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(1) permitting the activity is in the national security interest of the United States;

(2) Iran no longer presents a significant threat to the national security of the United States and to the allies of the United States; and

(3) the Government of Iran has ceased providing operational or financial support for acts of international terrorism and no longer satisfies the requirements for designation as a state sponsor of terrorism.

(e) STATE SPONSOR OF TERRORISM DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''state sponsor of terrorism'' means a country the government of which the Secretary of State has determined to be a government that has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism for purposes of—

(1) section 6(j)(1)(A) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. 4605(j)(1)(A)) (as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.));

(2) section 620A(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371(a));

(3) section 40(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(d)); or

(4) any other provision of law.

SEC. 8. REVIEW OF APPLICABILITY OF SANCTIONS RELATING TO IRAN'S SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM AND ITS BALLISTIC MISSILE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall conduct a review of all persons on the list of specially designated nationals and blocked persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury for activities relating to Iran—

(1) to assess the conduct of such persons as that conduct relates to—

(A) any activity that materially contributes to the activities of the Government of Iran with respect to its ballistic missile program; or

(B) support by the Government of Iran for acts of international terrorism; and

(2) to determine the applicability of sanctions with respect to such persons under—

(A) Executive Order 13382 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property of weapons of mass destruction delivery system proliferators and their supporters); or

(B) Executive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism).

(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF SANCTIONS.—If the President determines under subsection (a) that sanctions under an Executive Order specified in paragraph (2) of that subsection are applicable with respect to a person, the President shall—

(1) impose sanctions with respect to that person pursuant to that Executive Order; or

(2) exercise the waiver authority provided under section 12.

SEC. 9. REPORT ON COORDINATION OF SANCTIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EUROPEAN UNION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes the following:

(1) A description of each instance, during the period specified in subsection (b)—

(A) in which the United States has imposed sanctions with respect to a person for activity related to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction or delivery systems for such weapons to or by Iran, support for acts of international terrorism by Iran, or human rights abuses in Iran, but in which the European Union has not imposed corresponding sanctions; and

(B) in which the European Union has imposed sanctions with respect to a person for activity related to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction or delivery systems for such weapons to or by Iran, support for acts of international terrorism by Iran, or human rights abuses in Iran, but in which the United States has not imposed corresponding sanctions.

(2) An explanation for the reason for each discrepancy between sanctions imposed by the European Union and sanctions imposed by the United States described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1).

(b) PERIOD SPECIFIED.—The period specified in this subsection is—

(1) in the case of the first report submitted under subsection (a), the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the date the report is submitted; and

(2) in the case of a subsequent such report, the 180-day period preceding the submission of the report.

(c) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 10. REPORT ON UNITED STATES CITIZENS DETAINED BY IRAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on United States citizens, including United States citizens who are also citizens of other countries, detained by Iran or groups supported by Iran that includes—

(1) information regarding any officials of the Government of Iran involved in any way in the detentions; and

(2) a summary of efforts the United States Government has taken to secure the swift release of those United States citizens.

(b) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 11. EXCEPTIONS FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE; RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The following activities shall be exempt from sanctions under sections 4, 5, 6, and 7:

(1) Any activity subject to the reporting requirements under title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.), or to any authorized intelligence activities of the United States.

(2) The admission of an alien to the United States if such admission is necessary to comply with United States obligations under the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, or under the Convention on Consular Relations, done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered into force March 19, 1967, or other applicable international obligations of the United States.

(3) The conduct or facilitation of a transaction for the sale of agricultural commodities, food, medicine, or medical devices to Iran or for the provision of humanitarian assistance to the people of Iran, including engaging in a financial transaction relating to humanitarian assistance or for humanitarian purposes or transporting goods or services that are necessary to carry out operations relating to humanitarian assistance or humanitarian purposes.

(b) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—A requirement or the authority to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property under section 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 shall not include the authority to impose sanctions with respect to the importation of goods.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this Act.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the authority of the President under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—The term ''agricultural commodity'' has the meaning given that term in section 102 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5602).

(2) GOOD.—The term ''good'' has the meaning given that term in section 16 of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. 4618) (as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)).

(3) MEDICAL DEVICE.—The term ''medical device'' has the meaning given the term ''device'' in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).

(4) MEDICINE.—The term ''medicine'' has the meaning given the term ''drug'' in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).

SEC. 12. PRESIDENTIAL WAIVER AUTHORITY.

(a) CASE-BY-CASE WAIVER AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive, on a case-by-case basis and for a period of not more than 180 days, a requirement under section 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 to impose or maintain sanctions with respect to a person, and may waive the continued imposition of such sanctions, not less than 30 days after the President determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that it is vital to the national security interests of the United States to waive such sanctions.

(2) RENEWAL OF WAIVERS.—The President may, on a case-by-case basis, renew a waiver under paragraph (1) for an additional period of not more than 180 days if, not later than 15 days before that waiver expires, the President makes the determination and submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report described in paragraph (1).

(3) SUCCESSIVE RENEWAL.—The renewal authority provided under paragraph (2) may be exercised for additional successive periods of not more than 180 days if the President follows the procedures set forth in paragraph (2), and submits the report described in paragraph (1), for each such renewal.

(b) CONTENTS OF WAIVER REPORTS.—Each report submitted under subsection (a) in connection with a waiver of sanctions under section 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 with respect to a person, or the renewal of such a waiver, shall include—

(1) a specific and detailed rationale for the determination that the waiver is vital to the national security interests of the United States;

(2) a description of the activity that resulted in the person being subject to sanctions;

(3) an explanation of any efforts made by the United States, as applicable, to secure the cooperation of the government with primary jurisdiction over the person or the location where the activity described in paragraph (2) occurred in terminating or, as appropriate, penalizing the activity; and

(4) an assessment of the significance of the activity described in paragraph (2) in contributing to the ability of Iran to threaten the interests of the United States or allies of the United States, develop systems capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, support acts of international terrorism, or violate the human rights of any person in Iran.

(c) EFFECT OF REPORT ON WAIVER.—If the President submits a report under subsection (a) in connection with a waiver of sanctions under section 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 with respect to a person, or the renewal of such a waiver, the President shall not be required to impose or maintain sanctions under section 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8, as applicable, with respect to the person described in the report during the 30-day period referred to in subsection (a).

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

BUILDING AND SUSTAINING A LARGER NAVY

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, as chairman of the Seapower Subcommittee, I rise this afternoon to direct the attention of this body to an important national security issue: building and sustaining a larger Navy.

President Trump wants a 350-ship Navy, which aligns with the Navy's requirement for 355 ships. Right now we have only 275 ships in the battle fleet. Increasing the size of the Navy by 80 ships, even as older ships retire each year, is a test of national will. It will not happen overnight. However, Congress has the responsibility to lay a firm foundation this year to prepare for a deliberate and responsible buildup in the future. A healthy shipbuilding industrial base is necessary to succeed.

Today, I will offer some general comments about the state of shipbuilding. Then I will focus on the submarine industrial base, in particular, because of its unique challenges. Finally, I will make suggestions on how Congress can support the industrial base in general and the submarine yards specifically.

Last month, my subcommittee convened two hearings on this matter. The first was with naval officials. This took place in a classified setting because of their expertise and because of sensitive information. The other hearing was with the country's two top shipbuilders—Huntington Ingalls and General Dynamics—as well as the Shipbuilders Council of America, which is the trade association for suppliers. We discussed the industrial base as it exists today and the challenges associated with building up the fleet.

Based on my subcommittee's work, here are four general impressions of the state of shipbuilding.

No. 1, the yards are turning out most classes of ships on time and on budget. Ingalls Shipbuilding just delivered the newest big-deck amphibious ship—the LHA—13 weeks early. Electric Boat and Newport News continue to deliver Virginia-class attack submarines, or SSNs. Construction time for attack submarines has declined by 1½ years—from 84 months to 66 months. There are a few notable exceptions, but, by and large, industry is delivering for the warfighter and for the taxpayer.

No. 2, most yards have excess capacity to ramp up shipbuilding. This is very good news for national security. The Navy's accelerated fleet plan concluded that the industrial base can build an additional 29 ships—above projections—over the next 7 years. The glaring exceptions are the submarine yards, which will struggle to meet planned demand as the new Columbia-class ballistic missile submarine production starts. In terms of capacity, our submarine yards have a ways to go.

No. 3, two decades of low-rate shipbuilding have significantly reduced the supplier base. The Congressional Budget Office has stated that ships cost more today than they did during the Reagan buildup, even when adjusting for inflation. Twenty years ago, about 17,000 suppliers served the submarine business. Now only about 3,000 first-tier suppliers are left. Let me repeat this. We used to have 17,000 suppliers. Now we have 3,000. These 3,000 suppliers include large corporations, such as Northrop Grumman and L3, which have tens of thousands of employees. These 3,000 suppliers also include mom-and-pop small businesses with just a few employees. Whether they deal with large corporations or small businesses, the shipyards increasingly buy from sole-source suppliers. In fact, Newport News spends about 65 percent of its budget in buying pieces and parts from single and sole-source suppliers. General Dynamics faces a very similar situation. I have little doubt that this dramatic erosion in the supplier base explains why ships cost more today.

No. 4, in terms of my general observations, Congress has a critical role to play in supporting a buildup through advance procurement funding, through multiyear procurement authority, and through block buys. These tools can stimulate the supplier base, stabilize the workforce, and achieve significant savings through producing economies of scale. In addition, incremental funding authority is a tool that Congress can authorize to smooth out peaks and valleys in appropriations. This makes it easier to buy more ships in 1 year without busting the budget.

To sum it up, most yards are performing well and have the capacity to ramp up. The submarine yards are doing exceptional work but will struggle because of capacity. All shipbuilders face a diminished supplier base, which undermines competition, and Congress can help improve the supplier situation and stabilize the skilled workforce through using acquisition authorities.

That is a snapshot of the overall shipbuilding industrial base. Now let's turn to submarines specifically. Let's begin with the Navy's requirements.

In 2016, the Navy set a new requirement. The total requirement for ships is 355. That includes an increase of 47 ships from the previous level. For the Navy's submarine fleet, the new plan calls for 66 attack submarines and 12 ballistic missile submarines. We currently have 52 attack submarines—a number that will eventually decline to 41 over the next decade unless we do something about it. I propose we do something about it. We currently have 14 ballistic missile submarines as part of our nuclear deterrent. Beginning in 2021, 12 of these will be replaced by the new Columbia-class ballistic missile submarines.

To reiterate, we need 355 ships. That includes 66 attack submarines and 12 ballistic missile submarines. How does the President's budget request match up? The fiscal year 2018 request includes nine ships and prioritizes readiness more so than modernization. Congress needs to work with the President to reach his goal and to reach the requirement of 350 to 355 ships. I look forward to working with the administration on these budget numbers in order to make them work and to help the President achieve his goal.

Now let's talk about submarines. The budget request fully funds R&D for Columbia-class SSBNs to keep the program on track. The budget also funds the procurement of two Virginia-class submarines. We have followed this policy for years.

The Navy will struggle to ramp up submarine production because of the industrial base for submarines and how it will be stretched to capacity. The CBO tells us that reaching 355 ships in 15 years is not possible because we lack submarine production capacity. Electric Boat and Newport News are investing billions to recapitalize facilities, workforce, and suppliers, but that recapitalization effort is aimed at meeting current projected demand.

Arresting the decline in attack submarines, while maintaining the schedule for the Columbia-class SSBN, will take a significant recapitalization effort. We have done it before, and we can do it again. From the mid-1970s to the mid-1990s, industry steadily delivered three attack submarines per year and added a fourth SSBN on time and on budget. There is no reason we cannot do this again. We must take decisive action now to make this a reality. There are four ways in which Congress can help.

No. 1, repeal the defense budget caps. Sufficient and stable funding is the starting point for expanding submarine and shipbuilding capacity. The Budget Control Act-mandated budget caps have damaged military readiness and choked off modernization. While intended as a way to incentivize us to reform mandatory programs, the BCA defense caps have proved to be a self-inflicted wound. We cannot solve our spending and debt problem on the backs of our warfighters and industrial base, much less on the backs of the security of Americans. Congress needs to end the defense budget caps immediately.

No. 2, we need to accelerate and fully fund advance procurement. This will help stimulate and encourage new entrants into the supplier base. We need more competition. We need more suppliers. Driving down the cost per ship will free up resources to buy more ships.

No. 3, we need to incentivize capital investment. Congress should work with industry to identify responsible and cost-effective ways to incentivize investments in facilities and capital equipment.

No. 4, we need to target some appropriations to fund process improvements. I mentioned earlier that Newport News and Electric Boat have shaved a year and a half off Virginia production through more efficient manufacturing. We need more of this sort of thing.

Shipbuilding is a team effort, and these are four ways in which Congress can help to constructively participate in this national project.

The requirement for a bigger Navy is clear. The Navy needs our help to fulfill its mission. Numbers matter when it comes to projecting naval power in this day and age. The President and the Navy agree that we must build a bigger Navy.

To summarize, the shipbuilding industrial base is up to the task. Submarine production will be the most challenging part of this. There is limited capacity for submarine yards, and we need to do something about that, but Congress can take a number of steps now. We must start to build a foundation this year. I am committed—and I hope the entire Congress is committed—to setting this firm foundation, and I certainly intend to use my

chairmanship on Seapower for this goal.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

CLIMATE DISRUPTION

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, climate disruption is a significant concern for the health of our planet. It is affecting everything from our agriculture to our economy, to our forests, to our world's glaciers, to our ice sheets, and, certainly, to the distribution of the world's insects and the diseases they carry.

President Trump's decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement has attracted additional attention to the role that America should play in taking on this major challenge. How significant are the impacts of climate disruption to our forests and our farming and our fishing? What are the business opportunities of transforming an economy from that based on fossil fuels to that based on clean and renewable energy? What are other nations doing? How fast do we need to move to save the planet?

There will be many scholarly speeches on these topics here on the floor—many who will have been informed by the experiences that Senators will have had in their home States, both in the evolution of wind and solar energy and the changes that they are seeing in their forests and their farming and their fishing. I hope to draw attention and, hopefully, insights as to these issues in a more lighthearted fashion by presenting periodic episodes of a Senate Climate Disruption Quiz. Today, I am presenting episode No. 1 of this Disruption Quiz series. Let's get started.

Question No. 1: Which famous CEO resigned from three Presidential councils after President Trump announced that the United States would withdraw from the Paris Agreement? Was it Bob Iger of Disney? Was it Elon Musk of Tesla and SpaceX? Was it Travis Kalanick, the CEO of Uber? Consider which of these individuals made this decision.

The right answer is Elon Musk. Congratulations if that is what you guessed.

Bob Iger of Disney resigned from a Presidential council, but he resigned only from one, not three. He resigned from the Presidential Strategic and Policy Forum, and he has been quite significant in putting forward other environmental issues, such as the zero waste of Disney's theme parks.

He said when he resigned:

> Protecting our planet and driving economic growth are critical to our future, and they aren't mutually exclusive.

He continued:

> I deeply disagree with the decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement.

Travis Kalanick, the controversial and besieged Uber CEO, also resigned from the same council, that being the Presidential Strategic and Policy Forum, but he did so in response to the President's Muslim ban, not to the announcement that the United States would withdraw from the Paris Agreement.

That takes us to Elon Musk, who resigned from three councils—the President's Strategic and Policy Forum, Manufacturing Initiative, and Executive Council on Infrastructure.

He tweeted:

> Am departing Presidential councils. Climate change is real. Leaving Paris is not good for America or for the world.

So that is the first question. Now get ready to see if you can answer the second question correctly.

Question No. 2: As of today, which two countries are not party to the Paris Agreement? Is it Syria and Nicaragua? Is it Iran and North Korea, two members of the axis of evil? Is it Togo and Indonesia, or is it India and Cambodia? I am sure you have heard climate news about all of these countries, but you may not know which ones are the only two countries in the world that are not members of the Paris Agreement.

By the way, the United States is not on this list because even though we have announced we are withdrawing, that takes some time, and we are actually still a member.

The correct answer is Syria and Nicaragua.

Nicaragua hasn't signed on because they don't believe the Paris Agreement goes far enough in its fight against climate disruption. Today, more than half of Nicaragua's electricity comes from renewable resources—wind, solar, wave, and geothermal. The Government of Nicaragua predicts that within a few years, the percentage of electricity from renewables will rise to 80 percent. Because of the abundance of these resources, a 2013 World Bank report labeled Nicaragua ''a renewable energy paradise.''

The reason Syria didn't participate or sign on to the Paris Agreement is because it is in the midst of a horrific 6-year-long civil war that has claimed the lives of 300,000 men, women, and children and driven millions out of the country.

Now we will turn to question No. 3. Thanks in part to warmer temperatures and milder winters, cases of which tick-borne illness have more than doubled since 1991? Is the answer Colorado tick fever or tularemia or Lyme disease or Heartland virus?

By the way, all of these are real diseases. Well, Colorado tick fever is a viral infection that is mostly found in the mountain areas of the Western United States and Canada and is transmitted by the bite of an infected Rocky Mountain wood tick. Tularemia, which is also known as rabbit fever or deer fly fever or O'Hara's fever, is certainly a scary-sounding disease. Lyme disease is mostly transmitted by deer tick bites and is predominantly found in the Northeast and upper Midwest, the Mid-Atlantic regions of the country. And then there is the Heartland virus, which is transmitted by the lone star tick.

Well, the correct answer is—drum roll—C, Lyme disease.

Since 1991, the number of cases of Lyme disease in the United States has doubled. Approximately 30,000 people are diagnosed with the disease each year, but because it is very difficult to diagnosis, the Centers for Disease Control thinks the real number of cases is about 10 times that, or 300,000 people per year here in the United States. The main reason for the increase we have seen in Lyme disease is warmer temperatures and milder winters. Cold winters kill ticks; warm winters don't. That is what it boils down to.

On to question No. 4. Who was recently quoted as saying that ''the fuel of choice right now, certainly for us, is wind''? Was it Bono, the lead singer of U2 and founder of the One Campaign, known for its activist work in Africa? Was it Gwyneth Paltrow, the award-winning actress? Was it Ben Fowke, the CEO of Xcel Energy, which owns and operates 13 coal plants around the country? Was it Pope Francis, who gave our President a copy of his encyclical when the President visited with him just a few weeks ago?

Well, it turns out the answer is C, the CEO of Xcel Energy. That is a little bit surprising given that they operate more than a dozen coal plants, but it is also a company that generates one-fifth of its electricity from wind.

In January, the company shut down a large natural gas plant in Colorado for 2 days, and wind, on average, provided the power for half of its customer demand. Wind is Xcel's fuel of choice because once the turbines are built, the cost of the fuel to operate the turbines is zero. The fuel, plainly speaking, is free. And that is what led him to this comment saying that it is a preferred choice. Anytime you can get free fuel, it beats gearing up your coal plant or your natural gas plant.

Now we will turn to question No. 5, our final question. The Power Minister of which country recently announced that they intend to sell only electric cars by the year 2030? Is the answer India, which is home to 1.3 billion citizens, the world's third largest oil importer and a country with 300 million individuals who don't yet have access to electricity? Is it Germany, a manufacturing powerhouse, which has had a large feed-in tariff—a subsidy, if you will—to encourage distributed solar, solar panels on the tops of commercial buildings and homes? Is it China, where the use of cars has absolutely exploded. And the pollution in Beijing is among the worst pollution in the world, driven largely by the combustion of fossil fuels. Is it Canada, which has a new Prime Minister, Prime Minister Trudeau, who has prioritized tackling climate disruption?

If you guessed Germany, you are almost right but not quite. Germany's

Bundesrat, the country's upper legislative chamber, passed a nonbinding resolution last October calling for a phaseout of gasoline-powered vehicles by 2030. But that is not quite the question that was asked. The question is, Which country's Power Minister said they would only sell electric cars by the year 2030? And the answer to that is India.

Speaking at this year's annual conference of the Confederation of Indian Industry, Power Minister Piyush Goyal said:

> We are going to introduce electric vehicles in a very big way. We are going to make electric vehicles self-sufficient. The idea is that by 2030, not a single petrol or diesel car should be sold in the country.

India, by the way, is already on track to be the world's third largest solar market, with the country's solar capacity expected to reach 18.7 gigawatts by the year's end. The country is also adding 50 percent more solar and wind generation than currently installed here in the United States. They are replacing 770 million street and household lights with energy-saving and long-lasting LEDs, and they are bringing access to electricity to thousands of poor rural villages through the provision of solar. And they are doing all this faster than anyone could have anticipated.

So that is the full five questions for this week's Senate Climate Disruption Quiz. Climate disruption is the seminal challenge of our generation. We need to start taking strong, decisive action now to avoid reaching the point where the damage we are doing to our planet becomes irreversible.

Thank you, Mr. President.

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:40 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 10:13 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. CORKER).

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that morning business be closed.

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

COUNTERING IRAN'S DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES ACT OF 2017—Continued

AMENDMENT NO. 232

(Purpose: To impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation and to combat terrorism and illicit financing.)

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 232.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL], for Mr. CRAPO, proposes an amendment numbered 232.

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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 printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Senate amendment No. 232 to Calendar No. 110, S. 722, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Lamar Alexander, Mike Crapo, Luther Strange, Cory Gardner, John Cornyn, Orrin G. Hatch, James M. Inhofe, John Thune, Roger F. Wicker, John Hoeven, Roy Blunt, Richard C. Shelby, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, Lisa Murkowski, Bob Corker.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 233 TO AMENDMENT NO. 232

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 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 233 to amendment No. 232.

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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:

At the end add the following:

''This Act shall take effect 1 day after the date of enactment.''

JOINT REFERRAL OF NOMINATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the nomination of Elizabeth Erin Walsh, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, sent to the Senate by the President, be referred jointly to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following leader remarks on Tuesday, June 13, Senator PAUL or his designee be recognized to make a motion to discharge S.J. Res. 42; that debate on the motion be equally divided between the proponents and opponents until 12:30 p.m.; that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for the weekly conference meetings, and at 2:15 p.m. there be 10 minutes of debate remaining on the motion to discharge the resolution, equally divided between Senator PAUL or his designee and the opponents; and that following the use or yielding back of time, the Senate vote in relation to the motion to discharge.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

REMEMBERING PAMELA TODD MAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I wish to remember Pamela Todd May, a dedicated attorney, a compassionate servant, and a respected community member. With her passing on May 14 of this year, Kentucky has lost an extraordinary woman.

Pam employed her talents to serve others. As the legal counsel for Pikeville Medical Center, PMC, for over 30 years, she strived to improve the quality of life for many in her community. Through her service as a trustee for the University of Kentucky, Pam guided an institution to prepare thousands of students for a lifetime of success. Her career also included service as an assistant Pike County attorney.

To her loyal staff and colleagues, Pam will be remembered not only for her skills, but also for her warmth. Although her family and community have lost an incredible woman, I hope their memories of her love will help to ease their grief. Elaine and I join with so many in eastern Kentucky and around the Commonwealth in expressing our heartfelt condolences to her husband, Walter, her children, Andrea and Philip, and all of her family and friends.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD,)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, due to a memorial service in Michigan, I was unable to attend today's rollcall vote on the nomination of Kenneth P.

Rapuano to be Assistant Secretary of Defense. Had I been able to attend, I would have supported his nomination.●

WILDLIFE INNOVATION AND LONGEVITY DRIVER ACT

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I wanted to express my support for the Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver Act, also known as the WILD Act. I commend my Senate colleagues for passing this legislation last week.

I firmly believe that we have a moral duty to be good stewards of our planet, and that includes working together to conserve species and their habitat in the United States and around the world. We face many pressing wildlife management challenges; yet we have heard in the Environment and Public Works Committee that State and Federal agencies do not have adequate resources to face these troubling challenges. That is what makes innovation and collaboration so important, and the WILD Act inspires both.

The WILD Act incentivizes innovators by establishing cash-prize competitions for new technologies that prevent poaching, promote conservation, manage invasive species, protect endangered species, and use nonlethal methods to control wildlife. It directs Federal agencies to manage invasive species on public lands and reauthorizes effective government conservation programs, including those that protect some of our most loved species—elephants, great apes, tigers, rhinos, and marine turtles.

The WILD Act also reauthorizes the Department of Interior's Partnership for Fish and Wildlife Program, which leverages Federal funding by working with hard-working private landowners to restore and improve fish and wildlife habitats on their land.

Wildlife conservation is not a partisan issue, which is why I was so pleased to join with Chairman BARRASSO and our colleagues on both sides of the aisle in support of this legislation.

The WILD Act has also been endorsed by a diverse group of stakeholders, including the World Wildlife Fund, National Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited, and the Family Farm Alliance. I want to thank these organizations for their commitment to this issue and their interest in helping our challenged fisheries and threatened ecosystems, as well as internationally treasured rhinos and elephants.

I urge the House to pass the WILD Act and the President to sign it into law.

Thank you.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING WILLIAM G. SESLER

● Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of William G. Sesler, Esq., 89, who passed away peacefully on May 22, 2017. Bill's exceptional service to our country in the U.S. Air Force, his dedication as a public servant in Pennsylvania, and his unwavering commitment to underserved communities throughout his career are worthy of recognition. His contributions to the Commonwealth will never be forgotten.

I ask that the obituary from Gregory P. Sesler from May 26 be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

Thank you to the hospital care takers, physicians, pastors, friends, relatives, church community and family.

I was on my way home from the hospital last week after having just left my father and after the decision had been made by the family to put him on palliative care. It was hard, my mother was awesome. A wave of sadness swept over me as I began to think of all of the things I would soon not be able to with him again in this world. But then I thought of all the things we had been able to do together and what a blessed life he had lived.

Maybe we wouldn't climb Mount Washington together again, but we did it once. No longer would we sail the Chesapeake, go iceboating, travel on the German autobahn, see the Reformation Wall in Geneva, go to Africa to Ngorongoro crater, or go transatlantic on the QE II, but we had had a chance to do them all before. We had travelled thousands of miles and done dozens of business deals together, eaten lunch together at the Maenerchor Club hundreds of times. No he wouldn't drive my Jaguar way too fast again, or sail our Catalina sailboat or visit Civil War Battle Fields or see the wild horses of the Outerbanks, or see the Northern Lights in Alberta or the great cathedrals of Europe, or return to Kenyon College for another reunion or read his letters to the Editor. But we had been able to do all of those things together.

We got the chance to shoot pheasants in South Dakota, geese in North Dakota, go to Mexico with his grandchildren, see the cliffs of Western Ireland, listen to Pavarotti at the Warner, smoke cigars on the back porch, banter about an article in the New York times, argue about business decisions, drink too much wine on a fishing trip in Canada, and enjoy over 50 Christmas parties together.

Although I will never again have to endure his criticism or crave his praise or chase a bear out of our campsite within the Smokey Mountains, I have been able to do all of those things with him.

Although he won't be bursting into my office on December 23rd and having me accompany him to buy an apartment's worth of furniture for a refugee family, or feeling the pride of seeing my aged parents volunteer in the homeless shelter, I did get to do that with him once.

There may be no more deer hunting or trout fishing trips to Potter County or camping on the Outer Banks, or horseback riding in the Allegheny Forests, or watching World War II documentaries or going to James Bond movies on my birthday, but not everybody gets the chance to create this wealth of memories and for that chance I have been very blessed.

But while Dad loved to travel and do and experience life in a very full way, and to share those experiences with his children and grandchildren generously, it was his transfer of character, drive, and confidence to us that was his greatest gift. He also instilled in us an innate curiosity of the world. We both thank him and curse him for our restless discursive minds. My mother once said that one of the reasons she married my dad 59 years ago was because she knew her life would never be boring. She was right.

My dad was a non-politically correct liberal. He cared for people and believed in government as an agent of good, but he wasn't shy about criticizing the slothful or undisciplined. He wasn't afraid to refer to sloppy or vague thinking as BS. He admired the great planners who got things done. General George Marshal was one of those. He was not an admirer of Donald Trump. After William had been in the ICU for four days and we were able to wean him from the ventilator, he asked for his New York Times. His first comment when opening the paper was ''He fired Comey? What the hell!''

I had a special relationship with my dad. After returning to Erie from law school in 1984 we worked together for 33 years. Logged thousands of miles together, built 15 office buildings together, had many triumphs and losses, made money and lost money. We had fights, we had love, and I wouldn't trade any of it. Thanks Dad. Thanks for helping with my kid's college tuition, thanks for helping me buy a house, thanks for teaching me about the law and making me a better lawyer. Thank you for making me a more careful thinker, thank you for being my business partner, for being the family patriarch and also a great dad.

He was a man who was confident, direct, capable, and precise, who valued careful thinking, reasoning and planning, he could be a tough dad and a demanding boss, and even though he was often a critic you didn't want to hear, you often knew in the back of your mind that the criticism was justified.

You were also a patriarch who greatly loved and cared for your family and were so generous to all of us, monetarily, intellectually, spiritually, and emotionally—you gave us so much. You made our lives and the lives of many people who we will never know so much better with this love, your public service and the resolve to get things done.

And so, we thank the Lord this day for the life of this man, my dad, and ask God to hold him in the palm of his hand, to keep him safe, to care for him, to love him and to welcome him into eternal life.●

TRIBUTE TO HOOSIER STUDENTS

● Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, in my home State of Indiana, we take great pride when our children display exemplary academic work and interest in our Nation's history. We are very proud of four Hoosier middle school students from Warsaw, IN, who are using their research skills to tell the story of a heroic veteran for their National History Day project entitled ''Taking a Stand at Pearl Harbor.''

I am pleased to recognize these four fine young men, Keller Bailey and Jason Benyousky of Washington STEM Academy, Geoffrey Hochstetler, who is educated at home, and Ryun Hoffert of Eisenhower Elementary; who worked together to research, write, and perform a series of skits around the theme, ''Making a Stand in History.'' These boys chose to design their project around the events of December 7, 1941, the day the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. As part of their detailed research, the students read a book by a veteran and Pearl Harbor survivor Donald Stratton. This book inspired

one of the scenes of their presentation, which depicts the heroic actions of Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Joe George's rescue of six men from the sinking USS *Arizona*. Ryun Hoffert went the literal extra mile and traveled to Pearl Harbor for the 75th anniversary of the attack to meet with local experts and see the memorials erected in honor of our fallen heroes. After this exhaustive research effort, these dedicated students each wrote scenes for their presentation.

According to their project sponsor, Richard Rooker, each student brought his unique gifts to the team: ''Keller displayed indefatigable energy. Jason contributed his outstanding acting ability. Geoffrey lent the team his calm and steady demeanor, and Ryun brought his insatiable curiosity about history to the project.''

In February, their presentation won first place in the district competition. They continued to revise, refine, and practice their presentation, and their perseverance paid off on May 6, when they placed first in the junior division in the Indiana State competition. This week, they will compete at the national competition at the University of Maryland.

I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to Keller, Jason, Geoffrey, and Ryun for their hard work, patriotism, and success in the Indiana State competition for National History Day. I would also like to recognize the supportive parents, teachers, and advisers who helped the students along the way, especially Mr. Rooker. On behalf of all Hoosiers, we are proud of your creativity and determination; your entire State is cheering for you.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 10. An act to create hope and opportunity for investors, consumers, and entrepreneurs by ending bailouts and Too Big to Fail, holding Washington and Wall Street accountable, eliminating red tape to increase access to capital and credit, and repealing the provisions of the Dodd-Frank act that make America less prosperous, less stable, and less free, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR ON JUNE 8, 2017

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1628. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017.

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator HATCH, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Finance:

Andrew K. Maloney, of Virginia, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury, vice Anne Elizabeth Wall.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OF JUNE 8, 2017

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CORKER, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 1141. A bill to ensure that the United States promotes the meaningful participation of women in mediation and negotiation processes seeking to prevent, mitigate, or resolve violent conflict (Rept. No. 115–93).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

S. 117. A bill to designate a mountain peak in the State of Montana as ''Alex Diekmann Peak'' (Rept. No. 115–94).

S. 167. A bill to designate a National Memorial to Fallen Educators at the National Teachers Hall of Fame in Emporia, Kansas (Rept. No. 115–95).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 199. A bill to authorize the use of the active capacity of the Fontenelle Reservoir (Rept. No. 115–96).

S. 216. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage its infrastructure assets (Rept. No. 115–97).

S. 267. A bill to provide for the correction of a survey of certain land in the State of Alaska (Rept. No. 115–98).

S. 363. A bill to revise the authorized route of the North Country National Scenic Trail in northeastern Minnesota and to extend the trail into Vermont to connect with the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115–99).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 490. A bill to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the Gibson Dam (Rept. No. 115–100).

S. 491. A bill to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Clark Canyon Dam (Rept. No. 115–101).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 703. A bill to extend the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to carry out the Equus Beds Division of the Wichita Project (Rept. No. 115–102).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 710. A bill to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Jennings Randolph Dam (Rept. No. 115–103).

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 534. A bill to prevent the sexual abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities, and for other purposes.

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S. 782. A bill to reauthorize the National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CORKER, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with amendments:

S. 905. A bill to require a report on, and to authorize technical assistance for, accountability for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide in Syria, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*Brock Long, of North Carolina, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 1333. A bill to provide for rental assistance for homeless or at-risk Indian veterans; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 1334. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for advanced illness care coordination services for Medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. 1335. A bill to establish the Ste. Genevieve National Historic Site in the State of Missouri, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GARDNER:

S. 1336. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize hydroelectric production incentives and hydroelectric efficiency improvement incentives, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 1337. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to make certain strategic energy infrastructure projects eligible for certain loan guarantees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. NELSON, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 1338. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dust Off crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 1339. A bill to provide authority for access to certain business records collected under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 prior to November 29, 2015, to make the authority for roving surveillance, the authority to treat individual terrorists as agents of foreign powers, and title VII of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 permanent, and to modify the certification requirements for access to telephone toll and transactional records by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CAPITO:

S. 1340. A bill to provide for an expedited permitting process for critical energy infrastructure projects relating to the establishment of a regional energy hub in Appalachia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 1341. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit employment of children in tobacco-related agriculture by deeming such employment as oppressive child labor; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 1342. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat obligations financing professional sports stadiums as private activity bonds if such obligations meet the private business use test; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KING, Mr. CASEY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. Res. 190. A resolution honoring the memory of the victims of the terrorist attack on the Pulse Orlando nightclub one year ago; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 21

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 21, a bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law.

S. 37

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. STRANGE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 37, a bill to require U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to take into custody certain aliens who have been charged in the United States with a crime that resulted in the death or serious bodily injury of another person, and for other purposes.

S. 45

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. STRANGE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 45, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to increase penalties for individuals who illegally reenter the United States after being removed and for other purposes.

S. 109

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 109, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.

S. 203

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 203, a bill to reaffirm that the Environmental Protection Agency may not regulate vehicles used solely for competition, and for other purposes.

S. 235

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. STRANGE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 235, a bill to expand opportunity through greater choice in education, and for other purposes.

S. 407

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 407, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 445

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 445, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 448

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 448, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for treatment of clinical psychologists as physicians for purposes of furnishing clinical psychologist services under the Medicare program.

S. 486

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 486, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the non-application of Medicare competitive acquisition rates to complex rehabilitative wheelchairs and accessories.

S. 636

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 636, a bill to allow Americans to earn paid sick time so that they can address their own health needs and the health needs of their families.

S. 654

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 654, a bill to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 720

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 720, a bill to amend the Export Administration Act of 1979 to include in the prohibitions on boycotts against allies of the United States boycotts fostered by international governmental organizations against Israel and to direct the Export-Import Bank of the United States to oppose boycotts against Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 722

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 722, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 722, supra.

S. 738

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 738, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to provide funds to States and Indian tribes for the purpose of promoting economic revitalization, diversification, and development in economically distressed communities through the reclamation and restoration of land and water resources adversely affected by coal mining carried out before August 3, 1977, and for other purposes.

S. 839

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana

(Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 839, a bill to allow for judicial review of any final rule addressing national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants for brick and structural clay products or for clay ceramics manufacturing before requiring compliance with such rule.

S. 899

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 899, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the requirements that new Federal employees who are veterans with service-connected disabilities are provided leave for purposes of undergoing medical treatment for such disabilities apply to certain employees of the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 926

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 926, a bill to authorize the Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation to establish the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 1002

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1002, a bill to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

S. 1050

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1050, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Chinese-American Veterans of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

S. 1136

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1136, a bill to improve the structure of the Federal Pell Grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 1182

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1182, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the 100th anniversary of The American Legion.

S. 1197

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1197, a bill to waive the 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility for individuals disabled by Huntington's disease.

S. 1243

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1243, a bill to require sexual assault prevention and response training for all individuals enlisted in the Armed Forces under a delayed entry program.

S. 1284

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1284, a bill to raise the consolidated assets threshold under the small bank holding company policy statement, and for other purposes.

S. 1328

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1328, a bill to extend the protections of the Fair Housing Act to persons suffering discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 12

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 12, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that those who served in the bays, harbors, and territorial seas of the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975, should be presumed to have served in the Republic of Vietnam for all purposes under the Agent Orange Act of 1991.

S. RES. 136

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 136, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 102nd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

S. RES. 162

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 162, a resolution reaffirming the commitment of the United States to promoting religious freedom, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 229

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 229 intended to be proposed to S. 722, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. NELSON, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 1338. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dust Off crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1338

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 ''Dust Off Crews of the Vietnam War Congressional Gold Medal Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) a United States Army Dust Off crewman (pilot, crew chief, and medic) is a helicopter crew member who served honorably in the Vietnam War aboard a helicopter air ambulance under the radio call sign ''Dust Off'';

(2) Dust Off crews performed aeromedical evacuation for United States, Vietnamese, and allied forces inside South Vietnam from May 1962 through March 1973.

(3) nearing the end of World War II, the United States Army began using helicopters for medical evacuation and years later, during the Korean War, these helicopter air ambulances were responsible for transporting 17,700 United States casualties;

(4) during the Vietnam War, with the use of helicopter air ambulances, United States Army Dust Off crews pioneered the concept of dedicated and rapid medical evacuation and rescued almost 900,000 United States, South Vietnamese, and other allied sick and wounded, as well as wounded enemy forces;

(5) helicopters proved to be a revolutionary tool to assist those injured on the battlefield;

(6) highly skilled and intrepid, Dust Off crews were able to operate the helicopters and land them on almost any terrain in nearly any weather to pick up wounded, after which the Dust Off crews could provide care to these patients while transporting them to ready medical facilities;

(7) the vital work of the Dust Off crews required consistent combat exposure and often proved to be the difference between life and death for wounded personnel;

(8) the revolutionary concept of a dedicated combat life-saving system was cultivated and refined by United States Army Dust Off crews during 11 years of intense conflict in and above the jungles of South Vietnam;

(9) innovative and resourceful Dust Off crews in Vietnam were responsible for taking the new concept of helicopter medical evacuation, born just a few years earlier, and revolutionizing it to meet and surpass the previously unattainable goal of delivering a battlefield casualty to an operating table within the vaunted ''golden hour'';

(10) some Dust Off units in Vietnam operated so efficiently that they were able to deliver a patient to a waiting medical facility on an average of 33 minutes from the receipt of the mission, which saved the lives of countless personnel in Vietnam, and this legacy continues for modern-day Dust Off crews;

(11) the inherent danger of being a member of a Dust Off crew in Vietnam meant that there was a 1 in 3 chance of being wounded or killed;

(12) many battles during the Vietnam War raged at night, and members of the Dust Off crews often found themselves searching for a landing zone in complete darkness, in bad weather, over mountainous terrain, and all while being the target of intense enemy fire as they attempted to rescue the wounded, which caused Dust Off crews to suffer a rate of aircraft loss that was more than 3 times that of all other types of combat helicopter missions in Vietnam;

(13) the 54th Medical Detachment typified the constant heroism displayed by Dust Off crews in Vietnam, over the span of a 10-month tour, with only 3 flyable helicopters and 40 soldiers in the unit, evacuating 21,435 patients in 8,644 missions while being airborne for 4,832 hours;

(14) collectively, the members of the 54th Medical Detachment earned 78 awards for valor, including 1 Medal of Honor, 1 Distinguished Service Cross, 14 Silver Star Medals, 26 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 2 Bronze Star Medals for valor, 4 Air Medals for valor, 4 Soldier's Medals, and 26 Purple Heart Medals;

(15) the 54th Medical Detachment displayed heroism on a daily basis and set the standard for all Dust Off crews in Vietnam;

(16) 5 members of the 54th Medical Detachment are in the Dust Off Hall of Fame, 3 are in the Army Aviation Hall of Fame, and 1 is the only United States Army aviator in the National Aviation Hall of Fame;

(17) Dust Off crew members are among the most highly decorated soldiers in American military history;

(18) in early 1964, Major Charles L. Kelly was the Commanding Officer of the 57th Medical Detachment (Helicopter Ambulance), Provisional, in Soc Trang, South Vietnam;

(19) Major Kelly helped to forge the Dust Off call-sign into history as one of the most welcomed phrases to be heard over the radio by wounded soldiers in perilous and dire situations;

(20) in 1964, Major Kelly was killed in action as he gallantly maneuvered his aircraft to save a wounded American soldier and several Vietnamese soldiers and boldly replied, after being warned to stay away from the landing zone due to the ferocity of enemy fire, ''When I have your wounded.'';

(21) General William Westmoreland, Commander, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (1964–1968), singled out Major Kelly as an example of ''the greatness of the human spirit'' and highlighted his famous reply as an inspiration to all in combat;

(22) General Creighton Abrams, Westmoreland's successor (1968–1972), and former Chief of Staff of the United States Army, highlighted the heroism of Dust Off crews, ''A special word about the Dust Offs . . . Courage above and beyond the call of duty was sort of routine to them. It was a daily thing, part of the way they lived. That's the great part, and it meant so much to every last man who served there. Whether he ever got hurt or not, he knew Dust Off was there.'';

(23) Dust Off crews possessed unique skills and traits that made them highly successful in aeromedical evacuation in Vietnam, including indomitable courage, extraordinary aviation skill and sound judgment under fire, high-level medical expertise, and an unequaled dedication to the preservation of human life;

(24) members of the United States Armed Forces on the ground in Vietnam had their confidence and battlefield prowess reinforced knowing that there were heroic Dust Off crews just a few minutes from the fight, which was instrumental to their well-being, willingness to fight, and morale;

(25) military families in the United States knew that their loved ones would receive the quickest and best possible care in the event of a war-time injury, thanks to the Dust Off crews;

(26) the willingness of Dust Off crews to also risk their lives to save helpless civilians left an immeasurably positive impression on the people of Vietnam and exemplified the finest American ideals of compassion and humanity; and

(27) Dust Off crews from the Vietnam War hailed from every State in the United States and represented numerous ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design in honor of the Dust Off crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their heroic military service, which saved countless lives and contributed directly to the defense of our country.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense.

(c) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal in honor of the Dust Off Crews of the Vietnam War, the gold medal shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution, where it will be available for display as appropriate and available for research.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Smithsonian Institution should also make the gold medal awarded pursuant to this Act available for display elsewhere, particularly at appropriate locations associated with the Vietnam War, and that preference should be given to locations affiliated with the Smithsonian Institution.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

SEC. 5. NATIONAL MEDALS.

The medal struck pursuant to this Act is a national medal for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 1341. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit employment of children in tobacco-related agriculture by deeming such employment as oppressive child labor; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1341

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 ''Children Don't Belong on Tobacco Farms Act''.

SEC. 2. TOBACCO-RELATED AGRICULTURE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN.

Section 3(l) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203(l)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence—

(A) by striking ''in any occupation, or (2)'' and inserting ''in any occupation, (2)''; and

(B) by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', or (3) any employee under the age of eighteen years has direct contact with tobacco plants or dried tobacco leaves''; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking ''other than manufacturing and mining'' and inserting '', other than manufacturing, mining, and tobacco-related agriculture as described in paragraph (3) of the first sentence of this subsection,''.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 190—HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON THE PULSE ORLANDO NIGHTCLUB ONE YEAR AGO

Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KING, Mr. CASEY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 190

Whereas, in the early hours of Sunday, June 12, 2016, a 29-year-old man from Ft. Pierce, Florida, killed 49 and wounded 53 innocent people in a horrific terrorist attack on Pulse Orlando, a lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender nightclub, during Latin night;

Whereas the gunman, who was investigated in 2013–2014 by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (in this preamble referred to as the ''FBI'') for possible connections to terrorism, pledged his allegiance to the leader of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (in this preamble referred to as ''ISIL'');

Whereas then-President Obama called the attack an act of both terror and hate as well as an attack on all of the people of the United States and the fundamental values of equality and dignity;

Whereas the attack is the deadliest mass shooting in the modern history of the United States and the worst terrorist attack on United States soil since September 11, 2001;

Whereas the law enforcement professionals of the city of Orlando and Orange County, Florida, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the FBI, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and other emergency and health care professionals responded to the attack bravely and admirably and in a coordinated manner, saving many lives;

Whereas following the attack hundreds of people stood in long lines to donate blood for those injured in the attack, and the people of Orlando, the State of Florida, and the United States expressed overwhelming support for the victims, their families, and their loved ones regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, or sexual orientation;

Whereas local organizations and caregivers came together with the Federal, State, and local government to support the victims and help the community heal;

Whereas the community of Orlando and communities across the State of Florida and the United States, in the spirit of unity and respect, continue to support the victims, their families, their loved ones, and all those affected by the attack, as well as the brave men and women of Federal, State, and local law enforcement and other emergency and health care professionals for their dedicated service to their communities;

Whereas Monday, June 12, 2017, marks one year since the attack; and

Whereas the threat of terrorist attacks against the United States and its allies persists, including the threat posed by homegrown terrorists inspired by foreign terrorist organizations like ISIL: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the victims killed in the horrific terrorist attack on the Pulse Orlando nightclub on June 12, 2016, and offers heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies for their families, loved ones, and friends;

(2) honors the survivors of the attack and pledges continued support for their recovery;

(3) recognizes the unity, compassion, and resilience of the Orlando community after the attack;

(4) applauds the dedication and bravery of Federal, State, and local law enforcement and counterterrorism officials for their efforts to respond to the attack, prevent future attacks, and secure communities;

(5) stands together with all people of the United States, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, or sexual orientation, in the face of terror and hate; and

(6) reaffirms the commitment of the United States and its allies to defeat the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant and other terrorist groups at home and abroad and to address the threat posed by homegrown terrorism.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 231. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. WARNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 722, to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 232. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CORKER, and Mr. CARDIN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 722, supra.

SA 233. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 232 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CORKER, and Mr. CARDIN)) to the bill S. 722, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 231. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. WARNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 722, to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 46, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

SEC. 11. REPORT ON AIRPORTS USED BY MAHAN AIR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter through 2020, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

(1) a list of all airports at which aircraft owned or controlled by Mahan Air have landed during the 2 years preceding the submission of the report; and

(2) for each such airport—

(A) an assessment of whether aircraft owned or controlled by Mahan Air continue to conduct operations at that airport;

(B) an assessment of whether any of the landings of aircraft owned or controlled by Mahan Air were necessitated by an emergency situation;

(C) a determination regarding whether additional security measures should be imposed on flights to the United States that originate from that airport; and

(D) an explanation of the rationale for that determination.

(b) FORM OF REPORT.—Each report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(c) PUBLICATION OF LIST.—The list required by subsection (a)(1) shall be publicly and prominently posted on the website of the Department of Homeland Security on the date on which the report required by subsection (a) is submitted to Congress.

SA 232. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CORKER, and Mr. CARDIN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 722, to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 33, line 7, strike ''subsection (a)'' and insert ''subsection (b)''.

On page 33, line 15, strike ''subsection (a)'' and insert ''subsection (b)''.

On page 47, line 18, strike ''The President'' and insert ''Except as provided in subsection (b), the President''.

On page 47, line 22, insert ''(other than subsection (b))'' after ''this Act''.

At the end, add the following:

TITLE II—SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND COMBATING TERRORISM AND ILLICIT FINANCING

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017''.

Subtitle A—Sanctions and Other Measures With Respect to the Russian Federation

SEC. 211. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) On March 6, 2014, President Barack Obama issued Executive Order 13660 (79 Fed. Reg. 13493; relating to blocking property of certain persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine), which authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to impose sanctions on those determined to be undermining democratic processes and institutions in Ukraine or threatening the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine. President Obama subsequently issued Executive Order 13661 (79 Fed. Reg. 15535; relating to blocking property of additional persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine) and Executive Order 13662 (79 Fed. Reg. 16169; relating to blocking property of additional persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine) to expand sanctions on certain persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine.

(2) On December 18, 2014, the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 was enacted (Public Law 113–272; 22 U.S.C. 8921 et seq.), which includes provisions directing the President to impose sanctions on foreign persons that the President determines to be entities owned or controlled by the Government of the Russian Federation or nationals of the Russian Federation that manufacture, sell, transfer, or otherwise provide certain defense articles into Syria.

(3) On April 1, 2015, President Obama issued Executive Order 13694 (80 Fed. Reg. 18077; relating to blocking the property of certain persons engaging in significant malicious cyber-enabled activities), which authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Secretary of State, to impose sanctions on persons determined to be engaged in malicious cyber-hacking.

(4) On July 26, 2016, President Obama approved a Presidential Policy Directive on United States Cyber Incident Coordination, which states, ''certain cyber incidents that have significant impacts on an entity, our national security, or the broader economy require a unique approach to response efforts''.

(5) On December 29, 2016, President Obama issued an annex to Executive Order 13694, which authorized sanctions on the following entities and individuals:

(A) The Main Intelligence Directorate (also known as Glavnoe Razvedyvatel'noe Upravlenie or the GRU) in Moscow, Russian Federation.

(B) The Federal Security Service (also known as Federalnaya Sluzhba Bezopasnosti or the FSB) in Moscow, Russian Federation.

(C) The Special Technology Center (also known as STLC, Ltd. Special Technology Center St. Petersburg) in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation.

(D) Zorsecurity (also known as Esage Lab) in Moscow, Russian Federation.

(E) The autonomous noncommercial organization known as the Professional Association of Designers of Data Processing Systems (also known as ANO PO KSI) in Moscow, Russian Federation.

(F) Igor Valentinovich Korobov.

(G) Sergey Aleksandrovich Gizunov.

(H) Igor Olegovich Kostyukov.

(I) Vladimir Stepanovich Alexseyev.

(6) On January 6, 2017, an assessment of the United States intelligence community entitled, ''Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent U.S. Elections'' stated, ''Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an influence campaign in 2016 aimed at the United States presidential election.'' The assessment warns that ''Moscow will apply lessons learned from its Putin-ordered campaign aimed at the U.S. Presidential election to future influence efforts worldwide, including against U.S. allies and their election processes''.

SEC. 212. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that the President—

(1) should engage to the fullest extent possible with partner governments with regard to closing loopholes, including the allowance of extended prepayment for the delivery of goods and commodities and other loopholes, in multilateral and unilateral restrictive

measures against the Russian Federation, with the aim of maximizing alignment of those measures; and

(2) should increase efforts to vigorously enforce compliance with sanctions in place as of the date of the enactment of this Act with respect to the Russian Federation in response to the crisis in eastern Ukraine, cyber intrusions and attacks, and human rights violators in the Russian Federation.

PART I—CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF SANCTIONS IMPOSED WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

SEC. 215. SHORT TITLE.

The part may be cited as the ''Russia Sanctions Review Act of 2017''.

SEC. 216. CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF CERTAIN ACTIONS RELATING TO SANCTIONS IMPOSED WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF PROPOSED ACTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, before taking any action described in paragraph (2), the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and leadership a report that describes the proposed action and the reasons for that action.

(2) ACTIONS DESCRIBED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An action described in this paragraph is—

(i) an action to terminate the application of any sanctions described in subparagraph (B);

(ii) with respect to sanctions described in subparagraph (B) imposed by the President with respect to a person, an action to waive the application of those sanctions with respect to that person; or

(iii) a licensing action that significantly alters United States' foreign policy with regard to the Russia Federation.

(B) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subparagraph are—

(i) sanctions provided for under—

(I) this title or any provision of law amended by this title, including the Executive Orders codified under section 222;

(II) the Support for the Sovereignty, Integrity, Democracy, and Economic Stability of Ukraine Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8901 et seq.); or

(III) the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8921 et seq.); and

(ii) the prohibition on access to the properties of the Government of the Russian Federation located in Maryland and New York that the President ordered vacated on December 29, 2016.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF TYPE OF ACTION.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) with respect to an action described in paragraph (2) shall include a description of whether the action—

(A) is not intended to significantly alter United States' foreign policy with regard to the Russian Federation; or

(B) is intended to significantly alter United States' foreign policy with regard to the Russian Federation.

(4) INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL MATTER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) that relates to an action that is intended to achieve a reciprocal diplomatic outcome shall include a description of—

(i) the anticipated reciprocal diplomatic outcome;

(ii) the anticipated effect of the action on the national security interests of the United States; and

(iii) the policy objectives for which the sanctions affected by the action were initially imposed.

(B) REQUESTS FROM BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEES.—The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate or the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives may request the submission to the Committee of the matter described in clauses (ii) and (iii) of subparagraph (A) with respect to a report submitted under paragraph (1) that relates to an action that is not intended to achieve a reciprocal diplomatic outcome.

(b) PERIOD FOR REVIEW BY CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—During the period of 30 calendar days beginning on the date on which the President submits a report under subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in the case of a report that relates to an action that is not intended to achieve a reciprocal diplomatic outcome, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives should, as appropriate, hold hearings and briefings and otherwise obtain information in order to fully review the report; and

(B) in the case of a report that relates to an action that is intended to achieve a reciprocal diplomatic outcome, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives should, as appropriate, hold hearings and briefings and otherwise obtain information in order to fully review the report.

(2) EXCEPTION.—The period for congressional review under paragraph (1) of a report required to be submitted under subsection (a)(1) shall be 60 calendar days if the report is submitted on or after July 10 and on or before September 7 in any calendar year.

(3) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING INITIAL CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW PERIOD.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during the period for congressional review provided for under paragraph (1) of a report submitted under subsection (a)(1) proposing an action described in subsection (a)(2), including any additional period for such review as applicable under the exception provided in paragraph (2), the President may not take that action unless a joint resolution of approval with respect to that action is enacted in accordance with subsection (c).

(4) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING PRESIDENTIAL CONSIDERATION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval relating to a report submitted under subsection (a)(1) proposing an action described in subsection (a)(2) passes both Houses of Congress in accordance with subsection (c), the President may not take that action for a period of 12 calendar days after the date of passage of the joint resolution of disapproval.

(5) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING CONGRESSIONAL RECONSIDERATION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval relating to a report submitted under subsection (a)(1) proposing an action described in subsection (a)(2) passes both Houses of Congress in accordance with subsection (c), and the President vetoes the joint resolution, the President may not take that action for a period of 10 calendar days after the date of the President's veto.

(6) EFFECT OF ENACTMENT OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval relating to a report submitted under subsection (a)(1) proposing an action described in subsection (a)(2) is enacted in accordance with subsection (c), the President may not take that action.

(c) JOINT RESOLUTIONS OF DISAPPROVAL OR APPROVAL DEFINED.—In this subsection:

(1) JOINT RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL.—The term ''joint resolution of approval'' means only a joint resolution of either House of Congress—

(A) the title of which is as follows: ''A joint resolution approving the President's proposal to take an action relating to the application of certain sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation.''; and

(B) the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is the following: ''Congress approves of the action relating to the application of sanctions imposed with respect to the Russian Federation proposed by the President in the report submitted to Congress under section 216(a)(1) of the Russia Sanctions Review Act of 2017 on _____ relating to _____.'', with the first blank space being filled with the appropriate date and the second blank space being filled with a short description of the proposed action.

(2) JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—The term ''joint resolution of disapproval'' means only a joint resolution of either House of Congress—

(A) the title of which is as follows: ''A joint resolution disapproving the President's proposal to take an action relating to the application of certain sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation.''; and

(B) the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is the following: ''Congress disapproves of the action relating to the application of sanctions imposed with respect to the Russian Federation proposed by the President in the report submitted to Congress under section 216(a)(1) of the Russia Sanctions Review Act of 2017 on _____ relating to _____.'', with the first blank space being filled with the appropriate date and the second blank space being filled with a short description of the proposed action.

(3) INTRODUCTION.—During the period of 30 calendar days provided for under subsection (b)(1), including any additional period as applicable under the exception provided in subsection (b)(2), a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval may be introduced—

(A) in the House of Representatives, by the majority leader or the minority leader; and

(B) in the Senate, by the majority leader (or the majority leader's designee) or the minority leader (or the minority leader's designee).

(4) FLOOR CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(A) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—If a committee of the House of Representatives to which a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval has been referred has not reported the joint resolution within 10 calendar days after the date of referral, that committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution.

(B) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—Beginning on the third legislative day after each committee to which a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval has been referred reports the joint resolution to the House or has been discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution, it shall be in order to move to proceed to consider the joint resolution in the House. All points of order against the motion are waived. Such a motion shall not be in order after the House has disposed of a motion to proceed on the joint resolution. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion. The motion shall not be debatable. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is disposed of shall not be in order.

(C) CONSIDERATION.—The joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval shall be considered as read. All points of order against the joint resolution and against its consideration are waived. The

previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except 2 hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the sponsor of the joint resolution (or a designee) and an opponent. A motion to reconsider the vote on passage of the joint resolution shall not be in order.

(5) CONSIDERATION IN THE SENATE.—

(A) COMMITTEE REFERRAL.—A joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval introduced in the Senate shall be—

(i) referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs if the joint resolution relates to a report under Section 216 A3 that is described as an action that is not intended to significantly alter United States' foreign policy with regard to the Russian Federation; and

(ii) referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations if the joint resolution relates to a report under Section 216 A3 that is described as an action that is intended to significantly alter United States' foreign policy with respect to the Russian Federation.

(B) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—If the committee to which a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval was referred has not reported the joint resolution within 10 calendar days after the date of referral of the joint resolution, that committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution and the joint resolution shall be placed on the appropriate calendar.

(C) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—Notwithstanding Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is in order at any time after the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs or the Committee on Foreign Relations, as the case may be, reports a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval to the Senate or has been discharged from consideration of such a joint resolution (even though a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to) to move to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution, and all points of order against the joint resolution (and against consideration of the joint resolution) are waived. The motion to proceed is not debatable. The motion is not subject to a motion to postpone. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order.

(D) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCEDURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to the application of the rules of the Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure relating to a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval shall be decided without debate.

(E) CONSIDERATION OF VETO MESSAGES.—Debate in the Senate of any veto message with respect to a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval, including all debatable motions and appeals in connection with the joint resolution, shall be limited to 10 hours, to be equally divided between, and controlled by, the majority leader and the minority leader or their designees.

(6) RULES RELATING TO SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(A) COORDINATION WITH ACTION BY OTHER HOUSE.—If, before the passage by one House of a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval of that House, that House receives an identical joint resolution from the other House, the following procedures shall apply:

(i) The joint resolution of the other House shall not be referred to a committee.

(ii) With respect to the joint resolution of the House receiving the joint resolution from the other House—

(I) the procedure in that House shall be the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the other House; but

(II) the vote on passage shall be on the joint resolution of the other House.

(B) TREATMENT OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF OTHER HOUSE.—If one House fails to introduce a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval, a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval of the other House shall be entitled to expedited procedures in that House under this subsection.

(C) TREATMENT OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION IN SENATE.—If, following passage of a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval in the Senate, the Senate receives an identical joint resolution from the House of Representatives, that joint resolution shall be placed on the appropriate Senate calendar.

(D) APPLICATION TO REVENUE MEASURES.—The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply in the House of Representatives to a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval that is a revenue measure.

(7) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—This subsection is enacted by Congress—

(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, and as such is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in that House in the case of a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval, and supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

(d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND LEADERSHIP DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees and leadership'' means—

(1) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the majority and minority leaders of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Speaker, the majority leader, and the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

PART II—SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

SEC. 221. DEFINITIONS.

In this part:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Finance of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Financial Services, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(2) GOOD.—The term ''good'' has the meaning given that term in section 16 of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. 4618) (as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)).

(3) INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term ''international financial institution'' has the meaning given that term in section 1701(c) of the International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262r(c)).

(4) KNOWINGLY.—The term ''knowingly'', with respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result, means that a person has actual knowledge, or should have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the result.

(5) PERSON.—The term ''person'' means an individual or entity.

(6) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term ''United States person'' means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity.

SEC. 222. CODIFICATION OF SANCTIONS RELATING TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) CODIFICATION.—United States sanctions provided for in Executive Order 13660 (79 Fed. Reg. 13493; relating to blocking property of certain persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine), Executive Order 13661 (79 Fed. Reg. 15535; relating to blocking property of additional persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine), Executive Order 13662 (79 Fed. Reg. 16169; relating to blocking property of additional persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine), Executive Order 13685 (79 Fed. Reg. 77357; relating to blocking property of certain persons and prohibiting certain transactions with respect to the Crimea region of Ukraine), Executive Order 13694 (80 Fed. Reg. 18077; relating to blocking the property of certain persons engaging in significant malicious cyber-enabled activities), and Executive Order 13757 (82 Fed. Reg. 1; relating to taking additional steps to address the national emergency with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities), as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, including with respect to all persons sanctioned under such Executive Orders, shall remain in effect except as provided in subsection (b).

(b) TERMINATION OF CERTAIN SANCTIONS.—Subject to section 216, the President may terminate the application of sanctions described in subsection (a) that are imposed on a person in connection with activity conducted by the person if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees a notice that—

(1) the person is not engaging in the activity that was the basis for the sanctions or has taken significant verifiable steps toward stopping the activity; and

(2) the President has received reliable assurances that the person will not knowingly engage in activity subject to sanctions described in subsection (a) in the future.

(c) APPLICATION OF NEW CYBER SANCTIONS.—The President may waive the initial application under subsection (a) of sanctions with respect to a person under Executive Order 13694 or 13757 only if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

(1) a written determination that the waiver—

(A) is in the vital national security interests of the United States; or

(B) will further the enforcement of this title; and

(2) a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation has made significant efforts to reduce the number and intensity of cyber intrusions conducted by that Government.

(d) APPLICATION OF NEW UKRAINE-RELATED SANCTIONS.—The President may waive the initial application under subsection (a) of sanctions with respect to a person under Executive Order 13660, 13661, 13662, or 13685 only if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

(1) a written determination that the waiver—

(A) is in the vital national security interests of the United States; or

(B) will further the enforcement of this title; and

(2) a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation is taking steps to implement the Minsk Agreement to address

the ongoing conflict in eastern Ukraine, signed in Minsk, Belarus, on February 11, 2015, by the leaders of Ukraine, Russia, France, and Germany, the Minsk Protocol, which was agreed to on September 5, 2014, and any successor agreements that are agreed to by the Government of Ukraine.

SEC. 223. MODIFICATION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 13662.

(a) DETERMINATION THAT CERTAIN ENTITIES ARE SUBJECT TO SANCTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may determine that a person meets one or more of the criteria in section 1(a) of Executive Order 13662 if that person is a state-owned entity operating in the railway, shipping, or metals and mining sector of the economy of the Russian Federation.

(b) MODIFICATION OF DIRECTIVE 1 WITH RESPECT TO THE FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTOR OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ECONOMY.—The Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control shall modify Directive 1 (as amended), dated September 12, 2014, issued by the Office of Foreign Assets Control under Executive Order 13662, or any successor directive, to ensure that the directive prohibits the conduct by United States persons or persons within the United States of all transactions in, provision of financing for, and other dealings in new debt of longer than 14 days maturity or new equity of persons determined to be subject to the directive, their property, or their interests in property.

(c) MODIFICATION OF DIRECTIVE 2 WITH RESPECT TO THE ENERGY SECTOR OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ECONOMY.—The Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control shall modify Directive 2 (as amended), dated September 12, 2014, issued by the Office of Foreign Assets Control under Executive Order 13662, or any successor directive, to ensure that the directive prohibits the conduct by United States persons or persons within the United States of all transactions in, provision of financing for, and other dealings in new debt of longer than 30 days maturity of persons determined to be subject to the directive, their property, or their interests in property.

(d) MODIFICATION OF DIRECTIVE 4.—The Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control shall modify Directive 4, dated September 12, 2014, issued by the Office of Foreign Assets Control under Executive Order 13662, or any successor directive, to ensure that the directive prohibits the provision, exportation, or reexportation, directly or indirectly, by United States persons or persons within the United States, of goods, services (except for financial services), or technology in support of exploration or production for deepwater, Arctic offshore, or shale projects—

(1) that have the potential to produce oil;

(2) in which a Russian energy firm is involved; and

(3) that involve any person determined to be subject to the directive or the property or interests in property of such a person.

SEC. 224. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO ACTIVITIES OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION UNDERMINING CYBERSECURITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—On and after the date that is 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall—

(1) impose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to any person that the President determines—

(A) knowingly engages in significant activities undermining cybersecurity against any person, including a democratic institution, or government on behalf of the Government of the Russian Federation; or

(B) is owned or controlled by, or acts or purports to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, a person described in subparagraph (A);

(2) impose 5 or more of the sanctions described in section 235 with respect to any person that the President determines knowingly materially assists, sponsors, or provides financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services (except financial services) in support of, an activity described in paragraph (1)(A); and

(3) impose 3 or more of the sanctions described in section 4(c) of the of the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8923(c)) with respect to any person that the President determines knowingly provides financial services in support of an activity described in paragraph (1)(A).

(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subsection are the following:

(1) ASSET BLOCKING.—The exercise of all powers granted to the President by the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of a person determined by the President to be subject to subsection (a)(1) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED STATES AND REVOCATION OF VISA OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION.—In the case of an alien determined by the President to be subject to subsection (a)(1), denial of a visa to, and exclusion from the United States of, the alien, and revocation in accordance with section 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), of any visa or other documentation of the alien.

(c) APPLICATION OF NEW CYBER SANCTIONS.—The President may waive the initial application under subsection (a) of sanctions with respect to a person only if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

(1) a written determination that the waiver—

(A) is in the vital national security interests of the United States; or

(B) will further the enforcement of this title; and

(2) a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation has made significant efforts to reduce the number and intensity of cyber intrusions conducted by that Government.

(d) SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES UNDERMINING CYBERSECURITY DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''significant activities undermining cybersecurity'' includes—

(1) significant efforts—

(A) to deny access to or degrade, disrupt, or destroy an information and communications technology system or network; or

(B) to exfiltrate, degrade, corrupt, destroy, or release information from such a system or network without authorization for purposes of—

(i) conducting influence operations; or

(ii) causing a significant misappropriation of funds, economic resources, trade secrets, personal identifications, or financial information for commercial or competitive advantage or private financial gain;

(2) significant destructive malware attacks; and

(3) significant denial of service activities.

SEC. 225. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS RELATING TO SPECIAL RUSSIAN CRUDE OIL PROJECTS.

Section 4(b)(1) of the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8923(b)(1)) is amended by striking ''on and after the date that is 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President may impose'' and inserting ''on and after the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of the Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017, the President shall impose, unless the President determines that it is not in the national interest of the United States to do so,''.

SEC. 226. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO RUSSIAN AND OTHER FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

Section 5 of the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8924) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''may impose'' and inserting ''shall impose, unless the President determines that it is not in the national interest of the United States to do so,''; and

(B) by striking ''on or after the date of the enactment of this Act'' and inserting ''on or after the date of the enactment of the Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017''; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ''may impose'' and inserting ''shall impose, unless the President determines that it is not in the national interest of the United States to do so,''; and

(B) by striking ''on or after the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act'' and inserting ''on or after the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of the Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017''.

SEC. 227. MANDATORY IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO SIGNIFICANT CORRUPTION IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

Section 9 of the Sovereignty, Integrity, Democracy, and Economic Stability of Ukraine Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8908(a)) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''is authorized and encouraged to'' and inserting ''shall''; and

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''President determines is'' and inserting ''President determines is, on or after the date of the enactment of the Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017,''; and

(ii) by inserting ''or elsewhere'' after ''in the Russian Federation'';

(2) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e);

(3) in subsection (c), by striking ''The President'' and inserting ''except as provided in subsection (d), the President''; and

(4) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

''(d) APPLICATION OF NEW SANCTIONS.—The President may waive the initial application of sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a person only if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

''(1) a written determination that the waiver—

''(A) is in the vital national security interests of the United States; or

''(B) will further the enforcement of this Act; and

''(2) a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation is taking steps to implement the Minsk Agreement to address the ongoing conflict in eastern Ukraine, signed in Minsk, Belarus, on February 11, 2015, by the leaders of Ukraine, Russia, France, and Germany, the Minsk Protocol, which was agreed to on September 5, 2014, and any successor agreements that are agreed to by the Government of Ukraine.''.

SEC. 228. MANDATORY IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS WITH FOREIGN SANCTIONS EVADERS AND SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSERS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Support for the Sovereignty, Integrity, Democracy, and Economic Stability of Ukraine Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8901 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 10. MANDATORY IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS WITH PERSONS THAT EVADE SANCTIONS IMPOSED WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to a foreign person if the President determines that the foreign person knowingly, on or after the date of the enactment of the Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017—

''(1) materially violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of any license, order, regulation, or prohibition contained in or issued pursuant to any covered Executive order; or

''(2) facilitates significant deceptive or structured transactions for or on behalf of—

''(A) any person subject to sanctions imposed by the United States with respect to the Russian Federation; or

''(B) any child, spouse, parent, or sibling of an individual described in subparagraph (A).

''(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subsection are the exercise of all powers granted to the President by the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of a person determined by the President to be subject to subsection (a) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

''(c) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

''(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise all authorities provided to the President under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out subsection (b).

''(2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of subsection (b) or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out subsection (b) shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

''(d) APPLICATION OF NEW SANCTIONS.—The President may waive the initial application of sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a person only if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

''(1) a written determination that the waiver—

''(A) is in the vital national security interests of the United States; or

''(B) will further the enforcement of this Act;

''(2) in the case of sanctions imposed under this section in connection with a covered Executive order described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D) of subsection (f)(1), a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation is taking steps to implement the Minsk Agreement to address the ongoing conflict in eastern Ukraine, signed in Minsk, Belarus, on February 11, 2015, by the leaders of Ukraine, Russia, France, and Germany, the Minsk Protocol, which was agreed to on September 5, 2014, and any successor agreements that are agreed to by the Government of Ukraine; and

''(3) in the case of sanctions imposed under this section in connection with a covered Executive order described in subparagraphs (E) or (F) of subsection (f)(1), a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation has made significant efforts to reduce the number and intensity of cyber intrusions conducted by that Government.

''(e) TERMINATION.—Subject to section 216 of the Russia Sanctions Review Act of 2017, the President may terminate the application of sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a person if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

''(1) a notice of and justification for the termination; and

''(2) a notice that—

''(A) the person is not engaging in the activity that was the basis for the sanctions or has taken significant verifiable steps toward stopping the activity; and

''(B) the President has received reliable assurances that the person will not knowingly engage in activity subject to sanctions under subsection (a) in the future.

''(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) COVERED EXECUTIVE ORDER.—The term 'covered Executive order' means any of the following:

''(A) Executive Order 13660 (79 Fed. Reg. 13493; relating to blocking property of certain persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine).

''(B) Executive Order 13661 (79 Fed. Reg. 15535; relating to blocking property of additional persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine).

''(C) Executive Order 13662 (79 Fed. Reg. 16169; relating to blocking property of additional persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine).

''(D) Executive Order 13685 (79 Fed. Reg. 77357; relating to blocking property of certain persons and prohibiting certain transactions with respect to the Crimea region of Ukraine).

''(E) Executive Order 13694 (80 Fed. Reg. 18077; relating to blocking the property of certain persons engaging in significant malicious cyber-enabled activities).

''(F) Executive Order 13757 (82 Fed. Reg. 1; relating to taking additional steps to address the national emergency with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities).

''(2) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term 'foreign person' has the meaning given such term in section 595.304 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the enactment of the Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017).

''(3) STRUCTURED.—The term 'structured', with respect to a transaction, has the meaning given the term 'structure' in paragraph (xx) of section 1010.100 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (or any corresponding similar regulation or ruling).

"SEC. 11. MANDATORY IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO TRANSACTIONS WITH PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to a foreign person if the President determines that the foreign person, based on credible information, on or after the date of the enactment of the Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017—

''(1) is responsible for, complicit in, or responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, the commission of serious human rights abuses in any territory forcibly occupied or otherwise controlled by the Government of the Russian Federation;

''(2) materially assists, sponsors, or provides financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to, a foreign person described in paragraph (1); or

''(3) is owned or controlled by, or acts or purports to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, a foreign person described in paragraph (1).

''(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—

''(1) ASSET BLOCKING.—The exercise of all powers granted to the President by the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of a person determined by the President to be subject to subsection (a) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

''(2) EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED STATES AND REVOCATION OF VISA OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION.—In the case of an alien determined by the President to be subject to subsection (a), denial of a visa to, and exclusion from the United States of, the alien, and revocation in accordance with section 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), of any visa or other documentation of the alien.

''(c) APPLICATION OF NEW SANCTIONS.—The President may waive the initial application of sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a person only if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

''(1) a written determination that the waiver—

''(A) is in the vital national security interests of the United States; or

''(B) will further the enforcement of this Act; and

''(2) a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation has made efforts to reduce serious human rights abuses in territory forcibly occupied or otherwise controlled by that Government.

''(d) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

''(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise all authorities provided to the President under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out subsection (b)(1).

''(2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of subsection (b)(1) or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out subsection (b)(1) shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

''(e) TERMINATION.—Subject to section 216 of the Russia Sanctions Review Act of 2017, the President may terminate the application of sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a person if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

''(1) a notice of and justification for the termination; and

''(2) a notice—

''(A) that—

''(i) the person is not engaging in the activity that was the basis for the sanctions or has taken significant verifiable steps toward stopping the activity; and

''(ii) the President has received reliable assurances that the person will not knowingly engage in activity subject to sanctions under subsection (a) in the future; or

''(B) that the President determines that insufficient basis exists for the determination by the President under subsection (a) with respect to the person.''.

(b) DEFINITION OF APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—Section 2(2) of the Support for the Sovereignty, Integrity, Democracy, and Economic Stability of Ukraine Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8901(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs,'' before ''the Committee on Foreign Relations''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''the Committee on Financial Services'' before ''the Committee on Foreign Affairs''.

SEC. 229. NOTIFICATIONS TO CONGRESS UNDER UKRAINE FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT OF 2014.

(a) SANCTIONS RELATING TO DEFENSE AND ENERGY SECTORS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.—Section 4 of the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8923) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (g) and (h) as subsections (h) and (i), respectively;

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

''(g) NOTIFICATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS TO CONGRESS.—

''(1) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—The President shall notify the appropriate congressional committees in writing not later than 15 days after imposing sanctions with respect to a foreign person under subsection (a) or (b).

''(2) TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO RUSSIAN PRODUCERS, TRANSFERORS, OR BROKERS OF DEFENSE ARTICLES.—Subject to section 216 of the Russia Sanctions Review Act of 2017, the President may terminate the imposition of sanctions under subsection (a)(2) with respect to a foreign person if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

''(A) a notice of and justification for the termination; and

''(B) a notice that—

''(i) the foreign person is not engaging in the activity that was the basis for the sanctions or has taken significant verifiable steps toward stopping the activity; and

''(ii) the President has received reliable assurances that the foreign person will not knowingly engage in activity subject to sanctions under subsection (a)(2) in the future.''; and

(3) in subparagraph (B)(ii) of subsection (a)(3), by striking ''subsection (h)'' and inserting ''subsection (i)''.

(b) SANCTIONS ON RUSSIAN AND OTHER FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—Section 5 of the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8924) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (f) and (g), respectively;

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

''(e) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS ON IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—The President shall notify the appropriate congressional committees in writing not later than 15 days after imposing sanctions with respect to a foreign financial institution under subsection (a) or (b).''; and

(3) in subsection (g), as redesignated by paragraph (1), by striking ''section 4(h)'' and inserting ''section 4(i)''.

SEC. 230. STANDARDS FOR TERMINATION OF CERTAIN SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) SANCTIONS RELATING TO UNDERMINING THE PEACE, SECURITY, STABILITY, SOVEREIGNTY, OR TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF UKRAINE.—Section 8 of the Sovereignty, Integrity, Democracy, and Economic Stability of Ukraine Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8907) is amended—

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

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

''(d) TERMINATION.—Subject to section 216 of the Russia Sanctions Review Act of 2017, the President may terminate the application of sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a person if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees a notice that—

''(1) the person is not engaging in the activity that was the basis for the sanctions or has taken significant verifiable steps toward stopping the activity; and

''(2) the President has received reliable assurances that the person will not knowingly engage in activity subject to sanctions under subsection (a) in the future.''.

(b) SANCTIONS RELATING TO CORRUPTION.—Section 9 of the Sovereignty, Integrity, Democracy, and Economic Stability of Ukraine Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8908) is amended—

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

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

''(d) TERMINATION.—Subject to section 216 of the Russia Sanctions Review Act of 2017, the President may terminate the application of sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a person if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees a notice that—

''(1) the person is not engaging in the activity that was the basis for the sanctions or has taken significant verifiable steps toward stopping the activity; and

''(2) the President has received reliable assurances that the person will not knowingly engage in activity subject to sanctions under subsection (a) in the future.''.

SEC. 231. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS ENGAGING IN TRANSACTIONS WITH THE INTELLIGENCE OR DEFENSE SECTORS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—On and after the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall impose 5 or more of the sanctions described in section 235 with respect to a person the President determines knowingly, on or after such date of enactment, engages in a significant transaction with a person that is part of, or operates for or on behalf of, the defense or intelligence sectors of the Government of the Russian Federation, including the Main Intelligence Agency of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation or the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation.

(b) APPLICATION OF NEW SANCTIONS.—The President may waive the initial application of sanctions under subsection (a) with respect to a person only if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

(1) a written determination that the waiver—

(A) is in the vital national security interests of the United States; or

(B) will further the enforcement of this title; and

(2) a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation has made significant efforts to reduce the number and intensity of cyber intrusions conducted by that Government.

SEC. 232. SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF PIPELINES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President may impose 5 or more of the sanctions described in section 235 with respect to a person if the President determines that the person knowingly, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, makes an investment described in subsection (b) or sells, leases, or provides to the Russian Federation, for the construction of Russian energy export pipelines, goods, services, technology, information, or support described in subsection (c)—

(1) any of which has a fair market value of $1,000,000 or more; or

(2) that, during a 12-month period, have an aggregate fair market value of $5,000,000 or more.

(b) INVESTMENT DESCRIBED.—An investment described in this subsection is an investment that directly and significantly contributes to the enhancement of the ability of the Russian Federation to construct energy export pipelines.

(c) GOODS, SERVICES, TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION, OR SUPPORT DESCRIBED.—Goods, services, technology, information, or support described in this subsection are goods, services, technology, information, or support that could directly and significantly facilitate the maintenance or expansion of the construction, modernization, or repair of energy pipelines by the Russian Federation.

SEC. 233. SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO INVESTMENT IN OR FACILITATION OF PRIVATIZATION OF STATE-OWNED ASSETS BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose 5 or more of the sanctions described in section 235 if the President determines that a person, with actual knowledge, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, makes an investment of $10,000,000 or more (or any combination of investments of not less than $1,000,000 each, which in the aggregate equals or exceeds $10,000,000 in any 12-month period), or facilitates such an investment, if the investment directly and significantly contributes to the ability of the Russian Federation to privatize state-owned assets in a manner that unjustly benefits—

(1) officials of the Government of the Russian Federation; or

(2) close associates or family members of those officials.

(b) APPLICATION OF NEW SANCTIONS.—The President may waive the initial application of sanctions under subsection (a) with respect to a person only if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

(1) a written determination that the waiver—

(A) is in the vital national security interests of the United States; or

(B) will further the enforcement of this title; and

(2) a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation is taking steps to implement the Minsk Agreement to address the ongoing conflict in eastern Ukraine, signed in Minsk, Belarus, on February 11, 2015, by the leaders of Ukraine, Russia, France, and Germany, the Minsk Protocol, which was agreed to on September 5, 2014, and any successor agreements that are agreed to by the Government of Ukraine.

SEC. 234. SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE TRANSFER OF ARMS AND RELATED MATERIEL TO SYRIA.

(a) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose on a foreign person the sanctions described in subsection (b) if the President determines that such foreign person has, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, knowingly exported, transferred, or otherwise provided to Syria significant financial, material, or technological support that contributes materially to the ability of the Government of Syria to—

(A) acquire or develop chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons or related technologies;

(B) acquire or develop ballistic or cruise missile capabilities;

(C) acquire or develop destabilizing numbers and types of advanced conventional weapons;

(D) acquire significant defense articles, defense services, or defense information (as such terms are defined under the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.)); or

(E) acquire items designated by the President for purposes of the United States Munitions List under section 38(a)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(a)(1)).

(2) APPLICABILITY TO OTHER FOREIGN PERSONS.—The sanctions described in subsection

(b) shall also be imposed on any foreign person that—

(A) is a successor entity to a foreign person described in paragraph (1); or

(B) is owned or controlled by, or has acted for or on behalf of, a foreign person described in paragraph (1).

(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions to be imposed on a foreign person described in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The President shall exercise all powers granted by the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (except that the requirements of section 202 of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1701) shall not apply) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of the foreign person if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

(A) EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED STATES.—If the foreign person is an individual, the Secretary of State shall deny a visa to, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall exclude from the United States, the foreign person.

(B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The issuing consular officer, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) shall revoke any visa or other entry documentation issued to the foreign person regardless of when issued.

(ii) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A revocation under clause (i) shall take effect immediately and shall automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the possession of the foreign person.

(c) WAIVER.—Subject to section 216, the President may waive the application of sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a person if the President determines that such a waiver is in the national security interest of the United States.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FINANCIAL, MATERIAL, OR TECHNOLOGICAL SUPPORT.—The term ''financial, material, or technological support'' has the meaning given such term in section 542.304 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (or any corresponding similar regulation or ruling).

(2) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term ''foreign person'' has the meaning given such term in section 594.304 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (or any corresponding similar regulation or ruling).

(3) SYRIA.—The term ''Syria'' has the meaning given such term in section 542.316 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (or any corresponding similar regulation or ruling).

SEC. 235. SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.

(a) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions to be imposed with respect to a person under section 224(a)(2), 231(b), 232(a), or 233(a) are the following:

(1) EXPORT-IMPORT BANK ASSISTANCE FOR EXPORTS TO SANCTIONED PERSONS.—The President may direct the Export-Import Bank of the United States not to give approval to the issuance of any guarantee, insurance, extension of credit, or participation in the extension of credit in connection with the export of any goods or services to the sanctioned person.

(2) EXPORT SANCTION.—The President may order the United States Government not to issue any specific license and not to grant any other specific permission or authority to export any goods or technology to the sanctioned person under—

(A) the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.) (as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.));

(B) the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.);

(C) the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.); or

(D) any other statute that requires the prior review and approval of the United States Government as a condition for the export or reexport of goods or services.

(3) LOANS FROM UNITED STATES FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—The President may prohibit any United States financial institution from making loans or providing credits to the sanctioned person totaling more than $10,000,000 in any 12-month period unless the person is engaged in activities to relieve human suffering and the loans or credits are provided for such activities.

(4) LOANS FROM INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—The President may direct the United States executive director to each international financial institution to use the voice and vote of the United States to oppose any loan from the international financial institution that would benefit the sanctioned person.

(5) PROHIBITIONS ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—The following prohibitions may be imposed against the sanctioned person if that person is a financial institution:

(A) PROHIBITION ON DESIGNATION AS PRIMARY DEALER.—Neither the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System nor the Federal Reserve Bank of New York may designate, or permit the continuation of any prior designation of, the financial institution as a primary dealer in United States Government debt instruments.

(B) PROHIBITION ON SERVICE AS A REPOSITORY OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS.—The financial institution may not serve as agent of the United States Government or serve as repository for United States Government funds.

The imposition of either sanction under subparagraph (A) or (B) shall be treated as 1 sanction for purposes of subsection (b), and the imposition of both such sanctions shall be treated as 2 sanctions for purposes of subsection (b)

(6) PROCUREMENT SANCTION.—The United States Government may not procure, or enter into any contract for the procurement of, any goods or services from the sanctioned person.

(7) FOREIGN EXCHANGE.—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any transactions in foreign exchange that are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and in which the sanctioned person has any interest.

(8) BANKING TRANSACTIONS.—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any transfers of credit or payments between financial institutions or by, through, or to any financial institution, to the extent that such transfers or payments are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and involve any interest of the sanctioned person.

(9) PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any person from—

(A) acquiring, holding, withholding, using, transferring, withdrawing, transporting, importing, or exporting any property that is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and with respect to which the sanctioned person has any interest;

(B) dealing in or exercising any right, power, or privilege with respect to such property; or

(C) conducting any transaction involving such property.

(10) BAN ON INVESTMENT IN EQUITY OR DEBT OF SANCTIONED PERSON.—The President may, pursuant to such regulations or guidelines as the President may prescribe, prohibit any United States person from investing in or purchasing significant amounts of equity or debt instruments of the sanctioned person.

(11) EXCLUSION OF CORPORATE OFFICERS.—The President may direct the Secretary of State to deny a visa to, and the Secretary of Homeland Security to exclude from the United States, any alien that the President determines is a corporate officer or principal of, or a shareholder with a controlling interest in, the sanctioned person.

(12) SANCTIONS ON PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.—The President may impose on the principal executive officer or officers of the sanctioned person, or on persons performing similar functions and with similar authorities as such officer or officers, any of the sanctions under this subsection.

(b) SANCTIONED PERSON DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''sanctioned person'' means a person subject to sanctions under section 224(a)(2), 231(b), 232(a), or 233(a).

SEC. 236. EXCEPTIONS, WAIVER, AND TERMINATION.

(a) EXCEPTIONS.—The provisions of this part and amendments made by this part shall not apply with respect to the following:

(1) Activities subject to the reporting requirements under title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.), or any authorized intelligence activities of the United States.

(2) The admission of an alien to the United States if such admission is necessary to comply with United States obligations under the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, under the Convention on Consular Relations, done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered into force March 19, 1967, or under other international agreements.

(b) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—No requirement to impose sanctions under this part or an amendment made by this part shall include the authority to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(c) WAIVER OF SANCTIONS THAT ARE IMPOSED.—Subject to section 216, if the President imposes sanctions with respect to a person under this part or the amendments made by this part, the President may waive the application of those sanctions if the President determines that such a waiver is in the national security interest of the United States.

(d) TERMINATION.—Subject to section 216, the President may terminate the application of sanctions under section 224, 231, 232, 233, or 234 with respect to a person if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees—

(1) a notice of and justification for the termination; and

(2) a notice that—

(A) the person is not engaging in the activity that was the basis for the sanctions or has taken significant verifiable steps toward stopping the activity; and

(B) the President has received reliable assurances that the person will not knowingly engage in activity subject to sanctions under this part in the future.

SEC. 237. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this part or the amendments made by this part shall be construed—

(1) to supersede the limitations or exceptions on the use of rocket engines for national security purposes under section 1608 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. ''Buck'' McKeon National Defense Authorization Act

for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113–291; 128 Stat. 3626; 10 U.S.C. 2271 note), as amended by section 1607 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114–92; 129 Stat. 1100) and section 1602 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328; 130 Stat. 2582); or

(2) to prohibit a contractor or subcontractor of the Department of Defense from acquiring components referred to in such section 1608.

PART III—REPORTS

SEC. 241. REPORT ON OLIGARCHS AND PARASTATAL ENTITIES OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of State, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed report on the following:

(1) Senior foreign political figures and oligarchs in the Russian Federation, including the following:

(A) An identification of the most significant senior foreign political figures and oligarchs in the Russian Federation, as determined by their closeness to the Russian regime and their net worth.

(B) An assessment of the relationship between individuals identified under subparagraph (A) and President Vladimir Putin or other members of the Russian ruling elite.

(C) An identification of any indices of corruption with respect to those individuals.

(D) The estimated net worth and known sources of income of those individuals and their family members (including spouses, children, parents, and siblings), including assets, investments, other business interests, and relevant beneficial ownership information.

(E) An identification of the non-Russian business affiliations of those individuals.

(2) Russian parastatal entities, including an assessment of the following:

(A) The emergence of Russian parastatal entities and their role in the economy of the Russian Federation.

(B) The leadership structures and beneficial ownership of those entities.

(C) The scope of the non-Russian business affiliations of those entities.

(3) The exposure of key economic sectors of the United States to Russian politically exposed persons and parastatal entities, including, at a minimum, the banking, securities, insurance, and real estate sectors.

(4) The likely effects of imposing debt and equity restrictions on Russian parastatal entities, as well as the anticipated effects of adding Russian parastatal entities to the list of specially designated nationals and blocked persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury.

(5) The potential impacts of imposing secondary sanctions with respect to Russian oligarchs, Russian state-owned enterprises, and Russian parastatal entities, including impacts on the entities themselves and on the economy of the Russian Federation, as well as on the economies of the United States and allies of the United States.

(b) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in an unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Finance of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Financial Services, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(2) SENIOR FOREIGN POLITICAL FIGURE.—The term ''senior foreign political figure'' has the meaning given that term in section 1010.605 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (or any corresponding similar regulation or ruling).

SEC. 242. REPORT ON EFFECTS OF EXPANDING SANCTIONS TO INCLUDE SOVEREIGN DEBT AND DERIVATIVE PRODUCTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of State, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing in detail the potential effects of expanding sanctions under Directive 1 (as amended), dated September 12, 2014, issued by the Office of Foreign Assets Control under Executive Order 13662 (79 Fed. Reg. 16169; relating to blocking property of additional persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine), or any successor directive, to include sovereign debt and the full range of derivative products.

(b) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in an unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex.

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Finance of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Financial Services, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 243. REPORT ON ILLICIT FINANCE RELATING TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not later than the end of each one-year period thereafter until 2021, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing interagency efforts in the United States to combat illicit finance relating to the Russian Federation.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall contain a summary of efforts by the United States to do the following:

(1) Identify, investigate, map, and disrupt illicit financial flows linked to the Russian Federation if such flows affect the United States financial system or those of major allies of the United States.

(2) Conduct outreach to the private sector, including information sharing efforts to strengthen compliance efforts by entities, including financial institutions, to prevent illicit financial flows described in paragraph (1).

(3) Engage and coordinate with allied international partners on illicit finance, especially in Europe, to coordinate efforts to uncover and prosecute the networks responsible for illicit financial flows described in paragraph (1), including examples of that engagement and coordination.

(4) Identify foreign sanctions evaders and loopholes within the sanctions regimes of foreign partners of the United States.

(5) Expand the number of real estate geographic targeting orders or other regulatory actions, as appropriate, to degrade illicit financial activity relating to the Russian Federation in relation to the financial system of the United States.

(6) Provide support to counter those involved in illicit finance relating to the Russian Federation across all appropriate law enforcement, intelligence, regulatory, and financial authorities of the Federal Government, including by imposing sanctions with respect to or prosecuting those involved.

(7) In the case of the Department of the Treasury and the Department of Justice, investigate or otherwise develop major cases, including a description of those cases.

(c) BRIEFING.—After submitting a report under this section, the Secretary of the Treasury shall provide briefings to the appropriate congressional committees with respect to that report.

(d) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall coordinate with the Attorney General, the Director of National Intelligence, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of State in preparing each report under this section.

(e) FORM.—Each report submitted under this section shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Finance of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Financial Services, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(2) ILLICIT FINANCE.—The term ''illicit finance'' means the financing of terrorism, narcotics trafficking, or proliferation, money laundering, or other forms of illicit financing domestically or internationally, as defined by the President.

Subtitle B—Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia

SEC. 251. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Government of the Russian Federation has sought to exert influence throughout Europe and Eurasia, including in the former states of the Soviet Union, by providing resources to political parties, think tanks, and civil society groups that sow distrust in democratic institutions and actors, promote xenophobic and illiberal views, and otherwise undermine European unity. The Government of the Russian Federation has also engaged in well-documented corruption practices as a means toward undermining and buying influence in European and Eurasian countries.

(2) The Government of the Russian Federation has largely eliminated a once-vibrant Russian-language independent media sector and severely curtails free and independent media within the borders of the Russian Federation. Russian-language media organizations that are funded and controlled by the Government of the Russian Federation and disseminate information within and outside of the Russian Federation routinely traffic in anti-Western disinformation, while few independent, fact-based media sources provide objective reporting for Russian-speaking audiences inside or outside of the Russian Federation.

(3) The Government of the Russian Federation continues to violate its commitments under the Memorandum on Security Assurances in connection with Ukraine's Accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Budapest December 5, 1994, and the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe Final Act, concluded at Helsinki August 1, 1975 (commonly referred to as the ''Helsinki Final Act''), which laid the ground-work for the establishment of the Organization for Security

and Co-operation in Europe, of which the Russian Federation is a member, by its illegal annexation of Crimea in 2014, its illegal occupation of South Ossetia and Abkhazia in Georgia in 2008, and its ongoing destabilizing activities in eastern Ukraine.

(4) The Government of the Russian Federation continues to ignore the terms of the August 2008 ceasefire agreement relating to Georgia, which requires the withdrawal of Russian Federation troops, free access by humanitarian groups to the regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, and monitoring of the conflict areas by the European Union Monitoring Mission.

(5) The Government of the Russian Federation is failing to comply with the terms of the Minsk Agreement to address the ongoing conflict in eastern Ukraine, signed in Minsk, Belarus, on February 11, 2015, by the leaders of Ukraine, Russia, France, and Germany, as well as the Minsk Protocol, which was agreed to on September 5, 2014.

(6) The Government of the Russian Federation is—

(A) in violation of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, signed at Washington December 8, 1987, and entered into force June 1, 1988 (commonly known as the ''INF Treaty''); and

(B) failing to meet its obligations under the Treaty on Open Skies, done at Helsinki March 24, 1992, and entered into force January 1, 2002 (commonly known as the ''Open Skies Treaty'').

SEC. 252. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Government of the Russian Federation bears responsibility for the continuing violence in Eastern Ukraine, including the death on April 24, 2017, of Joseph Stone, a citizen of the United States working as a monitor for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe;

(2) the President should call on the Government of the Russian Federation—

(A) to withdraw all of its forces from the territories of Georgia, Ukraine, and Moldova;

(B) to return control of the borders of those territories to their respective governments; and

(C) to cease all efforts to undermine the popularly elected governments of those countries;

(3) the Government of the Russian Federation has applied, and continues to apply, to the countries and peoples of Georgia and Ukraine, traditional uses of force, intelligence operations, and influence campaigns, which represent clear and present threats to the countries of Europe and Eurasia;

(4) in response, the countries of Europe and Eurasia should redouble efforts to build resilience within their institutions, political systems, and civil societies;

(5) the United States supports the institutions that the Government of the Russian Federation seeks to undermine, including the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union;

(6) a strong North Atlantic Treaty Organization is critical to maintaining peace and security in Europe and Eurasia;

(7) the United States should continue to work with the European Union as a partner against aggression by the Government of the Russian Federation, coordinating aid programs, development assistance, and other counter-Russian efforts;

(8) the United States should encourage the establishment of a commission for media freedom within the Council of Europe, modeled on the Venice Commission regarding rule of law issues, that would be chartered to provide governments with expert recommendations on maintaining legal and regulatory regimes supportive of free and independent media and an informed citizenry able to distinguish between fact-based reporting, opinion, and disinformation;

(9) in addition to working to strengthen the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union, the United States should work with the individual countries of Europe and Eurasia—

(A) to identify vulnerabilities to aggression, disinformation, corruption, and so-called hybrid warfare by the Government of the Russian Federation;

(B) to establish strategic and technical plans for addressing those vulnerabilities;

(C) to ensure that the financial systems of those countries are not being used to shield illicit financial activity by officials of the Government of the Russian Federation or individuals in President Vladimir Putin's inner circle who have been enriched through corruption;

(D) to investigate and prosecute cases of corruption by Russian actors; and

(E) to work toward full compliance with the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (commonly referred to as the ''Anti-Bribery Convention'') of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development; and

(10) the President of the United States should use the authority of the President to impose sanctions under—

(A) the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act of 2012 (title IV of Public Law 112–208; 22 U.S.C. 5811 note); and

(B) the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note).

SEC. 253. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

The United States, consistent with the principle of ex injuria jus non oritur, supports the policy known as the ''Stimson Doctrine'' and thus does not recognize territorial changes effected by force, including the illegal invasions and occupations of Abkhazia, South Ossetia, Crimea, Eastern Ukraine, and Transnistria.

SEC. 254. COORDINATING AID AND ASSISTANCE ACROSS EUROPE AND EURASIA.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for the Countering Russian Influence Fund $250,000,000 for fiscal years 2018 and 2019.

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts in the Countering Russian Influence Fund shall be used to effectively implement, prioritized in the following order and subject to the availability of funds, the following goals:

(1) To assist in protecting critical infrastructure and electoral mechanisms from cyberattacks in the following countries:

(A) Countries that are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or the European Union that the Secretary of State determines—

(i) are vulnerable to influence by the Russian Federation; and

(ii) lack the economic capability to effectively respond to aggression by the Russian Federation without the support of the United States.

(B) Countries that are participating in the enlargement process of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or the European Union, including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Macedonia, Moldova, Kosovo, Serbia, and Ukraine.

(2) To combat corruption, improve the rule of law, and otherwise strengthen independent judiciaries and prosecutors general offices in the countries described in paragraph (1).

(3) To respond to the humanitarian crises and instability caused or aggravated by the invasions and occupations of Georgia and Ukraine by the Russian Federation.

(4) To improve participatory legislative processes and legal education, political transparency and competition, and compliance with international obligations in the countries described in paragraph (1).

(5) To build the capacity of civil society, media, and other nongovernmental organizations countering the influence and propaganda of the Russian Federation to combat corruption, prioritize access to truthful information, and operate freely in all regions in the countries described in paragraph (1).

(6) To assist the Secretary of State in executing the functions specified in section 1287(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) for the purposes of recognizing, understanding, exposing, and countering propaganda and disinformation efforts by foreign governments, in coordination with the relevant regional Assistant Secretary or Assistant Secretaries of the Department of State.

(c) REVISION OF ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH AMOUNTS MAY BE USED.—The Secretary of State may modify the goals described in subsection (b) if, not later than 15 days before revising such a goal, the Secretary notifies the appropriate congressional committees of the revision.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall, acting through the Coordinator of United States Assistance to Europe and Eurasia (authorized pursuant to section 601 of the Support for East European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (22 U.S.C. 5461) and section 102 of the Freedom for Russia and Emerging Eurasian Democracies and Open Markets Support Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 5812)), and in consultation with the Administrator for the United States Agency for International Development, the Director of the Global Engagement Center of the Department of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, coordinate and carry out activities to achieve the goals described in subsection (b).

(2) METHOD.—Activities to achieve the goals described in subsection (b) shall be carried out through—

(A) initiatives of the United States Government;

(B) Federal grant programs such as the Information Access Fund; or

(C) nongovernmental or international organizations, such as the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the National Endowment for Democracy, the Black Sea Trust, the Balkan Trust for Democracy, the Prague Civil Society Centre, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence, the European Endowment for Democracy, and related organizations.

(3) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 1 of each year, the Secretary of State, acting through the Coordinator of United States Assistance to Europe and Eurasia, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the programs and activities carried out to achieve the goals described in subsection (b) during the preceding fiscal year.

(B) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by subparagraph (A) shall include, with respect to each program or activity described in that subparagraph—

(i) the amount of funding for the program or activity;

(ii) the goal described in subsection (b) to which the program or activity relates; and

(iii) an assessment of whether or not the goal was met.

(e) COORDINATION WITH GLOBAL PARTNERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to maximize cost efficiency, eliminate duplication, and speed the achievement of the goals described in subsection (b), the Secretary of State shall ensure coordination with—

(A) the European Union and its institutions;

(B) the governments of countries that are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or the European Union; and

(C) international organizations and quasi-governmental funding entities that carry out programs and activities that seek to accomplish the goals described in subsection (b).

(2) REPORT BY SECRETARY OF STATE.—Not later than April 1 of each year, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

(A) the amount of funding provided to each country referred to in subsection (b) by—

(i) the European Union or its institutions;

(ii) the government of each country that is a member of the European Union or the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; and

(iii) international organizations and quasi-governmental funding entities that carry out programs and activities that seek to accomplish the goals described in subsection (b); and

(B) an assessment of whether the funding described in subparagraph (A) is commensurate with funding provided by the United States for those goals.

(f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to or limit United States foreign assistance not provided using amounts available in the Countering Russian Influence Fund.

(g) ENSURING ADEQUATE STAFFING FOR GOVERNANCE ACTIVITIES.—In order to ensure that the United States Government is properly focused on combating corruption, improving rule of law, and building the capacity of civil society, media, and other nongovernmental organizations in countries described in subsection (b)(1), the Secretary of State shall establish a pilot program for Foreign Service officer positions focused on governance and anticorruption activities in such countries.

SEC. 255. REPORT ON MEDIA ORGANIZATIONS CONTROLLED AND FUNDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes a description of media organizations that are controlled and funded by the Government of the Russian Federation, and any affiliated entities, whether operating within or outside the Russian Federation, including broadcast and satellite-based television, radio, Internet, and print media organizations.

(b) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 256. REPORT ON RUSSIAN FEDERATION INFLUENCE ON ELECTIONS IN EUROPE AND EURASIA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on funds provided by, or funds the use of which was directed by, the Government of the Russian Federation or any Russian person with the intention of influencing the outcome of any election or campaign in any country in Europe or Eurasia during the preceding year, including through direct support to any political party, candidate, lobbying campaign, nongovernmental organization, or civic organization.

(b) FORM OF REPORT.—Each report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(c) RUSSIAN PERSON DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''Russian person'' means—

(1) an individual who is a citizen or national of the Russian Federation; or

(2) an entity organized under the laws of the Russian Federation or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of the Government of the Russian Federation.

SEC. 257. UKRANIAN ENERGY SECURITY.

(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to support the Government of Ukraine in restoring its sovereign and territorial integrity;

(2) to condemn and oppose all of the destabilizing efforts by the Government of the Russian Federation in Ukraine in violation of its obligations and international commitments;

(3) to never recognize the illegal annexation of Crimea by the Government of the Russian Federation or the separation of any portion of Ukrainian territory through the use of military force;

(4) to deter the Government of the Russian Federation from further destabilizing and invading Ukraine and other independent countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the Caucuses;

(5) to assist in promoting reform in regulatory oversight and operations in Ukraine's energy sector, including the establishment and empowerment of an independent regulatory organization;

(6) to encourage and support fair competition, market liberalization, and reliability in Ukraine's energy sector;

(7) to help Ukraine and United States allies and partners in Europe reduce their dependence on Russian energy resources, especially natural gas, which the Government of the Russian Federation uses as a weapon to coerce, intimidate, and influence other countries;

(8) to work with European Union member states and European Union institutions to promote energy security through developing diversified and liberalized energy markets that provide diversified sources, suppliers, and routes;

(9) to continue to oppose the NordStream 2 pipeline given its detrimental impacts on the European Union's energy security, gas market development in Central and Eastern Europe, and energy reforms in Ukraine; and

(10) that the United States Government should prioritize the export of United States energy resources in order to create American jobs, help United States allies and partners, and strengthen United States foreign policy.

(b) PLAN TO PROMOTE ENERGY SECURITY IN UKRAINE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the Secretary of Energy, shall work with the Government of Ukraine to develop a plan to increase energy security in Ukraine, increase the amount of energy produced in Ukraine, and reduce Ukraine's reliance on energy imports from the Russian Federation.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The plan developed under paragraph (1) shall include strategies for market liberalization, effective regulation and oversight, supply diversification, energy reliability, and energy efficiency, such as through supporting—

(A) the promotion of advanced technology and modern operating practices in Ukraine's oil and gas sector;

(B) modern geophysical and meteorological survey work as needed followed by international tenders to help attract qualified investment into exploration and development of areas with untapped resources in Ukraine;

(C) a broadening of Ukraine's electric power transmission interconnection with Europe;

(D) the strengthening of Ukraine's capability to maintain electric power grid stability and reliability;

(E) independent regulatory oversight and operations of Ukraine's gas market and electricity sector;

(F) the implementation of primary gas law including pricing, tariff structure, and legal regulatory implementation;

(G) privatization of government owned energy companies through credible legal frameworks and a transparent process compliant with international best practices;

(H) procurement and transport of emergency fuel supplies, including reverse pipeline flows from Europe;

(I) provision of technical assistance for crisis planning, crisis response, and public outreach;

(J) repair of infrastructure to enable the transport of fuel supplies;

(K) repair of power generating or power transmission equipment or facilities; and

(L) improved building energy efficiency and other measures designed to reduce energy demand in Ukraine.

(3) REPORTS.—

(A) IMPLEMENTATION OF UKRAINE FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT OF 2014 PROVISIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing the status of implementing the provisions required under section 7(c) of the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8926(c)), including detailing the plans required under that section, the level of funding that has been allocated to and expended for the strategies set forth under that section, and progress that has been made in implementing the strategies developed pursuant to that section.

(B) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing the plan developed under paragraph (1), the level of funding that has been allocated to and expended for the strategies set forth in paragraph (2), and progress that has been made in implementing the strategies.

(C) BRIEFINGS.—The Secretary of State, or a designee of the Secretary, shall brief the appropriate congressional committees not later than 30 days after the submission of each report under subparagraph (B). In addition, the Department of State shall make relevant officials available upon request to brief the appropriate congressional committees on all available information that relates directly or indirectly to Ukraine or energy security in Eastern Europe.

(D) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(i) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(c) SUPPORTING EFFORTS OF COUNTRIES IN EUROPE AND EURASIA TO DECREASE THEIR DEPENDENCE ON RUSSIAN SOURCES OF ENERGY.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(A) The Government of the Russian Federation uses its strong position in the energy sector as leverage to manipulate the internal politics and foreign relations of the countries of Europe and Eurasia.

(B) This influence is based not only on the Russian Federation's oil and natural gas resources, but also on its state-owned nuclear power and electricity companies.

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

(A) the United States should assist the efforts of the countries of Europe and Eurasia to enhance their energy security through diversification of energy supplies in order to lessen dependencies on Russian Federation energy resources and state-owned entities; and

(B) the Export-Import Bank of the United States and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation should play key roles in supporting critical energy projects that contribute to that goal.

(3) USE OF COUNTERING RUSSIAN INFLUENCE FUND TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Amounts in the Countering Russian Influence Fund pursuant to section 254 shall be used to provide technical advice to countries described in subsection (b)(1) of such section designed to enhance energy security and lessen dependence on energy from Russian Federation sources.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for the Department of State a total of $30,000,000 for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 to carry out the strategies set forth in subsection (b)(2) and other activities under this section related to the promotion of energy security in Ukraine.

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as affecting the responsibilities required and authorities provided under section 7 of the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8926).

SEC. 258. TERMINATION.

The provisions of this subtitle shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 259. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.

Except as otherwise provided, in this subtitle, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

Subtitle C—Combating Terrorism and Illicit Financing

PART I—NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING TERRORIST AND OTHER ILLICIT FINANCING

SEC. 261. DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL STRATEGY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President, acting through the Secretary, shall, in consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of National Intelligence, and the appropriate Federal banking agencies and Federal functional regulators, develop a national strategy for combating the financing of terrorism and related forms of illicit finance.

(b) TRANSMITTAL TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a comprehensive national strategy developed in accordance with subsection (a).

(2) UPDATES.—Not later than January 31, 2020, and January 31, 2022, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees updated versions of the national strategy submitted under paragraph (1).

(c) SEPARATE PRESENTATION OF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL.—Any part of the national strategy that involves information that is properly classified under criteria established by the President shall be submitted to Congress separately in a classified annex and, if requested by the chairman or ranking member of one of the appropriate congressional committees, as a briefing at an appropriate level of security.

SEC. 262. CONTENTS OF NATIONAL STRATEGY.

The strategy described in section 261 shall contain the following:

(1) EVALUATION OF EXISTING EFFORTS.—An assessment of the effectiveness of and ways in which the United States is currently addressing the highest levels of risk of various forms of illicit finance, including those identified in the documents entitled ''2015 National Money Laundering Risk Assessment'' and ''2015 National Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment'', published by the Department of the Treasury and a description of how the strategy is integrated into, and supports, the broader counter terrorism strategy of the United States.

(2) GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND PRIORITIES.—A comprehensive, research-based, long-range, quantifiable discussion of goals, objectives, and priorities for disrupting and preventing illicit finance activities within and transiting the financial system of the United States that outlines priorities to reduce the incidence, dollar value, and effects of illicit finance.

(3) THREATS.—An identification of the most significant illicit finance threats to the financial system of the United States.

(4) REVIEWS AND PROPOSED CHANGES.—Reviews of enforcement efforts, relevant regulations and relevant provisions of law and, if appropriate, discussions of proposed changes determined to be appropriate to ensure that the United States pursues coordinated and effective efforts at all levels of government, and with international partners of the United States, in the fight against illicit finance.

(5) DETECTION AND PROSECUTION INITIATIVES.—A description of efforts to improve, as necessary, detection and prosecution of illicit finance, including efforts to ensure that—

(A) subject to legal restrictions, all appropriate data collected by the Federal Government that is relevant to the efforts described in this section be available in a timely fashion to—

(i) all appropriate Federal departments and agencies; and

(ii) as appropriate and consistent with section 314 of the International Money Laundering Abatement and Financial Anti-Terrorism Act of 2001 (31 U.S.C. 5311 note), to financial institutions to assist the financial institutions in efforts to comply with laws aimed at curbing illicit finance; and

(B) appropriate efforts are undertaken to ensure that Federal departments and agencies charged with reducing and preventing illicit finance make thorough use of publicly available data in furtherance of this effort.

(6) THE ROLE OF THE PRIVATE FINANCIAL SECTOR IN PREVENTION OF ILLICIT FINANCE.—A discussion of ways to enhance partnerships between the private financial sector and Federal departments and agencies with regard to the prevention and detection of illicit finance, including—

(A) efforts to facilitate compliance with laws aimed at stopping such illicit finance while maintaining the effectiveness of such efforts; and

(B) providing guidance to strengthen internal controls and to adopt on an industry-wide basis more effective policies.

(7) ENHANCEMENT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION.—A discussion of ways to combat illicit finance by enhancing—

(A) cooperative efforts between and among Federal, State, and local officials, including State regulators, State and local prosecutors, and other law enforcement officials; and

(B) cooperative efforts with and between governments of countries and with and between multinational institutions with expertise in fighting illicit finance, including the Financial Action Task Force and the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units.

(8) TREND ANALYSIS OF EMERGING ILLICIT FINANCE THREATS.—A discussion of and data regarding trends in illicit finance, including evolving forms of value transfer such as so-called cryptocurrencies, other methods that are computer, telecommunications, or Internet-based, cyber crime, or any other threats that the Secretary may choose to identify.

(9) BUDGET PRIORITIES.—A multiyear budget plan that identifies sufficient resources needed to successfully execute the full range of missions called for in this section.

(10) TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENTS.—An analysis of current and developing ways to leverage technology to improve the effectiveness of efforts to stop the financing of terrorism and other forms of illicit finance, including better integration of open-source data.

PART II—ENHANCING ANTITERRORISM TOOLS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

SEC. 271. IMPROVING ANTITERROR FINANCE MONITORING OF FUNDS TRANSFERS.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To improve the ability of the Department of the Treasury to better track cross-border fund transfers and identify potential financing of terrorist or other forms of illicit finance, the Secretary shall carry out a study to assess—

(A) the potential efficacy of requiring banking regulators to establish a pilot program to provide technical assistance to depository institutions and credit unions that wish to provide account services to money services businesses serving individuals in Somalia;

(B) whether such a pilot program could be a model for improving the ability of United States persons to make legitimate funds transfers through transparent and easily monitored channels while preserving strict compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act (Public Law 91–508; 84 Stat. 1114) and related controls aimed at stopping money laundering and the financing of terrorism; and

(C) consistent with current legal requirements regarding confidential supervisory information, the potential impact of allowing money services businesses to share certain State examination information with depository institutions and credit unions, or whether another appropriate mechanism could be identified to allow a similar exchange of information to give the depository institutions and credit unions a better understanding of whether an individual money services business is adequately meeting its

anti-money laundering and counter-terror financing obligations to combat money laundering, the financing of terror, or related illicit finance.

(2) PUBLIC INPUT.—The Secretary should solicit and consider public input as appropriate in developing the study required under subsection (a).

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report that contains all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a).

SEC. 272. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION REGARDING TERRORIST FINANCING INTELLIGENCE.

It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Crimes, should intensify work with foreign partners to help the foreign partners develop intelligence analytic capacities, in a financial intelligence unit, finance ministry, or other appropriate agency, that are—

(1) commensurate to the threats faced by the foreign partner; and

(2) designed to better integrate intelligence efforts with the anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing regimes of the foreign partner.

SEC. 273. EXAMINING THE COUNTER-TERROR FINANCING ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY IN EMBASSIES.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report that contains—

(1) a list of the United States embassies in which a full-time Department of the Treasury financial attaché is stationed and a description of how the interests of the Department of the Treasury relating to terrorist financing and money laundering are addressed (via regional attachés or otherwise) at United States embassies where no such attachés are present;

(2) a list of the United States embassies at which the Department of the Treasury has assigned a technical assistance advisor from the Office of Technical Assistance of the Department of the Treasury;

(3) an overview of how Department of the Treasury financial attachés and technical assistance advisors assist in efforts to counter illicit finance, to include money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing; and

(4) an overview of patterns, trends, or other issues identified by the Department of the Treasury and whether resources are sufficient to address these issues.

SEC. 274. INCLUSION OF SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY ON THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 101(c)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3021(c)(1)) is amended by inserting ''the Secretary of the Treasury,'' before ''and such other officers''.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) may not be construed to authorize the National Security Council to have a professional staff level that exceeds the limitation set forth under section 101(e)(3) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3021(e)(3)).

SEC. 275. INCLUSION OF ALL FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5326 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the heading of such section, by striking ''coin and currency'';

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''subtitle and'' and inserting ''subtitle or to''; and

(B) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking ''United States coins or currency (or such other monetary instruments as the Secretary may describe in such order)'' and inserting ''funds (as the Secretary may describe in such order),''; and

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking ''coins or currency (or monetary instruments)'' and inserting ''funds''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''coins or currency (or such other monetary instruments as the Secretary may describe in the regulation or order)'' and inserting ''funds (as the Secretary may describe in the regulation or order)''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, is amended in the item relating to section 5326 by striking ''coin and currency''.

PART III—DEFINITIONS

SEC. 281. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle—

(1) the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, Committee on Armed Services, Committee on the Judiciary, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on the Judiciary, Committee on Homeland Security, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives;

(2) the term ''appropriate Federal banking agencies'' has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);

(3) the term ''Bank Secrecy Act'' means—

(A) section 21 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1829b);

(B) chapter 2 of title I of Public Law 91–508 (12 U.S.C. 1951 et seq.); and

(C) subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code;

(4) the term ''Federal functional regulator'' has the meaning given that term in section 509 of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (15 U.S.C. 6809);

(5) the term ''illicit finance'' means the financing of terrorism, narcotics trafficking, or proliferation, money laundering, or other forms of illicit financing domestically or internationally, as defined by the President;

(6) the term ''money services business'' has the meaning given the term under section 1010.100 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations;

(7) the term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Treasury; and

(8) the term ''State'' means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, and each territory or possession of the United States.

Subtitle D—Rule of Construction

SEC. 291. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this title or the amendments made by this title (other than sections 216 and 236(b)) shall be construed to limit the authority of the President under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).

SA 233. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 232 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CORKER, and Mr. CARDIN)) to the bill S. 722, to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following.

''This Act shall take effect 1 day after the date of enactment.''

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have two requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, June 12, 2017, at 5:30 p.m., for a business meeting.

COMMITTEE IN INTELLIGENCE

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the 115th Congress of the U.S. Senate on Monday, June 12, 2017 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., in room SH–219 of the Hart Senate Office Building to hold a closed briefing.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON THE PULSE ORLANDO NIGHTCLUB ONE YEAR AGO

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 190, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 190) honoring the memory of the victims of the terrorist attack on the Pulse Orlando nightclub one year ago.

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 considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 190) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, in consultation with the chairperson of the Committee on Indian Affairs, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114–244, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children: Don Atqaqsaq Gray of Alaska.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, June 13; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; finally, that following leader remarks, Senator PAUL or his designee be recognized, as under the previous order.

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 10:18 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, June 13, 2017, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

DAWN DEBERRY STUMP, OF TEXAS, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 13, 2022, VICE TIMOTHY G. MASSAD, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DAVID G. EHRHART, OF TEXAS, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE, VICE GORDON O. TANNER.

THE JUDICIARY

CLARIA HORN BOOM, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF KENTUCKY, VICE JENNIFER B. COFFMAN, RETIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

BETH ANN WILLIAMS, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE CHRISTOPHER H. SCHROEDER.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be admiral

VICE ADM. JAMES G. FOGGO III

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate June 12, 2017:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

KENNETH P. RAPUANO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DAVID JOHNSON

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate David Johnson of Lawrence, Kansas, for his commitment, leadership, and service to the State of Kansas and people struggling with mental illnesses everywhere.

As his tenure as CEO of the Bert-Nash Community Mental Health Center nears its end, and we reflect on his sixteen years serving as CEO, we celebrate the work he has done to positively impact the Lawrence community, Douglas County, the State of Kansas, and beyond.

David demonstrated national leadership as the CEO of a community mental health center by continuing to serve the ever-growing community of Lawrence, while facing the challenge of decreased funding. David has championed initiatives for mental health care such as the Mental Health First Aid grant program and was the person who first brought that program's need and impact to my attention. David has been such an effective national voice for this program that he was invited as a Congressional witness in 2014 to share with Members of Congress the need for the Mental Health First Act of 2013.

As one of the original fourteen people trained as Mental Health First Aid instructors in the country, David undoubtedly encouraged and inspired more people to get that training so they could help their family, friends and neighbors in their time of need.

David is willing to boldly lead on the issue of mental health care and advocate for the millions of Americans hiding in the shadows struggling with mental illness.

When it comes to our home State of Kansas, David has made his imprint through undertaking statewide efforts that help create new opportunities for people with mental illness and their families. These initiatives allow more people to discover and receive the care they need while their families are educated on ways to help their loved ones.

I extend my deepest appreciation to David Johnson for his service and commitment to the State of Kansas and while I am sad to hear of his retirement, I wish him and his family all the best in the years ahead.

HONORING LGBTQ LEADERS IN THE TWIN CITIES

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the transgender, queer, lesbian, bisexual, and gay members of my community as we begin celebrating Pride. Every year, Twin Cities Pride recognizes individuals and organizations who have devoted their lives to equality. This year, the Grand Marshal is Jana Shortal, and the Community Champions of Pride are Clare Housing and the Avenues for Homeless Youth GLBT Host Homes Program.

Jana Shortal is a journalist, public figure, and co-anchor of KARE 11's Breaking the News, one of the Twin Cities' most popular evening news programs. Jana has garnered a lot of attention across our city—accolades for her coverage of a mom dying of cancer, criticism in the Star Tribune for wearing skinny jeans, and national awards for telling stories about race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity. Throughout her career, Jana has been guided by an overarching goal: telling the story. Like she's said herself, ''The average person's completely-not-average story motivates me.'' Often times we get lost in statistics or politics and forget to talk about how it's actually impacting people's lives. Jana's drive to humanize the news is more important now than ever—we can't let elected officials control the narrative just because they dislike the facts. I thank Jana for her service to our community, for her realness on screen, and for her devotion to telling the story.

Clare Housing and Avenues for Homeless Youth provide something that can mean the difference between life and death for LGBTQ folks: a place to live. For 30 years, Clare Housing has provided housing for hundreds of people with HIV or AIDS. They manage multiple apartment buildings for people who are independent, as well as nearly a dozen family homes where people can eat regular meals and have a caseworker assist them with doctor's visits and medicine. We have made tremendous progress on HIV treatment, and it is unacceptable that a lack of access to housing or healthcare means it can still be a death sentence. Thanks to Clare Housing's leadership, HIV positive individuals can get the housing stability they need to keep their bodies healthy.

Avenues for Homeless Youth's GLBT Host Home Program is a national model for community and volunteer-driven efforts to end LGBTQ youth homelessness. Nearly 40 percent of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ, and many of them were pushed out of their homes due to their gender or sexuality. This program provides not only a roof over their head, but an environment where their identities are validated and supported. Over their 15 year history, the GLBT Host Home Program has helped hundreds of kids grow into happy and healthy adults. No one should be forced into a life of economic struggles simply because their parents are closed minded. The Host Home Program is a tremendous example of what ''It takes a village'' looks like in practice.

If the last five months have taught us anything, it's that we still have so much work to do. We can't sit back and watch our federal government walk back protections for trans kids, or school districts lead the charge to belittle and exclude them. We can't accept the talk that we have to wait because there are more important or less divisive issues. LGBTQ equality is deeply connected to economic inequality, racism, sexism, and every other -ism we're fighting against. We must fight for both social and economic equality, because if we don't fight for both, we won't get either. My deepest thanks to these leaders in our community who are showing how we advance equity on all fronts.

RECOGNIZING OSCAR AMEZCUA

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mariachi Legend Oscar Amezcua who, from his humble beginnings in Jalisco, Mexico, immigrated to San Diego in 1945 and quickly became an icon in Hispanic culture. Oscar's skills earned him a spot on the renowned Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán, which was just the start of his distinguished career. Oscar would go on to establish his own group, Mariachi Guadalajara, all while raising his three sons Carlos, Oscar, Alex, and his daughter Lucia with his wonderful wife Gloria.

Oscar Amezcua has dedicated his life to creating and providing us with music that has made significant contributions to San Diego's music and culture and is credited by many with bringing Mariachi music to San Diego. Recently, at the age of 87, Oscar celebrated this past Cinco de Mayo celebration by performing at a special concert in San Diego's famous Balboa Park and was recognized by San Diego Mayor Kevin Falconer, who declared May 5, 2017, as ''Oscar Amezcua Day—The Father of San Diego Mariachi Music.''

I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in recognizing Oscar's contributions to San Diego's music and Hispanic culture and I look forward to his continued involvement for years to come.

AMANDA ALVARADO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Amanda Alvarado for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Amanda Alvarado is a student at Molholm Elementary School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Amanda Alvarado is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and

perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Amanda Alvarado for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING JORDAN COFFMAN

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jordan Coffman, an Air Force Academy Appointee from Colorado's Fourth Congressional district I believe our greatest assets are America's brave men and women in uniform. Jordan is making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserves our utmost support for her service. It is with great pleasure that I give her my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Jordan has served in a variety of leadership roles from Co-President of the National Honor Society to Senator-at-Large of the Student Government Association at her school. In addition to her service roles, Jordan has excelled in athletics, receiving the Hoehne Female Athlete award and placing first in several Track and Field races.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend Jordan and her family for their commitment. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to Jordan.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Jordan Coffman as an appointee to the Air Force Academy for her commitment to protect and serve our nation.

RECOGNIZING A LETTER TO THE EDITOR: HEY, WHITE HOUSE: LEAVE D.C. ALONE

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share an excellent Letter to the Editor, urging the Trump administration to respect the political autonomy of American citizens living in Washington, D.C., written by David Jonas Bardin to the Washington Post.

In ''Hey, White House: Leave D.C. Alone,'' David writes:

''The May 28 editorial 'More meddling' said that the White House has joined Congress ''in trying to block the District's Death with Dignity law.'' President Trump's proposed budget would unconstitutionally forbid implementation of that law in the 2018 fiscal year, which starts Oct. 1. The Constitution established federal legislative power over a future federal district as well as future federal installations outside the District of Columbia, such as Fort Bragg, N.C., to safeguard legitimate federal government interests there. The Bill of Rights immediately limited those powers in order to block tyranny.

''Even before statehood and even without D.C. voting rights in Congress, it is high time to recognize that Americans living in the District count as 'the people' under the 10th Amendment, which says: 'The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.' Power to allow, forbid or regulate physician-assisted suicide was never delegated to the federal government.

''Mr. Trump should heed President William Henry Harrison's wise words: 'The people of the District of Columbia are not the subjects of the people of the States, but free American citizens.' ''

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. ARTHUR SMITH

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Arthur Smith of Chester County, Pennsylvania for his 48 years of service to our community. Dr. Smith will be retiring at the end of this year after an astounding 48 years of service to the Ridley, Delaware County School District.

Dr. Smith has for decades been a fixture in Ridley's schools, serving in both teaching and administrative capacities. It's not uncommon today for Ridley Middle School's ''Parents Night'' to be packed with parents of current students who themselves had taken classes taught by Dr. Smith years or decades ago.

Dr. Smith brought to his teaching an unmatched commitment to his students and an unwavering desire to see them succeed. But his day as an educator didn't end with the final bell each afternoon. He then drove to West Chester University, where for years he's taught evening classes. His typical days began before 5 a.m. and ended after he got home at 10:30 that night.

Forty-eight years, 9,227 middle school students, 6,700 college students and countless hours spent helping each of them succeed—that's Dr. Smith's legacy. On behalf of our entire community, I thank him for his service and wish him the best in his retirement.

ADALYN LUKOWICZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Adalyn Lukowicz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Adalyn Lukowicz is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Adalyn Lukowicz is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Adalyn Lukowicz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING VICTORIA BERNABEI

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Victoria Bernabei, an Air Force Academy Appointee from Colorado's Fourth Congressional district. I believe our greatest assets are America's brave men and women in uniform. Victoria is making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserves our utmost support for her service. It is with great pleasure that I give her my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Victoria served as Honor Guard Commander as well as Cadet Captain of the Civil Air Patrol for which she received the Earhart Award. She has also received various Academic All-State honors. Additionally, she volunteers as a soccer coach in her community, demonstrating exemplary leadership skills and a heart for service.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend Victoria and her family for their commitment. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to Victoria.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Victoria Bernabei as an appointee to the Air Force Academy for her commitment to protect and serve our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF AUBURN HILLS CITY CLERK TERRI KOWAL

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate City Clerk Terri Kowal of Auburn Hills, Michigan, as she receives the prestigious Quill Award from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

Recognized for her outstanding contributions in her profession, Clerk Kowal was selected as one of only two recipients for this unparalleled recognition, an incredible honor considering the thousands of municipal clerks across the United States and Canada. With this achievement, Kowal is proclaimed an international champion of her craft.

Having dedicated her life to helping the City of Auburn Hills and her community, Kowal has built her career on serving others. Understanding the responsibility and ethics required to be a municipal clerk, she did not waver in taking on this important task and great responsibility in service of her fellow citizens.

Receiving this award is not only a great honor for Clerk Kowal and a testament to her

hard work, but invokes a great sense of pride for the city of Auburn Hills, Oakland County, and the great State of Michigan. Clerk Kowal should be seen as an example of the ideal public servant—one who puts the needs of the community before her own.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my most sincere congratulations to Terri Kowal as she receives this extraordinary honor and is celebrated as a pillar of the City of Auburn Hills.

HONORING DR. GERARD OAKLEY, JR. OF HUNTINGTON, WV

HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Gerard J. Oakley, Jr. of Huntington, West Virginia. Dr. Oakley served his country as a medical officer in the United States Air Force during Operation Desert Storm, retiring after 20 years of service with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

After serving in the armed forces, Dr. Oakley made his home in Huntington with his wife, Tanyia, and their four sons to continue his practice as a gynecologic oncologist. Dr. Oakley has spent the last 20 years providing quality cancer care for patients in his community, both through his private practice and with the Mountains of Hope Cancer Coalition.

Dr. Oakley has been recognized as a leader among his peers on numerous occasions, from service as the leader of gynecologic oncology at Marshall University to chief of staff at Cabell Huntington Hospital. Dr. Oakley was instrumental in the founding of the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center in Huntington and has been serving as its medical director.

Dr. Oakley helped the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center obtain its certification as an Academic Comprehensive Cancer Program and brought new technologies in radiation oncology and robot assisted surgery to the cancer center, allowing patients to have cutting-edge cancer care close to home.

I thank Dr. Oakley for his leadership, his service, and all he has done for the people of the great state of West Virginia in the fight against cancer.

ALEX FLORES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alex Flores for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Alex Flores is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Alex Flores is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Alex Flores for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING ALEXANDER HAMILTON

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alexander Hamilton, an Air Force Academy Appointee from Colorado's Fourth Congressional district. I believe our greatest assets are America's brave men and women in uniform. Alexander is making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserves our utmost support for his service. It is with great pleasure that I give him my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Alexander has earned a variety of awards for his academic and athletic achievements, including the Ironman Award for football and the Silver Cross Award for academics. He also served as captain of his school's football team, where he was selected for the Academic All State First Team. Additionally, he works as a volunteer for the Special Olympics, demonstrating compassion and a true heart for service.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend Alexander and his family for their commitment. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to Alexander.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Alexander Hamilton as an appointee to the Air Force Academy for his commitment to protect and serve our nation.

HONORING THE GETTYSBURG COLLEGE WOMEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I proudly honor the Gettysburg College Women's Lacrosse Team on earning the NCAA Division III Women's Lacrosse Championship. The Gettysburg College Bullets earned a 6–5 victory over top-ranked The College of New Jersey to earn its second National Championship.

With a record of 21–3, Gettysburg College tied the program record for most victories in a season, and eclipsed the program and conference record for goals against average at 4.79. The Bullets also defeated two number one teams this season for the first time in program history. Their accomplishments have earned the respect of their peers as the Bullets earned the top spot in the final Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association Division III Coaches' Poll.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Head Coach Carol Cantele and the school officials, family and friends that supported these young women on their incredible and impressive journey.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I commend and congratulate the Gettysburg College Women's Lacrosse Team on earning the NCAA Division III Women's Lacrosse Championship. Their work ethic and commitment to excellence serve as the standard for all to follow.

HONORING GREG J. FEERE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Greg J. Feere upon his retirement after thirty years as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council. Mr. Feere has been a tireless advocate for over 35,000 local skilled trades workers.

Mr. Feere graduated from Clayton Valley High School in 1966. He earned an Associate of Arts degree at Diablo Valley College and a Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration from Chico State University.

Before becoming CEO of the Council, Mr. Feere worked for ten years in Alaska as a hunting, fishing and photography guide on Kodiak Island and the Arctic Brooks Range. He also worked on the Trans Alaskan Pipeline in Palmer and Point Barrow. Mr. Feere joined the Heat and Frost Insulators Union Local 16 in San Francisco, where they recognized his leadership abilities after just five years by naming him the youngest business manager in their history.

The men and women of the Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council elected Mr. Feere to be their CEO nine times. He has fought to protect their interests, create safe working conditions and promote their careers through training and professional development. Mr. Freere has served two terms as the Northern California Vice President of the California State Building Trades, where he worked to represent nearly 500,000 Californians. Mr. Freere's father used to tell him that "there has to be somebody who looks out for the little guy." Greg has become that somebody and has been able to look out for many members of our community.

In addition to his excellent work with the Council, Mr. Freere has served as a commissioner for Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife and a trustee of Contra Costa College.

Mr. Speaker, Greg Feere has led a long career serving the people of our community. He has played a major role in fighting for well-paying middle class jobs. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today and extend our best wishes for an enjoyable retirement.

ALIYA MOORE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aliya Moore for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Aliya Moore is a student at Peck Elementary and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Aliya Moore is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Aliya Moore for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TRIAD HS GIRLS SOCCER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding sports team from southern Illinois. The Triad High School Women's Soccer team won the Illinois Class 2A state championship on June 3, defeating Wheaton Academy 5–4. After 100 minutes of scoreless play, the Lady Knights began to make goals and fight off their competitors' shots, resulting in their State Title.

The Lady Knights, from Troy, Illinois, put together a 22–6 record en route to the championship, defeating rivals and earning one small victory at a time.

My congratulations go to: Madisyn Stauffer, Jody Ellis, Kalie Gibbs, Madison Mell, Madeline Keller, Jordyn Besserman, Hailey Busche, Chelsea Riden, Meaghan Smith (C), Samantha Bassler (C), Ashley Newcombe, Sydney Thomas, Eryn Fanning, Chloe Scott, Erynn Little (C), Sydney Beach, Katie Rogers, Jordan Wilson, Sierra Schlemmer, Rebecca Byrd, Morgan Bohnenstiehl (C), Molly Suess, Mercedes King and coaches and staff Matt Bettlach—Varsity Head Coach, Jim Jackson—Varsity Assistant Coach, Heather Seger—Junior Varsity Coach, and Bailey Stack—Freshman Coach.

RECOGNIZING PHILIP DALKE

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Philip Dalke, a Naval Academy Appointee from Colorado's Fourth Congressional District. I believe our greatest assets are America's brave men and women in uniform. Philip is making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserves our utmost support for his service. It is with great pleasure that I give him my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Philip demonstrated excellent leadership and service as captain of both the Varsity Volleyball and Basketball teams at his school. He received multiple awards recognizing his athletic talents, including the League Defensive Player of the Year and Male Athlete of the Year awards. He was also inducted into his school's chapter of the National Honor Society and was an active member of Student Government, showing a passion for education and heart for public service.

Our Nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend Philip and his family for their commitment. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to Philip.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Philip Dalke as an appointee to the Naval Academy for his commitment to protect and serve our Nation.

ANTI-BORDER CORRUPTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT (H.R. 2213)

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Anti-Border Corruption Reauthorization Act (H.R. 2213).

The current polygraph requirement was mandated as part of the Anti-Border Corruption Act of 2010 to identify agents who could be corruptible or working with drug traffickers. This bill weakens critical polygraph requirements for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents.

Given CBP's scope of work with organized crime, drug cartels, and corruption, waiving the polygraph requirements would potentially expose the agency to corrupt law enforcement who would use their positions for personal gain.

It is Congress' duty to ensure that CBP is using the most stringent practices when hiring agents. Other federal agencies such as FBI, DEA, ATF, and Secret Service do not exempt polygraph requirements, why should CBP be the exception?

I voted yes on the Lujan Grisham amendment to the Anti-Border Corruption Reauthorization Act. This amendment would have ensured that safety measures were in place to safeguard national security, and protect the integrity of the CBP and its officers.

After the failure of this amendment, it became clear that I cannot support this bill.

AMANDA PETERS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Amanda Peters for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Amanda Peters is a student at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Amanda Peters is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Amanda Peters for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING BRADLEY H. PETERSEN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague, Representative JARED HUFFMAN, to honor Mr. Bradley H. Petersen, who is being awarded the Viticulture Award of Excellence by the Sonoma County Winegrape Commission.

Mr. Petersen is a third-generation farmer in the Dry Creek area of Sonoma County, California. He grew up watching his parents harvest wine grapes, and showed an early interest in mechanics. He earned his undergraduate degree from Cal Poly Technical University in Agricultural Mechanics and Engineering, gaining skills that would serve him well throughout his career. Mr. Petersen has been the vineyard manager for Silver Oak Cellars and Twomey Cellars for the past eighteen years.

In addition to his prominence in the agricultural community, Mr. Petersen has demonstrated the same leadership and devotion to our entire region. He is the past President of the Geyserville Kiwanis Club, and he worked as a volunteer firefighter for Geyserville for fifteen years, achieving the rank of Battalion Chief. Mr. Petersen also served two years as Chairman and eight years as a commissioner on the Sonoma County Winegrape Commission Board.

Working alongside his Jack Russell sidekick, Sparky, Mr. Petersen is dedicated to sustainable farming. His colleagues praise his leadership, noting his integrity, honesty, and respect for all around him.

The Sonoma County Winegrape Commission is awarding Mr. Petersen the Viticulture Award of Excellence based on the innovative techniques he practices and his proven leadership. His work in both viticulture and our community has been invaluable to the people of Sonoma County.

Mr. Speaker, Brad Petersen is a hard worker and an expert viticulturist. He has demonstrated a passion for sustainable farming and a commitment to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to St. Mary's Episcopal Church as the congregation celebrates its 150th Anniversary. The church's endurance throughout time matches the ceaseless devotion of its patrons, and is an achievement that must be appropriately recognized and praised.

Constructed shortly after the Civil War, St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Ronkonkoma, New York has stood as a testament to its patrons' religious fervor and tenacity. For a short time following the conclusion of the Civil War, Episcopalians in the area worshipped in a school house until the congregation eagerly decided in June of 1867 to build a church. The church was completed six short months later, and its first service was held on Christmas Eve of 1867. The property for the church, and a sizeable portion of the funds used to construct it, were donated by Welsh Colonel John Henry Puleston, a knight and distinguished Member of Parliament.

Unfortunately, the parish fell on hard times around 1880, when the number of communicants dropped significantly due to a dearth of year-round Protestants in the area. While there were talks about shuttering the church, Reverend Rodney M. Edwards believed the religiosity and love expressed by his parishioners was so resolute that he could not imagine deserting them. Accordingly, the church's ardor attracted more communicants, and the parish began to once again thrive a decade later. Then, in 1920, benefactors joined together to revive and repair the Church in the image of its founders' intentions.

The current St. Mary's Episcopal Church, which was admitted into union with the diocese in 1972, was built with the essence of its predecessor, but with more space to house a growing number of patrons. Today, the rector of the parish is the experienced Reverend Beth O'Callaghan, who leads a congregation of over 200 communicants. This year, the parish remarkably celebrates its 150th anniversary, an apt representation of St. Mary's Episcopal Church's unyielding zeal and devotion.

Mr. Speaker, St. Mary's Episcopal Church's 150th Anniversary is an achievement that serves as a testament to the devotion of the congregation. Their religious zeal cannot be underscored or admired enough, and it is my distinct honor and privilege to represent the church in the First Congressional District of New York.

RECOGNIZING ALEXANDER MUELLER

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alexander Mueller, a Merchant Marine Academy Appointee from Colorado's Fourth Congressional district. I believe our greatest assets are America's brave men and women in uniform. Alexander is making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserves our utmost support for his service. It is with great pleasure that I give him my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Alexander has already begun his service to our nation through his participation in the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps. He demonstrated his commitment to public service as an active member of his high school's Student Council and Student Government, and was awarded Academic All State First Team in recognition of his outstanding athletic and academic achievements.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend Alexander and his family for their commitment. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to Alexander.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Alexander Mueller as an appointee to the Merchant Marine Academy for his commitment to protect and serve our nation.

ABIGAIL PORTER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Abigail Porter for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Abigail Porter is a student at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Abigail Porter is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Abigail Porter for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF T. DWAYNE MCCAY, PH.D.

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Dwayne McCay who currently serves as the President of Florida Institute of Technology. Dr. McCay is a renowned engineer and research scientist who was recently named Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors class of 2016—a highly prestigious professional distinction.

Dwayne McCay grew up in the cotton fields of northeast Arkansas with a passion for literature. In the late 1950's and early 1960's, as the world witnessed space exploration for the first time with the launch of Sputnik, Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, and Astronaut Alan Shepard, Dwayne found himself looking toward the stars like so many youth at that time, including myself. He and his young friends founded a rocket society in 1961—WOMC (Wike, Oldham, McCay and Crowell)—and they had three successful launches of their homemade rockets with McCay acting as the propellant engineer.

Dwayne went on to achieve a Ph.D. in engineering and mathematics from Auburn University. He pursued a career as a research engineer with ARO, Inc., then as a senior research physical scientist with the Air Force Rocket Propulsion Laboratory. He went on to become a senior engineer at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, being elevated to branch chief, and later division chief.

Prior to serving as President of F.I.T., Dr. McCay served as Provost and Chief Academic Officer at the Florida Institute of Technology and became Florida Tech's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) in January 2011. Dr. McCay was previously at The University of Tennessee Space Institute, where he served as Alumni Distinguished Service Professor of Engineering Science and Program Chair of Engineering Science and Mechanics, and was chosen in a national search in 1993 as the chief executive officer for the campus.

He and his wife, Dr. Mary Helen McCay, also an accomplished inventor and engineer, hold 15 joint U.S. patents in the area of metallurgical engineering. Together they have authored approximately 200 technical publications and, in 1998, achieved the national honor from the U.S. Department of Energy's American Museum of Science and Energy for their technological achievements.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Dwayne McCay, as well as Dr. Mary Helen McCay and the dedicated faculty at F.I.T., for their contributions to science and engineering, and for their commitment to inspiring young minds and future scientists of our nation.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF BAY BEACH AMUSEMENT PARK

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 125th Anniversary of Bay Beach Amusement Park. Bay Beach is an amusement park owned and operated by the City of Green Bay. Bay Beach is the ninth oldest amusement park in the United States. It offers affordable entertainment to visitors across the state of Wisconsin and plays a big role in the city's tourism industry.

Bay Beach was initially established by Mitchell Nejedlo. Mr. Nejedlo purchased the land and began developing the land for a private beach resort. In 1920, the park's owners donated the entire park and its building to the City of Green Bay with the intent that the land was used for park, playground, and entertainment purposes.

The City of Green Bay expanded and developed Bay Beach in a family-focused destination with an emphasis on affordability for all. Today, it offers 22 distinct attractions, including the Zippin Pippin roller coaster.

On June 10, 2017, Bay Beach will celebrate its 125th Birthday. This park is an asset to the community with a unique history and role in the city for five generations.

RECOGNIZING NOLAN LAUFENBERG

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nolan Laufenberg, an Air Force Academy Appointee from Colorado's Fourth Congressional District. I believe our greatest assets are America's brave men and women in

uniform. Nolan is making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserves our utmost support for his service. It is with great pleasure that I give him my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend Nolan and his family for their commitment. On behalf ofthe 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to Nolan.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Nolan Laufenberg as an appointee to the Air Force Academy for his commitment to protect and serve our nation.

ALEYNA RENEAU

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aleyna Reneau for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Aleyna Reneau is a student at Warren Tech North and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Aleyna Reneau is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Aleyna Reneau for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on June 7th and June 8th, 2017, I missed the following votes due to a medical procedure. Had I been present, I would have voted:

On Roll Call Number 292, To Table Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, I would have voted No.

On Roll Call Number 293, On Agreeing to the Michelle Lujan Grisham Amendment to H.R. 2213, I would have voted Aye.

On Roll Call Number 294, On Final Passage of H.R. 2213, I would have voted No.

On Roll Call Number 295, On Agreeing to the Hensarling Amendment to H.R. 10, I would have voted No.

On Roll Call Number 296, On Agreeing to the Hollingsworth Amendment to H.R. 10, I would have voted No.

On Roll Call Number 297, On Agreeing to the Faso Amendment to H.R. 10, I would have voted No.

On Roll Call Number 298, On Agreeing to the Buck Amendment to H.R. 10, I would have voted No.

On Roll Call Number 299, On Final Passage of H.R. 10, I would have voted No.

ACKNOWLEDGING REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES SARGENT FOR HIS SERVICE

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, public service is not just a career path, it is a way of life. Many aspire to this role but very few fulfill this profession devoutly. These diligent leaders seek and strive to empower their constituency. They understand the pulse and the needs of their community and give the people their voice. Today, I would like to acknowledge Representative Charles Sargent for his service to our community, state, and nation.

Service is not a foreign term to Representative Sargent. He faithfully served in the United States Navy. His time in the military and as a business leader created the foundation of his life's work as a strong conservative leader in the Tennessee State House. His leadership in business and the insurance industry served as an asset which made him an outstanding and excellent leader as the chairman of the House Finance, Ways and Means Committee. Representative Sargent is also generous with his time, energy, and resources. He dedicates himself to multiple charities throughout our state. True leadership is not as it appears but as it performs. His admirable service in making the tough decisions today will make a brighter future for millions of Tennesseans tomorrow. His insight will continue to impact our state and we look forward to his leadership in the future.

RECOGNIZING SHAINA SMIDT

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shaina Smidt, an Air Force Academy Appointee from Colorado's Fourth Congressional district. I believe our greatest assets are America's brave men and women in uniform. Shaina is making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserves our utmost support for her service. It is with great pleasure that I give her my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Shaina served as the Captain of her school's Varsity Basketball team for most of her high school years, and also worked as a student basketball coach, demonstrating a real gift of leadership and heart for service. Additionally, Shaina received a variety of academic awards and was a member of her high school's chapter of the National Honor Society, showing her commitment to and passion for education.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend Shaina and her family for their commitment. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to Shaina.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Shaina Smidt as an appointee to the Air Force Academy for her commitment to protect and serve our nation.

ANAIS RIVERA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Anais Rivera for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Anais Rivera is a student at Pomona High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Anais Rivera is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Anais Rivera for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

NORTHEAST DISTRICT ELKS LODGES

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Northeast District Elks Lodges in Wisconsin's 8th Congressional district for their strong support of patriotism in their communities. In 1907, the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks designated Flag Day as June 14th. The Elks have paired their traditions and culture with that of our Country and made the American Flag a symbol of self-dedication to God, to Country, and to Fellowmen.

I would like to call attention to their dedication and passion to this nation and the flag that represents it. This year, members of Green Bay Elks Lodge 259 will be celebrating Flag Day for the 108th consecutive year. Members of Appleton Elks Lodge 337 are celebrating their chapter founding the oldest Flag Day parade since 1950.

Citizens from Oconto, Kaukauna, and Marinette are also given the chance to celebrate this important day. Oconto Elks Lodge 887, Kaukauna Elks Lodge 962, and Marinette Elks Lodge 1313 give Americans this opportunity.

Flag Day is a day honoring the symbolism the flag provides to all American citizens. It is my honor to report this type of patriotism displayed by constituents in northeastern Wisconsin.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SIERRA CLUB OF MICHIGAN FOR 50 YEARS OF SAFEGUARDING THE ENVIRONMENT

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sierra Club of Michigan on the organization's 50th Anniversary. The Sierra Club has played a pivotal role in helping protect Michigan's environmental heritage.

Originally founded in 1967 as an all-volunteer organization, the Sierra Club of Michigan is today comprised of 10 different branches that further its mission of grassroots activism in defense of the state's environment. Through its advocacy and efforts, the Sierra Club has secured important protections and environmental safeguards that protect some of Michigan's most well-known landmarks and natural spaces, including the Pictured Rocks and the Sleeping Bear Dunes. Additionally, the organization has been instrumental in spurring Congress to ban drilling for oil under the Great Lakes and promoting environmentally sound resource management of the state's forests and fisheries. The Sierra Club has also played a key role in passing legislation to mandate the use of renewable energy and establish strong energy efficiency standards for the State of Michigan. These policy solutions have had a positive impact on the public health of Michigan's residents and the environment.

Careful stewardship of the environment is critical to the future of Michigan, and the Sierra Club of Michigan's efforts over the past 50 years have helped institute safeguards that protect health and safety for future generations. As the home of the Great Lakes and a wide variety of wildlife, Michigan's environmental legacy is fundamental to its economy and the well-being of its citizens, and it is critical that we continue to protect this important part of our state's identity. Sierra Club of Michigan's actions have been key to raising awareness and driving action to prevent harm to public health and the state's nature resources, and it is my hope that the organization continues its great work in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Sierra Club of Michigan on the 50th Anniversary of its founding. The group and its members have helped safeguard Michigan's environment and wildlife for future generations.

IN RECOGNITION OF TEAM MATHIAS

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my constituents, Roya and Chris Giordano, and Team Mathias, an extraordinary non-profit organization located in Loudoun County, Virginia, for their work to increase awareness about pediatric cancer and also to support families whose loved ones are struggling with the disease. Team Mathias is named after Mathias Giordano, whose determination to make a difference in the lives of other pediatric cancer patients resulted in the establishment of the organization, even as he struggled with bone cancer himself. Thirteen year old Mathias Giordano was a radiant light in this world whose optimism and valor gave assurance to young patients and their families that they are not alone in fighting the tragic disease of pediatric cancer that yearly afflicts over 10,000 children and remains the leading cause of death from disease among children in our nation.

Team Mathias, led by Roya and Chris Giordano and in collaboration with enthusiastic and diligent volunteers, annually hosts the Team Mathias Golf Tournament, and the Annual Team Mathias 5k Trail and Family Run that is taking place this year at the Evergreen Sportsplex in Leesburg. The proceeds from these events are used to increase awareness of all childhood cancers, raise funds for research, and make a donation to Special Love, a local non-profit that provides cancer families a community of support, made up of patients and families. In fulfillment of his own wishes, Team Mathias sends wonderful care packages to pediatric patients and their siblings, just as Mathias had specified.

Since my time in the Virginia General Assembly, advocating for those with pediatric cancer and working to find cures have been priorities of mine, and I take great pride in the number of family and community based organizations in Virginia's 10th District, like Team Mathias, that go above and beyond to spread awareness for those suffering from these illnesses. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Roya and Chris Giordano and their team of volunteers, for the incredibly compassionate work of supporting families with loved ones who are fighting pediatric cancer. I also ask my colleagues that we remember Mathias, who faced his battle with cancer with fearless courage, grace, and dignity.

AIDE (IDALY) SABINAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aide (Idaly) Sabinas for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Idaly Sabinas is a student at Arvada K–8 School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Idaly Sabinas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Idaly Sabinas for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING SPENCER ROHLWING

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Spencer Rohlwing, an Air Force Academy Appointee from Colorado's Fourth Congressional district. I believe our greatest assets are America's brave men and women in uniform. Spencer is making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserves our utmost support for his service. It is with great pleasure that I give him my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Spencer has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, graduating Maxima Cum Laude and receiving a variety of awards during high school, including Highest Honors and the Gold Cross Award, both of which are given only to students who attain a GPA of 4.0 or higher. Additionally, Spencer was captain of both the Varsity Soccer team and the Varsity Track and Field team, showing his excellence in leadership and service.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend Spencer and his family for their commitment. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to Spencer.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Spencer Rohlwing as an appointee to the Air Force Academy for his commitment to protect and serve our nation.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF SOUTHWEST AIRLINES' FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHIEF PILOT LOUIS ''LOU'' FREEMAN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Southwest Airlines' first African-American Chief Pilot Lou Freeman. On June 8, 2017, after 37 years of service, Captain Freeman announced his retirement. Captain Freeman will forever be remembered as the first African-American chief pilot for any airline.

Captain Freeman served our amazing country in the Air Force for six years, and will forever be the model of a modern Chief Pilot. His desire to be perfect was personified by his unwavering commitment to the skies and his passengers. His most famous trip might have been when he flew Rosa Parks' remains to her funeral, but the one that meant the most was his last which was full of family and friends.

Today, Captain Freeman is set to celebrate his 65th birthday, and he deserves to be honored for his dedication to our country. Since joining Southwest in 1980, Captain Freeman has been an example for so many Americans. In life, there are many successes and failures, but to strive for perfection and to do so every day is what separated Captain Freeman from his contemporaries.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Captain Freeman on such a groundbreaking as well as barrier breaking career. More so, I wish Captain

Freeman and his wife the best during retirement.

Mr. Speaker, the retirement of one of America's first and finest, one of Dallas' own, is worthy of placing these sentiments in the permanent record of the United States Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Nos. 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, and 299 I was absent due to personal illness. Had I been present, I would have voted yes. On roll call No. 293 I was also absent due to personal illness. Had I been present, I would have voted no.

RECOGNIZING SCOTT JOHNSON

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Scott Johnson, an Air Force Academy Appointee from Colorado's Fourth Congressional district. I believe our greatest assets are America's brave men and women in uniform. Scott is making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserves our utmost support for his service. It is with great pleasure that I give him my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Scott has proven himself to be an outstanding athlete, earning a variety of awards for his many achievements, including the Navy Outstanding Titan Award as well as the Underclassmen Athlete of the Year Award. He also served as captain of his school's Cross Country and Track and Field teams. Additionally, Scott was elected Vice President and President of his class during his freshman and senior years of high school, respectively, demonstrating his commitment to leadership and passion for public service.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend Scott and his family for their commitment. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to Scott.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Scott Johnson as an appointee to the Air Force Academy for his commitment to protect and serve our nation.

ANGELA SIERRA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Angela Sierra for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Angela Sierra is a student at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Angela Sierra is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Angela Sierra for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING JIM VOLZ

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Jim Volz, a public servant widely admired and respected, who retired on June 9, 2017, after 32 years of public service for the people of the State of Vermont.

Jim served as Chair of the Vermont Public Service Board, a challenging and demanding role, guiding Vermont through a period of dramatic change in the State's energy policy. His reputation as thorough and fair, considerate and wise, was essential to the progress Vermont made during challenging times.

As evidence of the high esteem Jim enjoys, he was first appointed by a Republican governor and then reappointed by a Democratic governor. Jim was seen by all as nonpartisan and scrupulously fair, with an incisive mind, even temperament, and gracious disposition.

Before being appointed Chair of the Public Service Board, Jim served 20 years at the Vermont Department of Public Service—sixteen of those as Director of Public Advocacy. That totals 32 consequential years in the regulatory arena.

Vermont's good fortune began in 1981 when Jim came to Vermont to clerk for Justice Franklin Billings on the Vermont Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the grateful State of Vermont, I say thank you to Jim Volz for his career of dedicated service to the people of Vermont.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PARIS ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, the president announced that he would withdraw from the non-binding Paris Agreement, undermining the credibility of the United States and displaying a complete disregard for the effects of climate change. This is unacceptable.

Climate change is real. We are already experiencing rising sea levels and harsher storms at an accelerated pace, and without action, they are only going to get worse. Poll after poll show that the majority of American people support staying in the Paris Agreement, and the scientific community has reached a clear consensus that climate change is largely caused by human activity. In the face of these facts, the president continues to undermine environmental protections and reject the science of climate change.

The American people should not be responsible for bailing out leaders who ignore science to gain political points, while subjecting the United States—and the rest of the world—to the catastrophic effects of climate change. That's why today I am introducing the Prohibiting Aid for Recipients Ignoring Science Act, or the PARIS Act, to ensure that any president has a stake in the catastrophic consequences of ignoring climate science.

The PARIS Act would prevent properties owned by the president's family from receiving federally subsidized flood insurance from the National Flood Insurance Program. The president should not be able to shift costs to taxpayers as he does business in flood-prone areas while withdrawing from efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

I urge my colleagues to join me in working to give the president a stake in this fight and to take serious action on addressing climate change. The fate of our children, our grandchildren, and the planet depends on it.

RECOGNIZING GIANNI ORLANDO

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gianni Orlando, an Air Force Academy Appointee from Colorado's Fourth Congressional district. I believe our greatest assets are America's brave men and women in uniform. Gianni is making an incredible sacrifice for our country and deserves our utmost support for his service. It is with great pleasure that I give him my endorsement to attend this prestigious institution.

Gianni has demonstrated excellent leadership and athleticism serving as captain of his school's lacrosse team, and helping lead both the football and lacrosse teams to victory in the Colorado State Championships. Additionally, he was inducted into his school's chapter of the National Honor Society and earned summa cum laude as a junior, showing his dedication to and passion for education.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. I commend Gianni and his family for their commitment. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to Gianni.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Gianni Orlando as an appointee to the Air Force Academy for his commitment to protect and serve our nation.

HONORING THE TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE APACHES, 2017 NJCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S TENNIS CHAMPIONS

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is with enormous pride that I recognize and congratulate the Tyler Junior College Apaches Women's Tennis Team on winning the 2017 NJCAA Division I Women's Tennis Championship.

This is the 18th national championship in the women's tennis program's outstanding history and the 55th national title for Tyler Junior College.

The TJC Apaches won their 2017 championship in a hard-fought victory against ASA Miami (FL), winning with 46 points to ASA Miami's 44, at the Reffkin Tennis Center in Tucson, Arizona. The Apache's victory capped off an undefeated 21–0 regular season.

Aside from winning the overall tournament, several team members excelled individually as well. Three TJC freshmen, Jasmine Asghar, Kalani Soli, and Yuna Ito each earned a singles title. Ms. Soli and Montana Moore also brought home a doubles championship, winning 6–2; 6–2 in straight sets.

Congratulations should also be extended to team members Mekeila Erspamer, Oceane Garibal, Elena Tendero, and Michelle Walker for their significant roles in bringing the entire team to victory.

This recognition of their accomplishment is extended to all of the athletic staff including Head Coach John-Paul Connell, Assistant Coaches Kimm Ketelson and Brent Krivokapich. We must also extend accolades to TJC President Dr. L. Michael Metke, Assistant VP/Athletics and Student Life Dr. Tim Drain, Assistant Athletic Director Kelsi Weeks, Associate Athletic Director Chuck Smith, and Administrative Assistant Sherry Harwood.

The faculty, staff, and friends of Tyler Junior College and the entire community of Tyler have devoted countless hours to support and encourage these outstanding young athletes in the pursuit of their dreams.

It is my most esteemed honor to acknowledge everyone involved with this endeavor. May God continue to bless these students, their families and friends, and all those individuals who call Tyler, Texas their home.

Congratulations to the 2017 NJCAA Division I Women's Tennis Champions, the Tyler Junior College Apaches, as their championship legacy is now recorded in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

CELEBRATING BARRY COOPER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Barry Cooper, who has dedicated 41 years to federal service. His work in the Federal Aviation Administration has ensured safer, more efficient travel for all Americans; and he is worthy of every recognition he has received.

Barry is retiring as the Regional Administrator of the Great Lakes Region in Region and Property Operations in Des Plaines, Illinois. He began his career in federal service in 1976, working for 12 years as a civil engineer. Barry then became an Associate Program Manager in 1988 of Airway Facilities, now Technical Operations. He continued to move up in the FAA; and with each position he took on, the word ''manager'' was a recurrence in his title. This is indicative of Barry's incredible leadership skills, showing a clear trust from his peers to grant Barry greater responsibility.

Barry spearheaded the establishment of the Chicago Area Modernization Program Office in 2003. Nearly 15 years later, the office is still active. He created a team of people, each with diverse goals, and united them to build a coalition with the City of Chicago as operator of O'Hare International Airport. Through this office, Barry facilitated a process in which the City of Chicago, through a reimbursement process, paid salaries for the extra employees needed to meet a shortened deadline for the Environmental Impact Statement.

It has been a pleasure to work with Barry for the last 10 plus years. My office and I have worked closely with the FAA on many issues regarding O'Hare Airport, mainly as it relates to the O'Hare Modernization Program. Barry was our ''go to'' expert with any questions we had and he was always responsive and easy to reach. Even if he was travelling, he would call me or my staff back as soon as he landed. Over the years, my office has requested several meetings or briefings on different matters and it was very easy to set up a meeting with Barry or his staff.

Barry also had a way of taking complex technical matters and making them easy to understand. I recall attending the FAA workshops at William Howard Taft High School in 2015 regarding the 2015 Re-Evaluation of the O'Hare Modernization Environmental Impact Statement. Barry walked around the auditorium with me explaining the different poster boards displayed around the room. Barry's knowledge was so vast and he was always so kind, with that infectious smile on his face. I will miss working with him.

Please join me in recognizing all the contributions Barry Cooper has made over the last 41 years. I extend my best wishes to Barry as he enters this new stage in life and makes many more wonderful memories with his wife, children, and grandchildren.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF FORMER NHTSA ADMINISTRATOR AND CONSUMER ADVOCATE JOAN B. CLAYBROOK

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2017

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 80th birthday of an outstanding consumer advocate and dear friend, Joan B. Claybrook.

Joan has championed consumer safety both inside and outside of government. She started her public service as an analyst at the Social Security Administration. In 1966, Congress created the National Traffic Safety Bureau—now the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Joan joined the new agency early on, helping to set the foundation for auto safety policy in this country. She left NHTSA to work at U.S. Public Interest Research Group and Public Citizen before returning in 1977 to serve as NHTSA Administrator under President Jimmy Carter.

Joan's post-government career is equally distinguished. For 27 years, she served as President of Public Citizen, a leading advocacy organization for health, safety, accountability, and fairness. As ranking member of the subcommittee with jurisdiction over auto safety, I have worked with Joan many times over the years on issues from requiring rear backup cameras to stopping the sale of cars under recall. She testifies frequently before my subcommittee, and I always value her insight.

Even after she retired as President of Public Citizen, Joan remains a strong advocate for consumers. She continues to serve on the Public Citizen board and as Co-Chair of Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety. When a pressing auto safety issue arises, I know it is only a matter of time before I hear from Joan.

People owe their lives to Joan Claybrook's public service and advocacy. That is why her extraordinary work has been recognized by prominent institutions, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, Consumer Federation of America, and Georgetown Law Center. As Joan celebrates her 80th birthday, I want to celebrate her enormous contribution to consumer safety. Every American goes through the day a little safer because of Joan.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, June 13, 2017 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 14

9:30 a.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine the Romanian anti-corruption process, focusing on successes and excesses.

SVC–212–210

9:45 a.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of John Kenneth Bush, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Kevin Christopher Newsom, of Alabama, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, and Damien Michael Schiff, of California, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims.
SD–226

10 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine paving the way for self-driving vehicles.
SR–253
Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine S. 517, to amend the Clean Air Act with respect to the ethanol waiver for Reid vapor pressure limitations under such Act.
SD–406
Committee on Finance
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Eric D. Hargan, of Illinois, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, and David Malpass, of New York, to be an Under Secretary, Andrew K. Maloney, of Virginia, to be a Deputy Under Secretary, and Brent James McIntosh, of Michigan, to be General Counsel, all of the Department of the Treasury.
SD–215
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine ideology and terror, focusing on understanding the tools, tactics, and techniques of violent extremism.
SD–342

10:30 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Defense
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Defense.
SD–192

11 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Legislative Branch
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Senate Sergeant at Arms and the Capitol Police.
SD–124

2 p.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Water and Power
To hold hearings to examine S. 440, to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Dickinson Reservoir in the State of North Dakota, S. 677, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to coordinate Federal and State permitting processes related to the construction of new surface water storage projects on lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture and to designate the Bureau of Reclamation as the lead agency for permit processing, S. 685, to authorize the Dry-Redwater Regional Water Authority System and the Musselshell-Judith Rural Water System in the States of Montana and North Dakota, S. 930, to require the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration to establish a pilot project to provide increased transparency for customers, S. 1012, to provide for drought preparedness measures in the State of New Mexico, S. 1029, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to exempt certain small hydroelectric power projects that are applying for relicensing under the Federal Power Act from the licensing requirements of that Act, and S. 1030, to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to submit to Congress a report on certain hydropower projects.
SD–366

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the National Nuclear Security Administration.
SD–138
Committee on Foreign Relations
Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation
To hold hearings to examine southeast Europe, focusing on strengthening democracy and countering malign foreign influence.
SD–419
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 for veterans' programs and fiscal year 2019 advance appropriations requests.
SR–418
Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine military caregivers, focusing on families serving for the long run.
SD–106

3 p.m.
Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold hearings to examine tax reform, focusing on removing barriers to small business growth.
SR–428A

JUNE 15

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine agricultural research, focusing on perspectives on past and future successes for the 2018 Farm Bill.
SR–328A
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2018 and the Future Years Defense Program.
SD–G50
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management
To hold hearings to examine agency approaches to reorganization, focusing on the Office of Management and Budget's memorandum on the Federal workforce.
SD–342

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Health and Human Services.
SD–138
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine fostering economic growth, focusing on midsized, regional, and large institution perspective.
SD–538
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 for the Forest Service.
SD–366
Committee on Environment and Public Works
Business meeting to consider the nomination of Kristine L. Svinicki, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
SD–406
Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider the nominations of David C. Nye, to be United States District Judge for the District of Idaho, Scott L. Palk, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, Vishal J. Amin, of Michigan, to be Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator, Executive Office of the President, Stephen Elliott Boyd, of Alabama, to be an Assistant Attorney General, and Lee Francis Cissna, of Maryland, to be Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.
SD–226

10:15 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mark Andrew Green, of Wisconsin, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.
SD–419

11 a.m.
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine S. 75, to provide for the reconsideration of claims for disability compensation for veterans who were the subjects of experiments by the Department of Defense during World War II that were conducted to assess the effects of mustard gas or lewisite on people, S. 111, to require the Secretary of Defense to establish a process to determine whether individuals claiming certain service in the Philippines during World War II are eligible for certain benefits despite not being on the Missouri List, S. 410, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the transfer of unused Post-9/11 Educational Assistance benefits to additional dependents upon the death of the originally designated dependent, S. 473, the amend title 38, United States Code, to make qualification requirements for entitlement to Post-9/11 Education Assistance more equitable, to improve support of veterans receiving such educational assistance, S. 758, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's review and publication of illness and conditions relating to veterans stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and their family members, S. 798, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program to apply to individuals pursuing programs of education while on active duty, to recipients of the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry scholarship, and to programs of education pursued on half-time basis or less, S. 844, to amend

title 38, United States Code, to consider certain time spent by members of reserve components of the Armed Forces while receiving medical care from the Secretary of Defense as active duty for purposes of eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, S. 882, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the entitlement to educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs for members of the Armed Forces awarded the Purple Heart, S. 1192, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for pro-rated charges to entitlement to educational assistance under Department of Veterans Affairs Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program for certain licensure and certification tests and national tests, S. 1209, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of special pension for Medal of Honor recipients, S. 1218, to promote Federal employment for veterans, S. 1277, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a high technology education pilot program, and an original bill to authorize a dependent to transfer Post-9/11 Educational Assistance in cases in which the dependent received entitlement from an individual who subsequently died.

SR–418

1:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

JUNE 20

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of the Interior.

SD–366

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining

To hold hearings to examine collaborative initiatives, focusing on restoring watersheds and large landscapes across boundaries through state and Federal partnerships.

SD–366

JUNE 22

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Energy.

SD–366

JUNE 27

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Labor.

SD–138

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3381–S3411

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1333–1342, and S. Res. 190. **Pages S3395–96**

Measures Reported:

S. 905, to require a report on, and to authorize technical assistance for, accountability for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide in Syria, with amendments. **Page S3395**

Measures Passed:

Honoring the Memory of the Victims of the Pulse Orlando Terrorist Attack: Senate agreed to S. Res. 190, honoring the memory of the victims of the terrorist attack on the Pulse Orlando nightclub one year ago. **Page S3410**

Measures Considered:

Countering Iran's Destabilizing Activities Act: Senate began consideration of S. 722, to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, after agreeing to the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto:

Pages S3383–85, S3388–90, S3393

Pending:

McConnell (for Crapo) Amendment No. 232, to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation and to combat terrorism and illicit financing.

Page S3393

McConnell Amendment No. 233 (to Amendment No. 232), to change the enactment date. **Page S3393**

A motion was entered to close further debate on McConnell (for Crapo) Amendment No. 232 (listed above), and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Wednesday, June 14, 2017. **Page S3393**

Appointments:

Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Committee on Indian Affairs, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114–244, appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children: Don Atqaqsaq Gray of Alaska. **Page S3411**

Government of Saudi Arabia Export of Defense Articles—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, Senator Paul, or his designee, be recognized to make a motion to discharge S.J. Res. 42, relating to the disapproval of the proposed export to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of certain defense article; that debate on the motion be equally divided between the proponents and the opponents until 12:30 p.m.; that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for the weekly conference meetings, and at 2:15 p.m., there be 10 minutes of debate remaining on the motion to discharge the resolution, equally divided between Senator Paul, or his designee, and the opponents, and following the use or yielding back of that time, Senate vote on or in relation to the motion to discharge. **Page S3393**

Walsh Nomination Referral—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the nomination of Elizabeth Erin Walsh, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, be referred jointly to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. **Page S3393**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 95 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 142), Kenneth P. Rapuano, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense. **Pages S3385–88**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Dawn DeBerry Stump, of Texas, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring June 19, 2021.

David G. Ehrhart, of Texas, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force.

Claria Horn Boom, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky.

Beth Ann Williams, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Page S3411

Messages from the House: **Page S3395**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S3395**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3396–97**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S3397–99**

Additional Statements: **Pages S3394–95**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S3399–S3410**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S3410**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—142) **Pages S3387–88**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 4 p.m. and adjourned at 10:18 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 13, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3411.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Brock Long, of North Carolina, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

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: 19 public bills, H.R. 2870–2888; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 380 were introduced. **Pages H4853–55**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H4855**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1873, to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to enhance the reliability of the electricity grid and reduce the threat of wildfires to and from electric transmission and distribution facilities on Federal lands by facilitating vegetation management on such lands, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–165, Part 1);

H.R. 1654, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to coordinate Federal and State permitting processes related to the construction of new surface water storage projects on lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture and to designate the Bureau of Reclamation as the lead agency for permit processing, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–166);

H.R. 1109, to amend section 203 of the Federal Power Act (H. Rept. 115–167);

H.R. 338, to promote a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce (H. Rept. 115–168, Part 1);

H.R. 446, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project (H. Rept. 115–169);

H.R. 447, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project (H. Rept. 115–170);

H.R. 627, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for the dissemination of information regarding available Federal programs relating to energy efficiency projects for schools, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–171);

H.R. 951, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project (H. Rept. 115–172);

H.R. 2274, to amend the Federal Power Act to provide for extended periods relating to preliminary permits and commencement of construction, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–173);

H.R. 2292, to extend a project of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission involving the Cannonsville Dam (H. Rept. 115–174);

H.R. 2122, to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric

project involving Jennings Randolph Dam (H. Rept. 115–175);

H.R. 2457, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–176);

H. Res. 378, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2581) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require the provision of social security numbers as a condition of receiving the health insurance premium tax credit, and providing for consideration of the bill (S. 1094) to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–177); and

H. Res. 379, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2372) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the rules relating to veteran health insurance and eligibility for the premium tax credit, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2579) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the premium tax credit with respect to unsubsidized COBRA continuation coverage (H. Rept. 115–178). **Page H4853**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Bergman to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H4823**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:01 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H4823**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:05 p.m. and reconvened at 3:43 p.m. **Page H4824**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Extending the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project: H.R. 446, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project; **Page H4824**

Extending the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project: H.R. 447, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project; **Pages H4824–25**

Streamlining Energy Efficiency for Schools Act of 2017: H.R. 627, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for the dissemination of information regarding available Federal programs relating to energy efficiency projects for schools; **Pages H4825–26**

Extending the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project: H.R. 951, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project; **Pages H4826–27**

Amending section 203 of the Federal Power Act: H.R. 1109, to amend section 203 of the Federal Power Act; **Pages H4827–28**

Reinstating and extending the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Jennings Randolph Dam: H.R. 2122, to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Jennings Randolph Dam; **Page H4828**

HYdropower Permit Extension Act: H.R. 2274, to amend the Federal Power Act to provide for extended periods relating to preliminary permits and commencement of construction; **Pages H4828–29**

Extending a project of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission involving the Cannonsville Dam: H.R. 2292, to extend a project of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission involving the Cannonsville Dam, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 400 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 300; **Pages H4829–30, H4834–35**

J. Bennett Johnston Waterway Hydropower Extension Act of 2017: H.R. 2457, amended, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 402 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 301; and **Pages H4830–31, H4835**

Promoting a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce: H.R. 338, to promote a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce. **Pages H4831–34**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:45 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H4834**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H4824.

Senate Referrals: S.J. Res. 45 was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. S. 826 was held at the desk. **Pages H4824, H4850**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4834–35, and H4835. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a budget hearing on the Department of the Treasury. Testimony was heard from Steven Mnuchin, Secretary, Department of the Treasury.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies held a markup on the FY 2018 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill. The bill was forwarded to the full committee, without amendment.

THE FISCAL YEAR 2018 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Fiscal Year 2018 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of Defense''. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Defense officials: James N. Mattis, Secretary; General Joseph Dunford, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; and David L. Norquist, Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, and Chief Financial Officer.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ACCOUNTABILITY AND WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT OF 2017; VETERAN ACT; BROADER OPTIONS FOR AMERICANS ACT; VERIFY FIRST ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on S. 1094, the ''Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017''; H.R. 2372, the ''VETERAN Act''; H.R. 2579, the ''Broader Options for Americans Act''; and H.R. 2581, the ''Verify First Act''. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–3, a closed rule for H.R. 2581. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted, and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Additionally, the rule grants a closed rule for S. 1094. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to commit. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–3, a closed rule for H.R. 2372. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted, and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Additionally, the rule grants a closed rule for H.R. 2579. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted, and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Brady of Texas, Chairman Roe of Tennessee, and Representatives Neal, Tiberi, Walz, and Takano.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D602)*

H.R. 366, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security to make certain improvements in managing the Department's vehicle fleet. Signed on June 6, 2017. (Public Law 115–38)

H.R. 375, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the ''Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse''. Signed on June 6, 2017. (Public Law 115–39)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold

hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Agriculture, 10:30 a.m., SD–124.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of State, 2:30 p.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense budget posture in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2018 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings to examine Navy and Marine Corps aviation programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2018 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 and revenue proposals, 10 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kristine L. Svinicki, of Virginia, Annie Caputo, of Virginia, and David Wright, of South Carolina, each to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Susan Parker Bodine, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, to hold hearings to examine state-sponsored cyberspace threats, focusing on recent incidents and United States policy response, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the cost of prescription drugs, focusing on how the drug delivery system affects what patients pay, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Indian Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 772, to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants, and S. 825, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine S. 1250, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to improve the recruitment and retention of employees in the Indian Health Service, restore accountability in the Indian Health Service, improve health services, S. 1275, to improve the housing conditions and promote useful land uses within tribal communities, and an original bill entitled, ''HUD/VA Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing'', 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold hearings to examine certain intelligence matters relating to the 2016 United States election, 2:30 p.m., SH–216.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry, hearing entitled ''Small Watershed Infrastructure: Continuing the Mission, Building upon Success'', 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, budget hearing on Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement, 10 a.m., 2008 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Justice, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled ''Promoting Security in Wireless Technology'', 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection, hearing entitled ''Disrupter Series: Update on IOT Opportunities and Challenges'', 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled ''Challenges and Opportunities for the U.S.-Saudi Relationship'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled ''Examining the Supreme Court's TC Heartland Decision'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, hearing entitled ''Lawsuit Abuse and the Telephone Consumer Protection Act'', 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Information Technology; and Subcommittee on Government Operations, joint hearing entitled ''The Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Scorecard 4.0'', 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 1215, the ''Protecting Access to Care Act of 2017'', 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of June 13 through June 16, 2017

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senator Paul or his designee will be recognized to make a motion to discharge S.J. Res. 42, relating to the disapproval of the proposed export to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of certain defense articles, with a vote on or in relation to the motion to discharge, at 2:15 p.m.

Senate will continue consideration of S. 722, Countering Iran's Destabilizing Activities 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)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: June 15, to hold hearings to examine agricultural research, focusing on perspectives on past and future successes for the 2018 Farm Bill, 9:30 a.m., SR–328A.

Committee on Appropriations: June 13, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–192.

June 13, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Agriculture, 10:30 a.m., SD–124.

June 13, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of State, 2:30 p.m., SD–192.

June 14, Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Defense, 10:30 a.m., SD–192.

June 14, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Senate Sergeant at Arms and the Capitol Police, 11 a.m., SD–124.

June 14, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the National Nuclear Security Administration, 2:30 p.m., SD–138.

June 15, Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD–138.

Committee on Armed Services: June 13, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense budget posture in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2018 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

June 13, Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings to examine Navy and Marine Corps aviation programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2018 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

June 15, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2018 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: June 15, to hold hearings to examine fostering economic growth, focusing on midsized, regional, and large institution perspective, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: June 13, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 and revenue proposals, 10 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: June 14, to hold hearings to examine paving the way for self-driving vehicles, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: June 14, Subcommittee on Water and Power, to hold hearings to examine S. 440, to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Dickinson Reservoir in the State of North Dakota, S. 677, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to coordinate Federal and State permitting processes related to the construction of new surface water storage projects on lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture and to designate the Bureau of Reclamation as the lead agency for permit processing, S. 685, to authorize the Dry-Redwater Regional Water Authority System and the Musselshell-Judith Rural Water System in the States of Montana and North Dakota, S. 930, to require the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration to establish a pilot project to provide increased transparency for customers, S. 1012, to provide for drought preparedness measures in the State of New Mexico, S. 1029, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to exempt certain small hydroelectric power projects that are applying for relicensing under the Federal Power Act from the licensing requirements of that Act, and S. 1030, to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to submit to Congress a report on certain hydropower projects, 2 p.m., SD–366.

June 15, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 for the Forest Service, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: June 13, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kristine L. Svinicki, of Virginia, Annie Caputo, of Virginia, and David Wright, of South Carolina, each to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Susan Parker Bodine, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SD–406.

June 14, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine S. 517, to amend the Clean Air Act with respect to the ethanol waiver for Reid vapor pressure limitations under such Act, 10 a.m., SD–406.

June 15, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nomination of Kristine L. Svinicki, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: June 14, business meeting to consider the nominations of Eric D. Hargan, of Illinois, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, and David Malpass, of New York, to be an Under Secretary, Andrew K. Maloney, of Virginia, to be a Deputy Under Secretary, and Brent James McIntosh, of Michigan, to be General Counsel, all of the Department of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: June 13, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–419.

June 13, Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, to hold hearings to examine state-sponsored cyberspace threats, focusing on recent incidents and United States policy response, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

June 14, Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation, to hold hearings to examine southeast Europe, focusing on strengthening democracy and countering malign foreign influence, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

June 15, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mark Andrew Green, of Wisconsin, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, 10:15 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: June 13, to hold hearings to examine the cost of prescription drugs, focusing on how the drug delivery system affects what patients pay, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: June 14, to hold hearings to examine ideology and terror, focusing on understanding the tools, tactics, and techniques of violent extremism, 10 a.m., SD–342.

June 15, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, to hold hearings to examine agency approaches to reorganization, focusing on the Office of Management and Budget's memorandum on the Federal workforce, 9:30 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: June 13, business meeting to consider S. 772, to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants, and S. 825, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine S. 1250, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to improve the recruitment and retention of employees in the Indian Health Service, restore accountability in the Indian Health Service, improve health services, S. 1275, to improve the housing conditions and promote useful land uses within tribal communities, and an original bill entitled, ''HUD/VA Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing'', 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: June 14, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of John Kenneth Bush, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Kevin Christopher Newsom, of Alabama, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, and Damien Michael Schiff, of California, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, 9:45 a.m., SD–226.

June 15, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of David C. Nye, to be United States District Judge for the District of Idaho, Scott L. Palk, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, Vishal J. Amin, of Michigan, to be Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator, Executive Office of the President, Stephen Elliott Boyd, of Alabama, to be an Assistant Attorney General, and Lee Francis Cissna, of Maryland, to be Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: June 14, to hold hearings to examine tax reform, focusing on removing barriers to small business growth, 3 p.m., SR–428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: June 14, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 for veterans' programs and fiscal year 2019 advance appropriations requests, 2:30 p.m., SR–418.

June 15, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine S. 75, to provide for the reconsideration of claims for disability compensation for veterans who were the subjects of experiments by the Department of Defense during World War II that were conducted to assess the effects of mustard gas or lewisite on people, S. 111, to require the Secretary of Defense to establish a process to determine whether individuals claiming certain service in the Philippines during World War II are eligible for certain benefits despite not being on the Missouri List, S. 410, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the transfer of unused Post-9/11 Educational Assistance benefits to additional dependents upon the death of the originally designated dependent, S. 473, the amend title 38, United States Code, to make qualification requirements for entitlement to Post-9/11 Education Assistance more equitable, to improve support of veterans receiving such educational assistance, S. 758, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's review and publication of illness and conditions relating to veterans stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and their family members, S. 798, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program to apply to individuals pursuing programs of education while on active duty, to recipients of the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry scholarship, and to programs of education pursued on half-time basis or less, S. 844, to amend title 38, United States Code, to consider certain time spent by members of reserve components of the Armed Forces while receiving medical care from the Secretary of Defense as active duty for purposes of eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, S. 882, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the entitlement to educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs for members of the Armed Forces awarded the Purple Heart, S. 1192, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for pro-rated charges to entitlement to educational assistance under Department of Veterans Affairs Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program for certain licensure and certification tests and national tests, S. 1209, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of special pension for Medal of Honor recipients, S. 1218, to promote Federal employment for veterans, S. 1277, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a high technology education pilot program, and an original bill to authorize a dependent to transfer Post-9/11 Educational Assistance in cases in which the dependent received entitlement from an individual who subsequently died, 11 a.m., SR–418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: June 13, to hold hearings to examine certain intelligence matters relating to the 2016 United States election, 2:30 p.m., SH–216.

June 15, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 1:30 p.m., SH–219.

June 15, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

Special Committee on Aging: June 14, to hold hearings to examine military caregivers, focusing on families serving for the long run, 2:30 p.m., SD–106.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, June 14, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, budget hearing on the Department of the Treasury—International Programs, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

June 14, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, budget hearing on the Department of State, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

June 15, Subcommittee on Defense, budget hearing on the Department of Defense, 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

June 15, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Transportation, 11 a.m., 2358–A Rayburn.

June 15, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Environmental Protection Agency, 11 a.m., 2007 Rayburn.

June 16, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, June 14, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled ''Legislative Reforms to the National Labor Relations Act: H.R. 2776, Workforce Democracy and Fairness Act; H.R. 2775, Employee Privacy Protection Act; and H.R. 2723, Employee Rights Act'', 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

June 15, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, hearing entitled ''Helping Americans Get Back to Work: Implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act'', 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, June 14, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled ''States' Perspectives on Energy Security Planning, Emergency Preparedness, and State Energy Programs'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

June 14, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''Examining the Extension of Safety Net Health Programs'', 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, June 14, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1422, the ''Flood Insurance Market Parity and Modernization Act''; H.R. 1558, the ''Repeatedly Flooded Communities Preparation Act''; H.R. 2246, the ''Taxpayer Exposure Mitigation Act of 2017''; H.R. 2565, to require the use of replacement cost value in determining the premium rates for flood insurance coverage under the National Flood Insurance Act, and for other purposes; H.R. 2868, the ''National Flood Insurance Program Policyholder Protection Act of 2017''; legislation on the National Flood Insurance Program Administrative Reform Act of 2017; and legislation on the 21st Century Flood Reform Act, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, June 14, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The FY 2018 Foreign Affairs Budget'', 9 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

June 14, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, markup on H.R. 1415, the ''End Neglected Tropical Diseases Act'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

June 14, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled ''Africa's Current and Potential Famines'', 2:15 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

June 15, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled ''Foreign Military Sales: Process and Policy'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

June 15, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled ''Russia's Strategic Objectives in the Middle East and North Africa'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

June 15, Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, markup on H.R. 535, the ''Taiwan Travel Act''; H.R. 2061, the ''North Korean Human Rights Reauthorization Act of 2017''; and H.R. 2397, the ''Distribution and Promotion of Rights and Knowledge Act of 2017'', 2:30 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

June 15, Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing entitled ''Renewing Assurances: Strengthening U.S.-Taiwan Ties'', 2:45 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, June 14, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2825, the ''Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act of 2017'', 11 a.m., HVC–210.

Committee on the Judiciary, June 14, Full Committee, markup on H.J. Res. 76, granting the consent and approval of Congress for the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of Maryland, and the District of Columbia to a enter into a compact relating to the establishment of the Washington Metrorail Safety Commission; H.J. Res. 92, granting the consent and approval of Congress for the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of Maryland, and the District of Columbia to amend the Washington Area Transit Regulation Compact; H.R. 495, the ''Protection of Children Act of 2017''; and H.R. 2826, the ''Refugee Program Integrity Restoration Act of 2017'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

June 15, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Data Stored Abroad: Ensuring Lawful Access and Privacy Protection in the Digital Era'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, June 14, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on a legislative measure to provide for the preservation of sportsmen's heritage and enhance recreation opportunities on Federal land, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

June 15, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on legislation to expedite under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and improve forest management activities on National Forest System lands, on public lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and on Tribal lands to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested lands, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, June 15, Subcommittee on Oversight; and Subcommittee on Research and Technology, joint hearing entitled ''Bolstering the Government's Cybersecurity: Lessons Learned from WannaCry'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, June 14, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''A Cautionary Tale: A Review of SBA's Failed FY 2014 Agency Restructure'', 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

June 15, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2763, the ''Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Improvements Act of 2017''; H.R. 2594, the ''Small Business Payment for Performance Act of 2017''; H.R. 2333, the ''Small Business Investment Opportunity Act of 2017''; H.R. 2364, the ''Investing in Main Street Act of 2017''; and H.R. 2056, the ''Microloan Modernization Act of 2017'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, June 14, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2742, the ''Modernizing the Interstate Placement of Children in Foster Care Act''; H.R. 2857, the ''Supporting Families in Substance Abuse Treatment Act''; H.R. 2834, the ''Partnership Grants to Strengthen Families Affected by Parental Substance Abuse Act''; H.R. 2866, the ''Reducing Barriers for Relative Foster Parents Act''; H.R. 2847, the ''Improving Services for Older Youth in Foster Care Act''; and H.R. 2842, the ''Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act'', 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, June 14, Subcommittee on Department of Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture, hearing entitled ''Ongoing Intelligence Activities: FY 18 Budget Request'', 10 a.m., HVC–304. This hearing will be closed.

June 15, Full Committee, budget hearing entitled ''Ongoing Intelligence Activities: FY 18 Budget Request'', 9 a.m., HVC–304. This hearing will be closed.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: June 14, to hold hearings to examine the Romanian anti-corruption process, focusing on successes and excesses, 9:30 a.m., SVC–212–210.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, June 13

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senator Paul or his designee will be recognized to make a motion to discharge S.J. Res. 42, relating to the disapproval of the proposed export to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of certain defense articles, with a vote on or in relation to the motion to discharge, at 2:15 p.m.

(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., Tuesday, June 13

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 2581—Verify First Act (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of S. 1094—Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017 (Subject to a Rule).

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