The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER
The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we praise You with all our heart. Through the power of Your love and mercy, we live and move and breathe and have our being. Lord, You are our High Power, our refuge in life's stormy seasons. Inspire our lawmakers to place their trust in You. Lord, lift them above divisions and cynicism as they depend upon the unfolding of Your powerful providence. May they find peace because of Your redemptive love. Remind them that You are faithful to help those who ask You for guidance and strength.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BLUMENTHAL). The majority leader is recognized.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET
Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, today President Trump will put forward his budget request for the next fiscal year. I look forward to reviewing the President's priorities. With a bipartisan funding agreement now in place, Congress and the White House can work together to begin rebuilding our military, improve care for veterans, and tackle other urgent matters, from disaster relief to the fight against drug addiction.

I especially appreciate the President's focus on improving America's infrastructure. The quality of our country's infrastructure affects everything from our long-term economic future to working Americans' everyday routines. As of 2016, nearly 1 in 10 bridges in our Nation is structurally deficient. The average commuter loses 42 hours per year to delays. The average age of our inland waterway locks and dams is over 50 years old. We are intimately familiar with this in Kentucky, where we ship millions of tons of coal, agricultural products, and other cargo on more than 1,900 miles of inland waterways.

The problem runs deeper than dollars and cents. American workers built skyscrapers in less time than our government now spends reviewing—not even building but reviewing—plans for new bridges and stretches of highways. So I am particularly happy that the President is proposing to eliminate regulatory barriers and streamline lengthy and overcomplicated permitting processes.

Historically, infrastructure has been an area of bipartisan cooperation. Our last three highway bills passed with large bipartisan majorities, averaging more than 80 "yes" votes. So did our last three WRDA bills and our last three FAA bills. I hope we can build on this record and make more bipartisan progress on this subject.

IMMIGRATION
Mr. McCONNELL. Now on another matter, Mr. President, as I have repeatedly stated, now that there is an agreement on long-term government funding, the Senate will proceed to a fair debate over the DACA issue, border security, and other matters pertaining to the subject of immigration. This process begins in just a few hours. We will vote to proceed to an unrelated, neutral House-passed bill that will serve as the vehicle for any legislation that succeeds here in the Senate. As I have repeated many times, I will ensure that a fair amendment process gives Senators the opportunity to submit proposals for consideration and votes. I hope this body can seize this opportunity and deliver real progress toward securing our border, reforming aspects of our immigration policy, and achieving a resolution for individuals who were brought to our country illegally when they were young.

The American people have heard no shortage of rhetoric on this issue. They have heard many of my colleagues across the aisle insist that this issue requires swift action. Now is the time to back up this talk with the hard work of finding a workable solution. That means finding an agreement which can pass the Senate, pass the
The Secure and Succeed Act is fair and addresses both sides’ most pressing concerns, conforming to the conditions the President has put forward. It offers a compassionate resolution for 1.8 million illegal immigrants who were brought to the United States as children. In exchange, this solution delivers funding for President Trump’s promise to fully secure the border, reforms our approach to extended family chain migration, and reallocates our arbitrary visa lottery into a more sensible, merit-based system.

This legislation is a fair compromise that addresses the stated priorities of all sides. It is our best chance of producing a solution that can actually resolve these matters, which requires that a bill pass the Senate, pass the House, and earn the President’s signature. It has my support.

The time for political posturing is behind us. Now we have an opportunity to resolve these issues. I hope we make the most of it.

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.

BROADER OPTIONS FOR AMERICANS ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 2579, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 302, H.R. 2579, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the premium tax credit with respect to unsubsidized COBRA continuation coverage.

Mr. McCONNELL. 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. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the question of the bill be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

ADDRESS AT THE McCONNELL CENTER

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, before I begin, I thank my friend the Republican leader for his gracious invitation to address the McConnell Center at the University of Louisville this morning. I learned something—don’t learn too much—about the State of the Union, as we say in New York. “Lewey-ville.” It is pronounced “Lou-a-ville.” It was a great pleasure to speak to hundreds of bright Kentucky students who are interested in the future of this great country, whether in business or faith in the future of America despite all the “sturm und drang” we witness here in this city.

It was my distinct pleasure to give the Republican leader a bottle of Brooklyn bourbon as a thank-you for his invitation. I assured him that it was not a challenge to Kentucky’s pride but, rather, to suggest that maybe Kentucky and New York were not so different at all. Our craft distilling industry is booming, and we have no place other than Brooklyn, NY. By the way, as long as it is made in America, it can be called bourbon. I am not sure if it can be called Kentucky bourbon, but it can be called bourbon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Mr. President, the business of the day. On the heels of passing a significant, bipartisan budget deal, the Senate returns this week to grapple with one of the most contentious of issues—immigration.

Leader McCONNELL, to his credit, has promised a debate on a neutral bill that will be fair to both sides. Democrats and Republicans are working hard to find a bill to protect the Dreamers and provide border security that will garner 60 votes—no easy task. It is like threading a needle. I am sure we will have the opportunity to vote on a few ways to do it, but the key is to find a consensus bill that is largely acceptable to a significant number of members in both parties. The purpose here is not to make a point, as the Republican leader just said. That is easy. The purpose is to get something done. That is hard, but it really is so important. It will not be easy, but it is, certainly, achievable.

Democrats are fully committed to protecting Dreamers, and we have long supported effective border security. Many Republicans are in the same boat. The only enemy here is overreach. The time and the place to reform the entire legal immigration system. Rather, this is the moment for a narrow bill, and every ounce of our energy is going into finding one that can pass.

Just like on the budget, this is an opportunity for the Senate to lead the Nation. Let the same spirit of bipartisanship and compromise that generated the budget deal carry forward this week as we debate the fate of the Dreamers.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE PRESIDENT’S BUDGET

Mr. President, on infrastructure, the Trump administration, today, released its infrastructure plan. Democrats released our own plan over a year ago and have waited just as long to see this plan, because infrastructure is an issue on which we thought we could find some common ground.

And despite a glaring need, the President’s proposal would do very little to make our ailing infrastructure better. Instead of proposing direct Federal investments to help all parts of the country, the Trump infrastructure plan relies on private parties or States and localities to pay for the lion’s share of the money. In turn, those entities would have to either charge local taxpayers new tolls or raise taxes and other fees to pay for the new infrastructure. So a word that describes so much of the President’s bill—probably about 80 percent of it—is “Trump tolls.”

The Trump infrastructure plan is like a Hollywood facade. It may look real from afar, but, in truth, it is a flat Stanley. The Trump skin of an infrastructure plan, but it lacks the guts. The lack of direct investment would leave out large parts of America, particularly rural America, where local governments don’t have the money or the ability to attract private investment. Small towns and cities throughout the heartland have waited too long for upgrades to their schools, roads, and water systems, as well as access to high-speed internet.

We Democrats are calling for the 21st century version of Roosevelt’s vision. Every rural home should have access to high-speed internet, and that ought to be our goal in the 21st century. Very little could do more to revitalize rural America than that plan, which, by the way, we got a start on in our budget because we Democrats insisted on a certain amount of money being allocated for that. It was not enough to get the job done, but it was a start.

The administration’s infrastructure would also result in tolls—Trump tolls—across America. Wealthy investors and large banks will only invest in projects that guarantee them how do they get the profit? They charge middle-class Americans hundreds of dollars a year in tolls. In fact, it is written into page 20 in the plan. Page 20 of the Trump infrastructure proposal has a section entitled “Providing States Tolling Flexibility.”

The middle class need not ask for whom this bill tolls; it tolls for thee.

The middle class is already struggling with the ever-rising costs of healthcare, childcare, college tuition, and prescription drugs. They don’t need higher local taxes. They don’t need Trump tolls on top of all of that. This is the kind of plan that you would
expect from a President who surrounds himself with bankers and financiers and wealthy people who don’t mind paying a $20 toll every time they go to work. It is a plan that is designed to reward rich developers, large banks, and the President’s political allies, not to rebuild the country.

It would put unsustainable burdens on local governments, which are hurting right now, and it would lead to Trump tolls all over the country, particularly in coastal states, small cities, and rural America. No investor is going to invest in a bridge in Springfield or Hannibal, MO—to pick a couple of places—because they don’t have the revenue to repay it. So those folks will be stuck, as will be much of America.

At the same time, the Trump proposal undermines important protections, like “Buy American.” We believe, if we are going to put some real investment into this, this stuff—the steel, the concrete, every-thing else—ought to be made in America and employ Americans. They left that out of the bill, unfortunately.

Democrats want to work in a bipartisan manner to move our infras-structure, which is why we put forward a real plan that would expand access to high-speed internet across the country, rebuild our roads and bridges, and modernize our electric grid, while creating millions and millions of good-paying, middle-class construction jobs. Unfortunately, the President’s plan falls short on all of these fronts.

I would remind my Republican colleagues that the Federal Government has invested in infrastructure and road building for a very long time.

Henry Clay, from the great State of Kentucky, called for internal improve-ments—I believe it was in the mid-1900s—because he wanted and knew the economic benefits of connecting places that were called the Far West in those days—Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio—with all of the people who lived on the eastern seaboard. Henry Clay was not a Republican, but a Whig. That was the predecessor party of the Republi-cans. Dwight D. Eisenhower, a Republi-can President in the 1950s, started the interstate highway program, which has benefited so much of America for so many decades. Ronald Reagan never cut back on infrastructure even though he cut back on lots of other programs.

It is brand new that President Trump is about the first President, in a long, long time, to give the Republicans and Democrats a choice. They have now already dealt with this year’s budget request, but he put in a budget request for next year, which was just sent to Congress. We just passed a 2-year budget on Friday. So the Trump administration should have no illusions about its budget becoming law. It will not become law. Presidential budgets are still important as a state-ment of an administration’s priorities.

Unfortunately, the President’s prior-ities are so far away from what the American people want in terms of how he ports over what is in the President’s budget request, just 6 weeks after slashing taxes on the wealthiest and biggest corporations, after creating a massive deficit—who does the Presi-dent ask to pay for this? Middle-class and older Americans. He slashes educa-tion, environmental protection, and Medicare and Medicaid, while corpora-tions reap billions in tax giveaways. Older Americans now have to worry about the Trump administration cut-ting Medicare and Medicaid in his budget. Many others, including chil-dren and working families, would be hurt by the budget as well.

If Americans want a picture of whom President Trump works for, the com-parison of this budget to the one he proposed today makes it crystal clear: He is for the rich and powerful at the expense of the middle class. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

THE PRESIDENT PROPOSED OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

THE PRESIDENT PROPOSED OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this week in Washington we are going to do something that hasn’t been seen for a long time—and I mean that. If you are not careful, you may tune in and see an actual debate on the floor of the Senate—real Senators, Democrats and Re-publicans, coming to the floor actually debating an issue.

I am not sure what is going to happen because it has been so long since we tried this, but it really is exciting to think about; that men and women elected to this body, known as the greatest deliberative body in America, are actually debating it. It is true, and it is by design, not by acci-dent. After a lot of negotiation back and forth, Senator MCCONNELL, the Repub-li-can leader, agreed that this week we would debate immigration and DACA, the Dream Act; that it would come to the floor of the U.S. Senate. I am excited about it, although I have no idea how this debate will end—in most good debates we don’t know be-cause it depends on the strength of an argument as to whether a measure is going to pass or not pass, but it is cer-tainly an issue I have been waiting for.

In fact, I have been waiting 5 years for it. It is a long time even by Senate standards. It has been 5 years since we actually debated immigration on the floor of the U.S. Senate. It is not because the immigration laws of America are so perfect—far from that. It is be-cause it is a tough issue, it is a delicate issue, and it is a vital issue, and it has always been in America. I have that notion that as soon as the Mayflower landed and the passengers got off the boat, they looked over their shoulder and said: I hope no more people are coming to America and would say this. I hope no other people are coming to America. We are perfectly happy with this country the way we see it—be-cause throughout history and up to today, there has always been a resist-ance by those already here to new peo-ple from new places with different lan-guages, cultures, religions, and food.

We have done some things in the past which are not exactly things to brag about. It was 1924 when we passed an immigration bill. There was a fear after World War I, because Europe was in shambles, that all these people would come flooding into America. So the Congress here and in this Chamber and the House of Representatives passed the Immigration Act of 1924. It was horrible. It was horrible. It ex-pressly excluded groups we didn’t want to be a part of America’s future—groups like people of the Jewish reli-gion, Italians, people from Eastern Eu-rope, the Japanese, and many others. That immigration act said: We don’t want any more of those people, and for 41 years that was the law of the land. There were slight modifications, but that was the basic standard for immi-gration in America.

Not until 1965 did we look at immi-gration again with a different view to a broader acceptance of the world as part of our future. Since then, we have continued to have problems with immi-gration and questions about change of policy.

I will just flat out state, from 10 or 15 different perspectives, the current immi-gration system in America is broken. We have 11 million undocumented people in the country today; it is a broken system. Eight of us got together 4 years ago—four Re-publican Senators and four Democratic Senators—and spent months debating a new immigration system for America. I might say immodestly. I think we did a pretty good job of it. We presented it to the Judiciary Committee, and it faced over 100 amendments, people who wanted to change it. At the end of the day, we passed it in the Senate, it passed the House, it passed the Senate floor, and it passed with a substantial, overwhelming bipartisan vote—com-prehensive immigration reform. We tackled every aspect of it, from ag la-borers to H-1Bs, to the Dream Act, to the whole system. When we passed it in the Senate, but, of course, with our bicameral system of govern-ment, we needed the House to tackle the same problem, and they refused. They wouldn’t even consider the bill. They didn’t even try to come up with an alternative. They wouldn’t try to amend it. They just said: We are not going to talk about it, and we didn’t.
For 5 years, we have done nothing, and this year we have a chance to do something. The fact is, we need to do something. On September 5 of last year, President Trump announced he was eliminating what was known as the DACA program. The DACA program was created by Executive order under President Obama to give those who were characterized as Dreamers a chance to be legal in America on a 2-year renewable basis. So 780,000 people signed up for President Obama’s DACA Program to live in the United States. These were young people brought to the United States by their parents at a very early age, and they were going to be given a chance to stay here 2 years at a time and not be deported and be able to legally work.

Who are these young people? Well, 91 percent of them are currently in school or working. We know, as well, 20,000 of them have graduated from college and are teaching in our grade schools and high schools. And now 900,000 of them are high school students, even though they are undocumented, volunteered to serve in the U.S. military and are currently in uniform willing to risk their lives for this country that hasn’t accepted them as citizens. The other side of the coin, they are America’s best students, they are in first responder status, they are doing some pretty extraordinary things, but President Trump announced last September 5 that the program that allowed them to stay in the United States was coming to an end.

When? In 3 weeks, March 5 of this year. What happens if Congress fails to do anything before March 5? If we fail to do anything to resolve this crisis created by President Trump, we will see 1,000 of these young people every single day falling out of protected status, and they will be in a position where they can be deported from this country. For many of them who were brought here as infants and toddlers, they are back to a country they don’t even remember to face a language they don’t speak. That would be a terrible outcome.

That is why we need to take up this debate and pass, on a bipartisan basis, a measure to correct the situation, the challenge created by President Trump’s actions. We need to do it now because if the House of Representatives is to take action before March 5, we have little time left. Both the House and the Senate will be gone for 1 week in the month of February, so there is very little time left before the March 5 deadline, and I hope we can tackle it and get it done.

The question that needs to be asked is, what will be debated this week? I think a lot of things may be debated. It is an actual open debate on the floor to some extent. It could conceivably not only be on DACA and the Dream Act, it might even get into other immigration issues.

There was a recent poll that was taken by Quinnipiac on some of the issues that may come before us this week in the U.S. Senate. The American people have been listening to this conversation, and it comes to some pretty interesting conclusions.

This is a new Quinnipiac poll that was just released today. By a margin of 54 to 38 percent, the American people want Dreamers to gain citizenship. Support is overwhelmingly pro-Dreamer when respondents were asked if they support “allowing undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children to remain in the country and eventually apply for citizenship.”

Support for the Dreamers is overwhelmingly across party lines—94 percent of Democrats support it, 82 percent of those who are Independents, and 68 percent of Republicans support citizenship for these Dreamers. I have read other polls that say even 61 percent of Donald Trump voters support it. Republican voters support citizenship 68 to 24; White men, 75 to 26; and voters who are older are more likely to find any issue in our politically divided country that brings so many people together, but this one does overwhelmingly, both political parties and Independents.

The other side of it is that the President is proposing a border wall. Well, we remember that during the campaign, for sure—a big, beautiful wall from sea to shining sea, and the Mexicans are going to pay for it. How many times did we hear that speech? Many times.

Well, where are the American people on this border wall? Interesting what the Quinnipiac poll tells us. By approximately a 2-to-1 margin, the American public opposes a border wall, and when you attach the pricetag to it—how much it will, $25 billion—the numbers change. When first asked if they support or oppose a border wall with Mexico, the public opposes it 59 to 37 percent. A follow-up question, which includes reference to the $25 billion pricetag, President Trump has requested to build the wall, generates even more opposition: 65 to 33—2 to 1 opposed to the border wall.

Then some on the other side say: We should slash legal immigration into the United States. Let’s put some numbers behind this question. We are a nation of approximately 350 million people. Each year 1.1 million legal immigrants come into the United States. About 70 percent of those come through legal visas granted to family members of families of those already here. Some of them have waited for their chance to join up with their families 20 years. So 75 percent of the legal immigration is family reunification. As I mentioned, some have waited for a long time.

Many on the other side want to limit legal immigration into the United States, want to limit this family reunification effort and those who come in with promises of jobs. So the question was asked in the poll as to whether we should cut legal immigration levels.

In the Quinnipiac poll, 78 percent of Americans are opposed to cutting legal immigration. A majority of Americans—54 percent—support keeping legal immigration at the same or current level. More Americans, 24 percent, support increasing it rather than decreasing it, 17 percent. Even 71 percent of Trump voters oppose reducing legal immigration levels to stay either the same, 53 percent, or increase, 18 percent.

Additional poll questions found support for maintaining the current policy regarding family reunification, 70 to 29, and the diversity visa lottery, 48 to 43. And we asked the hot-button issues on immigration. Throughout our history these are the issues usually raised about immigrants. Immigrants, they say, take American jobs. Immigrants, they say, commit too many crimes. If you listened to the President’s State of the Union Address a week or two ago, he talked about MS-13, a reprehensible gang engaged in criminal activities overseas and in the United States. I don’t know of anyone in either political party who endorses that. The President used some graphic examples of their horrible, violent conduct, but when the public was asked about those two positions—Are these immigrants taking away American jobs? Are they committing more crime?—there was an interesting result. The American public overwhelmingly rejects the idea that undocumented immigrants take jobs from Americans and are prone to commit more crime.

Despite the transparent, relentless scapegoating efforts of some, Americans do not believe that undocumented immigrants take jobs away from Americans; by 63 to 33 percent, that was rejected. That is because our eyes can see. Come to Central Illinois, near my hometown of Springfield. Go to the local meat processing plant or the chicken processing plant, and watch who comes out of that plant at quitting time. Hispanics and Africans are taking what are pretty tough, dirty, rough jobs because others don’t want them. Take a look next time you go inside a nice restaurant in Chicago, which is certainly my hometown—represent, and look who just cleaned the dishes off the table, and when the door swings, take a look at who is in the kitchen doing the dishes. By and large, it is going to be immigrants who are doing those things. Not many of us say to our sons and daughters: I am hoping the day will come when you decide to go and pick fruit for a living. You hardly ever hear that because we know it is hard, backbreaking work, and immigrants do the work. So many jobs they fill are jobs that Americans aren’t jumping to fill.

How about the issue of crime? The majority of Americans do not believe that undocumented immigrants commit more crimes than American citizens; 72 to 17 percent rejected this idea, and that just reflects the reality. The incidence of crimes committed by those who are immigrants is lower than that of those who are native born. It is a fact. It is a fact that some like to ignore.
When it comes down to the fundamentals of the debate that faces us in the Senate, the American people, by overwhelming majority numbers, have picked their side on this. The question is whether Democrats and Republicans here will not be able to ground to agree on. It remains to be seen.

I have been engaged in this debate now for 17 years. That is a long time even by Senate standards. It was 17 years ago when I introduced the DREAM Act. It was 17 years ago when I said: If you were brought here as a kid, a baby, an infant, a toddler, even a young teenager and you had no voice on where your family was headed, it shouldn’t be used against you. If you have had a good life, gone to school, are not a criminal, and offer some promise for a job or future in America, you deserve a chance to earn your way to legal status and to citizenship.

I come to this with some prejudice. My name is an immigrant to this country. She was brought here at the age of 2. She was the first Dreamer in my family, and she was brought here from Lithuania, where she was born. Her mother brought her to this country and didn’t speak English, but brought her three kids here in the hope that they could find opportunities that they couldn’t find back in Lithuania. For them, the land of opportunity was the city of East St. Louis, IL, which is where I was born and I grew up. It offered immigrants a lot of tough jobs but opportunities to maybe create a better life for their kids. When it came to this kid, my mom and her family gave me a chance to serve in the U.S. Senate. That is my story, that is my family’s story, but that is America’s story. Time and again, that is America’s story. My grandfather didn’t come here with any extraordinary skills. He came here with a strong back and a determination to work and feed his family. My grandmother had the same. That is the story of this country.

We are going to debate this week in the U.S. Senate whether it will continue to be the story of this country. Some will argue that we have had enough of these immigrants; we don’t need any more of them. Others, I hope, will realize that we have an opportunity here—an opportunity not only to allow people to come to this country and be part of this country’s future but to contribute to a diversity that makes us unique in the world, the diversity of immigration. I think we can come up with a reasonable answer to this. There will be differences of opinion, strongly held beliefs on one side or the other.

The question is whether this body, the U.S. Senate, with 49 Democrats and 51 Republicans—just about as close as you can get—can reach a common, bipartisan agreement. Wouldn’t it be a headline across America if this Senate actually had a debate and this Senate actually agreed on something—a bipartisan agreement. I see some heads nodding, and I won’t say where, but it is somewhere in this Chamber—people who are following this debate. I think we can do it. I really believe we can. It will be a real test for us, but that is what we are sent to do, isn’t it? It is not to debate, issue press releases, and wave our flags at one another, but to actually tackle a problem.

The President has created a challenge—a challenge that involves hundreds of thousands of lives. Now it is our turn to meet that challenge as a Senate, to advocate and to show we are up to the job.

I yield the floor.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I want to begin my remarks today by discussing a piece of bipartisan legislation that I have sponsored with our colleague the senior Senator from California, Mrs. Ernst. In all likelihood, this bill is not something you are going to see reported on in the evening news. It is rather obscure in its origins, but it is extremely important, and I will explain that in just a moment. It is called the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act, and it concerns another acronym—the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, known as CFIUS. It is the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States.

CFIUS is a multiagency panel headed by the Treasury Department, and Secretary Mnuchin chairs that panel. Its job is to vet foreign investments to determine if they pose a threat to our national security. I am an ardent supporter of free trade, and I strongly support more foreign, direct investment in the United States. Unfortunately, some of our adversaries—notably China—have altered the strategic landscape and are not playing by the same set of rules. China has weaponized investment in an attempt to vacuum up our advanced technologies and simultaneously undermine our defense industrial base.

As it acquires U.S. firms, technology, and intellectual property, as well as the know-how to put them to use, the risk is that the Chinese Government, which has its tentacles not only in state-owned Chinese companies but also in so-called “private” Chinese firms, will get its hands on these capabilities and use them against us. This has already been shown to have happened in a number of documented cases.

Standing by and allowing our national security to be compromised through these continued transfers of critical and know-how to China would be highly irresponsible. That is why the CFIUS—the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States—process needs to be updated and modernized. At its core, CFIUS was created in 1975 in order to prevent statutory updates that are now for 17 years. That is a long time, considering that China has studied and prevent statutory updates that are both urgent and necessary, this bill would not sweep up harmless business transactions with no ties to national security. Unfortunately, they are starting to release some of their false claims about this legislation. I would call this a patriotism deficit on their part.

In order to perpetuate the status quo and prevent statutory updates that are both urgent and necessary, this bill was designed to address the paralysis we would incur by not passing CFIUS reform. Progress will ultimately be stunted and our security jeopardized. We could see the erosion of our defense industrial base and that means jobs here in the United States going overseas because they are capable of building this cutting-edge, dual-use technology in their home country and not having it built here in the United States.

Despite the critics’ scare tactics, the bill would not sweep up harmless business transactions with no ties to national security. That is not the point. But I do want to make that abundantly clear. Under the bill, there are reasonable safeguards to prevent this from happening.

I believe CFIUS would be authorized to create a safe list of certain allied countries for which certain transactions are exempt from review. Under the bill, CFIUS would also be granted authority to exempt, on a routine basis, routine transactions where other laws already address national security risks.

The Treasury Department, as the lead agency for CFIUS, has stated an
intent to use this authority to narrowly tailor the implementing regulations.

The second thing to note is that existing alternatives, like multilateral export controls, are not an adequate substitute. We are proposing in this bill. It is true that export controls work well in many cases, but they have inherent limitations and are not enough by themselves. We simply need a second line of defense, and that is a modernized CFIUS process. The CFIUS process is currently too slow, and we are designed to be interactive and complementary.

In other words, this bill does not duplicate the export control system, and, in fact, for pure technology transfers, the export control system would remain the sole review mechanism. CFIUS wouldn’t be involved in that at all.

Finally, there is a concern that our bill could flood CFIUS with too much work, and would lack the resources and expertise to do the job. But our bill would help provide those additional resources and allow CFIUS to both charge a modest fee to help promote its self-sustainability and also limit a unified annual budget request covering all of its member agencies.

Furthermore, the bill’s own provisions guard against an unfunded mandate, with any expansion taking effect only after CFIUS determines on its own that the necessary personnel and other resources have been provided.

Finally our bill exempts certain transactions that are done through “ordinary customer relationships,” ensuring that harmless, day-to-day activities don’t have to be reviewed.

In closing, I will say this: It is certainly appropriate to consider the potential impacts of this bill on foreign investment, but those effects shouldn’t be confused with a vacuum. We must also ask what the impacts on our long-term national security will be if we do not take action. For example, in 10 or 15 years, will our troops still have the best equipment in the world? Our military superiority is not a birthright, and neither is our technological advantage over our adversaries.

I would urge my colleagues to advance this bill and to study it and to help work with us to improve it. The time to modernize CFIUS is now. We can’t be blind to the growing risks. It’s time to modernize CFIUS.

I urge my Democratic colleagues this week to remember their predecessors when it comes to immigration, which includes my fellow Texan Barbara Jordan. One of the great civil rights leaders of our time, she was the first southern Black woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. She also served as a chairwoman of the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform. While serving in that role, she once said:

“For our immigration policy to make sense, it is necessary to make distinctions between those who obey the law, and those who violate it.

I think that is a great principle to keep in mind as we begin to sort out this week’s challenges.

Although we all recognize the anxiety of DACA recipients who came to this country through no fault of their own and now face uncertain futures, at the same time, we must recognize that many Americans face certain plights too. They are dreamers, too, as the President has said. And we need to reconstitute our legacy of as some believe in and applies the rule of law—indeed, equal justice under the law.

Here is the bottom line: I am not interested in a futile exercise of gamesmanship or political theater. My ideas can’t become law. As the President said 2 weeks ago, the ultimate proposal must be “one where nobody gets everything they want, but our country gets the critical reforms it needs.” More than 240,000 young people in my State hope we can rise to the occasion. Indeed, all 28 million of them hope we can work together in a bipartisan fashion not only to provide relief to the DACA recipients but also to restore our border security and to craft immigration laws that serve America’s best interests.

Again, one of the two pillars upon which our immigration system has been built is that we are a nation of immigrants. All 6 of us in our family came from somewhere else—almost all of us. But we are also a nation of laws, which distinguishes us from most of the rest of the world. It is those two great pillars—a nation of immigrants and a nation of laws—that need to be restored and need to be our focus.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa...

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, before the Senator from Texas leaves the floor, I think he needs to be complimented because one of the four things in the bill which I am talking about and I introduced is he is going to be one of the cosponsors of this border security. He has worked for years on border security. He needs to be complimented on it. He is chairman of the Immigration Subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee. I think Senator JOHNSON of Homeland Security has some aspects of border security as well. I think he and Senator JOHNSON ought to be complimented for being in the lead of 100 Senators to make sure what we did not make the same mistakes we made in 1986 when we gave amnesty because we thought we had border security. Quite obviously, the numbers...
show we didn’t do a very good job on border security in 1986. The Senator from Texas and the Senator from Wisconsin are going to make sure we don’t make that same mistake again, so I thank them very much.

Mr. President, I rise today to announce the formal introduction of an amendment to H.R. 2579. H.R. 2579 is the vehicle for immigration. This amendment is cosponsored by Senators Cornyn, Tillis, Lankford, Perdue, Cotton, and Ernst. It is the product of several months of hard work between these Senators and including the White House.

Since this past September, I have held more than two dozen meetings with interested Senators in an attempt to craft a fair and permanent solution to DACA. I have also met with the President on four separate occasions to figure out exactly what he needs to see in a legislatively package so that it can be signed into law, because, as is the point of this hard work, we are not going to get something that is going to be finalized by a signature from the President of the United States?

I just said I have met with the President on four separate occasions. I should add that this group of introducers of this legislation met with the President on those four occasions. But the most importantly, I have been continuously listening to what my colleagues have said they need in any immigration reform. As a result, our meetings and conversations with our colleagues, the Senators sponsoring this amendment have attempted to develop a simple, commonsense framework that can address everyone’s concerns while also providing necessary and critical changes to our Nation’s immigration laws.

What does our amendment do? Working off the broad bipartisan, bicameral framework agreed to on January 9 at the White House, our amendment has four key pillars. I said bipartisan, bicameral. Members of Congress met with the President for an hour and a half to boil down all the issues that can be brought up, and we ended up with these four key pillars.

First and most importantly, our amendment fully funds the President’s border security request. Other plans that we have heard about claim that they fund the President’s border security request. What we want to put this word in quotes—“authorizing” money. But anyone who knows Washington knows that just an authorization turns out to be a gimmick sometimes. It turns out to be a promise sometimes or an IOU to maybe fund something at some later date. Every Member of the Senate knows that in this town, Washington, DC, promises are quite cheap.

We went down the road in 2006 when Congress authorized money for border fencing, much of which Congress never actually funded. Our amendment rejects that approach. Instead, we actually appropriate $25 billion into a border security trust fund. This trust fund will allow Homeland Security to use between $2.5 billion and $3 billion a year for infrastructure, technology, and personnel recruitment and retention.

By setting up a border security trust fund, we ensure that the Department of Homeland Security will actually have the money that it needs every single year to secure our borders, while also retaining Congress’s ability to exercise oversight.

Unlike other plans, we also recognize that real border security is more than just throwing money at the border. This group of Senators realized that real border security means that we have to close the loopholes in the current law that allow dangerous criminals to enter and remain at large within our country. Our amendment ends these dangerous loopholes and makes it easier for our law enforcement to apprehend, detain, and speedily remove criminal alien felons, smuggling facilitators, human traffickers, international terrorists, criminal gang members, repeat border crossers, drunk drivers, and other dangerous people.

Second, our amendment provides a generous and permanent solution for DACA and DACA-eligible recipients. Our plan contains an earned path to citizenship for these young people. Provided these young men and women have no criminal record and either serve in the military, attain a college or vocational degree, or maintain full-time employment, they can eventually gain citizenship. This represents a major concession for many Republicans, including this Senator, but this concession is necessary to provide a permanent and fair solution to this issue.

The third pillar of our proposal reforms family-based immigration to place greater emphasis on the nuclear family. Moving forward, we limit family-based immigration to the nuclear family, meaning the spouses and minor children of citizens and lawful permanent residents.

This change doesn’t end family-based immigration. It simply recognizes that extended-family immigration doesn’t serve the American people or our country’s economic interest. It is important for all of my colleagues to recognize that these family-based changes are prospective. This means that all 4 million immigrants who are waiting in line for a family-based petition will continue to have their petitions processed under the old rules.

This group of Senators understands that we can’t penalize the millions of people who actually followed the law and, by following the law, did the right thing.

In addition to rewarding those who did the right thing by grandfathering all pending petitions in the pipeline, it will take years—by some estimates, more than a decade—for Congress to debate and enact merit-based immigration reform.

Finally, our plan reallocates the 55,000 visas and the diversity visa lot-
a small working group. We have introduced legislation this week that transforms the President's four-pillar framework into an actual bill, and it is the one bill that can become a law.

We have a plan not to pass a bill but to pass the twofold. In the last 12 years, the Senate has passed a bill that hasn't become a law because the House of Representatives couldn't pass it and, therefore, ultimately, the President couldn't sign it.

I urge my colleagues: Let's not simply signal our virtue to our counterparts in the House or to the President by passing a bill. Let's solve this problem by passing a law.

This bill is the one bill that can become a law because it is the one bill that translates the President's framework into actual legislation. It provides legal status and ultimately citizenship for people who were brought here through no fault of their own as minors up to the age of accountab[ility. It provides more money and legal authorities to secure our southern border and to help our brave immigration agents. It eliminates the useless diversity visa lottery and reallocates those green cards for more productive purposes and it puts an end to the practice of extended-family chain migration, allowing immigrants to bring not just his or her spouse and minor children but parents, siblings, and, ultimately, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and on down their extended family tree.

That doesn't solve every problem under the sun we have with immigration. It doesn't, for instance, include mandatory nationwide E-Verify, which I would support. It doesn't resolve the many problems we have with numerous temporary guest worker visas. But it is consistent with the President's framework, and it solves the problem in front of us of young people who were brought here through no fault of their own, but also it has the side effect of giving those people legal status.

I know there are a lot of half measures floating around the Senate right now, saying that we should give legal status to these 1.8 million people in return for a small pittance at the southern border, but that simply will not do. It is not responsible because if we give those people legal status, we will have two negative side effects. First, we will create incentives—perverse incentives—to encourage illegal immigration with minor children to this country. That is dangerous. It is immoral, not to mention unwise from our national interests.

Second, if we give legal status to these 1.8 million people, we will create a whole new pool of legal permanent residents and, ultimately, citizens who can naturalize their extended family, including their parents—the very people who created the problem to begin with. I urge the rationale for the program to begin with. Remember, that rationale was that children ought not pay for the sins of their parents.

But, surely, parents can pay for their own sins.

If we do those things—provide legal status for the 1.8 million people who find themselves in this situation through no fault of their own, but continue that is not just the effect by securing our border, and ending the practice of extended-family chain migration—we will have a bill that can become a law.

At the same time, we will also grandfather that country, who is currently in the backlog waiting to come to this country, who has applied to get a green card because they have a parent or child or sibling in this country. Some of them have been waiting up to 20 years. So no one will be cut out of that waiting line.

Furthermore, we will continue to allow American citizens to get a renewable, nonworker visa for their elderly parents who live overseas. So if you immigrated to this country and still have parents in your home country who need your care, who need to live at home with you or maybe live down the street in a nursing home, this law will allow you to have a visa to bring them here.

That is a generous, humane solution, but it also is one that handles the problem responsibly and starts to build the kind of immigration system that this country needs—a system that focuses on the skills that our economy needs, not ones that are based on family ties or country of origin.

For that reason, it is immensely popular. A recent poll showed that 65 percent of Americans support this proposal. Two out of every three Americans support it, and they should, since, after all, every part of this proposal is popular.

Most of us have seen polls that suggest that fewer than 20 percent of Americans want to see these people return to their country, while in many cases they don't remember. At the same time, 72 percent want to end the practice of extended-family chain migration, and securing our southern border is equally as popular.

Oftentimes in Congress, we have to make a tough choice between something that is popular and necessary and something that is unpopular, but in this legislation, we are simply asking our colleagues to do the right thing—to take an approach that happens to be popular with the American people as well. It should be popular because it is both generous and humane on the one hand but responsible on the other hand. It is the only approach that will begin to change our immigration system from one that treats people based on where they come from and to whom they are related to a system that treats them for who they are. There is nothing that could be more American than that.

I urge my colleagues to recognize that this is the one bill that the House of Representatives can pass, can earn the President's signature, and can become a law. So I will simply say again, as we go through this exercise, let's have a plan that is going to pass a law, not pass a bill.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). The Senator from Iowa.

Mrs. ERNST. Mr. President, I would like to start by thanking my colleagues and especially my friend from Iowa, our junior Senator, Chuck Grassley, for his tremendous work on this project and all of those who participated in the discussions on the Secure and Succeed Act.

This legislation puts us on the best path forward to provide a permanent solution for our DACA recipients, all while strengthening our borders and entry security. Our legislation addresses the unique challenges faced by the DACA population, many of whom were brought to America by their parents through no fault of their own when they were just children.

In Iowa and across our Nation, DACA recipients are an integral part of our community. They are our neighbors, they are our classmates, and they are our fellow churchgoers.

This last summer, while I was at the Clay County Fair in Iowa, I was approached by a young lady. She came up to me and said: Senator Ernst, I would like to know where you stand on DACA.

So I explained my position to her. Meanwhile, she is pulling out her billfold. Out of the billfold, she pulled out a small card. She showed it to me, and she said: I am a DACA recipient.

I said: Well, thank you for taking the time to come up to me and sharing your story with me.

She was there with her younger siblings at the county fair, just enjoying the day, and she explained her situation to me. She had been brought into the country by her parents. They came illegally into the country from Mexico. Then she pointed at her younger siblings and she said: They were born here. They are citizens, but I am not. I am not.

As we were standing there at the Clay County Fair, right by the Iowa Army National Guard recruiting booth—I was a member of the Iowa Army National Guard—she went on to explain to me that a while back she had actually met with one of the recruiters, and they had told her: We can't accept you. We can't accept you because you are a DACA recipient.

She expressed to me how disappointed she was. She wanted to join our military. She wanted to serve this country—the only country she had known to be her home, the country she loves and her story of determination and her desire to serve this country and to defend our freedoms were absolutely clear to me. This bill would allow DACA-eligible recipients to defend the only country they have ever known—the country they love.

That said, I cannot overstate the importance of addressing the legal, economic, and security concerns that are
ever present in this debate. A huge priority of mine has been, and remains, to provide border security. Our homeland and our borders must be secure, period. Tragically, human, drug, and sex trafficking are still viable markets in the darkest corners around this world. Unfortunately those are borders that we have right here in our own Nation. Ensuring the integrity of our immigration system is essential in working to prevent these bad actors from infiltrating our very own borders.

The proposal we have outlined would direct funds toward bolstering our border control and various degrees of security along the border, such as physical and virtual fencing, radar, and other technologies. It also cuts immigration loopholes and ensures that dangerous criminals are denied entry.

This legislation addresses the current debate in a humane and thoughtful manner, and I urge my colleagues in the Senate to support this commonsense pathway forward.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. Tillis. Mr. President, I wish to personally thank the Presiding Officer for all the work he has done to come up with what I believe is the right framework for fulfilling the promise to solve and create a viable solution for the DACA population and to deal with the other things that are critically important as we take this first major step in immigration reform after decades of failure.

Last year, I and Senator Lankford, who will be speaking after I do, decided we really wanted to get a discussion around a legal path to citizenship for a significant portion of the population of the illegally present. The deferred action program that was implemented by President Obama is what we used as kind of a baseline for determining how we could actually define that population and set terms so we could ultimately accept them into this country, and they could ultimately get citizenship.

The proposal we have outlined today—and I should also thank Chairman Grassley for his leadership. I have served on the Judiciary Committee for 3 years during my first term in the Senate and for 3 years on the Immigration Subcommittee. Under his leadership, we have crafted a framework that is consistent with what the President has proposed.

It is also consistent with what virtually anybody who has been around here for any amount of time has voted for in one form or another. It is a four-pillar framework that first begins with a path to citizenship for some 1.8 million DACA-eligible persons in the United States today. They were young when they came into this country. Some are adults now, but they came here during this country through the decision of their parents. I, for one—and I believe many of my colleagues who support this bill—believe they should be given an opportunity to be U.S. citizens.

After the bill is ratified, they will have an opportunity, based on a 10-year or 12-year timeline, to have the certainty of having legal status and then to cross the border to either the 10 or 12 years. It is fairly straightforward, in terms of the requirements to come into this program. Some 1.8 million will qualify, once we ratify this bill and send it to the President's desk.

Couched with this, it is critically important to not make the mistakes of the past. First off, let's not just come in and assume we are going to pass a standalone Dream Act. The reason for that is, it has failed every single time it has been attempted. It has failed under a Republican administration. It has failed under a Democratic administration.

Even among people who have never supported a path to citizenship before, there is broad consensus that this is a workable, viable, compassionate framework. So 1.8 million DACA-eligible persons have an opportunity to cross the border illegally, we know where they are for no other reason than we have been petitioned for because of a family relationship with some other U.S. citizen. We are proposing actually trying to figure out a way to accelerate that, to have them move through the naturalization process far sooner than they will if we fail to produce a solution this week. Then, over time, we can find other possible opportunities for immigration.

Today why don't we at least look at how we fix the broken immigration system to make sure in the future, in the system know we are not turning our backs on them. Then, over time, we can get on to possibly—in my case, I think, at some point, we could actually build a case for even more legal immigration grants than we have now, for now, let's at least make sure we have an immigration system people can rely on and can actually become U.S. citizens.

The real sticking point—and I think what we are going to see this week—is we are beginning to see more and more consensus on the three pillars I just discussed: the DACA population, border security, and the visa lottery being used in a way that rewards merit and also uses green cards to bring more people into the country sooner rather than the two decades they have been waiting.

The last thing we have to look at is chain migration—family unification or family immigration. We are more or less in line with most other countries in terms of how we allow immigration into this country. I, for one, think it is reasonable to continue to have a component to allow families to be reunified—people who come over on work visas or people who are coming through whichever immigration process they may choose, but at the end of the day, to have such a small number of our immigrant population—some 1 million every year—without regard to a family is irresponsible. In fact, I think if we continue to do it, we do it at the expense of maybe future immigration. We want more and more skilled people—people who can come to this country and contribute immediately, satisfy the needs of our society, and we can do that through a reasonable, rational discussion about what our immigration policy should look like over time.

I will leave my colleagues with this: In a country like Canada, 63 percent of their legal immigration has a skill requirement associated with it. In a country like Australia, it is the same thing, but almost three-quarters of all
of our immigration has no tie whatsoever to the needs of this Nation—our economy, our educational institutions, our communities.

All we are saying is, let's take a look at this and maybe change the proportion. I believe that we actually have a program that is multi-faceted, that is really focused on the needs we have for our great country.

This week, we are going to hear a lot of things. I told a group today at lunch to be ready to vote on something they would expect me to vote for. I am going to do that. I fully expect to have some of my Republican colleagues and some of my Democratic colleagues offer an amendment that I don't have a problem with the underlying policy, but I have a huge problem with producing a result in the Senate which has virtually no chance of going to the President's desk and becoming law. Then, we will ultimately get on the Secure the Succeed Act. It is a law. Then, we will get to work, and I am ready to work with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, that I know the President will support, and I believe the President could convince our colleagues in the House to get it done.

So, again, I thank my colleagues Senator LANKFORD and Senator GRASSLEY, Senator PERDUE, Senator COTTON, all of those who have weighed in—Senator CORNYN—to try and craft a solution that is responsive to the President's framework, responsive to some of the concerns our friends on the other side of the aisle have, and now it is time for us to act.

Let's do something different. Let's produce a result. Let's not get up here and talk about how high are we, or how low are we, or how many are we going to vote for. I am going to do that. I fully expect to have some of my Republican colleagues and some of my Democratic colleagues offer an amendment that I don't have a problem with the underlying policy, but I have a huge problem with producing a result in the Senate which has virtually no chance of going to the President's desk and becoming law. Then, we will ultimately get on the Secure the Succeed Act. It is a law. Then, we will get to work, and I am ready to work with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, that I know the President will support, and I believe the President could convince our colleagues in the House to get it done.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, today we begin our immigration debate in earnest. Senator MCCONNELL has kept his promise to bring an immigration vehicle to the floor. This week, we will be taking a series of votes on DACA, border security, and other related subjects.

I wish to take a few minutes now to outline where I am on these issues and where I see this week's debate heading.

I have made very clear that I believe we need a legislative fix for DACA. We cannot continue to keep people in our country and grant them the work authorization by Executive fiat. DACA recipients deserve certainty. So, too, do other immigrants who enter our country legally and have done their best to follow the law.

We also need better border security and interior enforcement. Thirty years ago, we granted amnesty to nearly 3 million illegal immigrants, and the result over the next two decades was a surge in illegal immigration. We need to prevent that from happening again.

I think it is fair and equitable to give DACA recipients a pathway to lawful status because they came to our country through no fault of their own, but in order to accomplish Daca legislation with strict border security and interior enforcement measures so we don't find ourselves right back here again in another 20 or 30 years or even sooner, we also think legal immigration needs to be a part of the discussion; in particular, high-skilled immigration. I have spoken several times on the Senate floor about how high-skilled immigration is merit-based immigration. It is immigration targeted at the best, the brightest, and the most highly educated. It is immigration targeted at individuals who have the skills employers need.

I believe we can find a path forward on our current immigration controversies, and I am committed to doing everything I can to bring both sides together. But I also want to be clear right here at the outset: High-skilled or merit-based immigration needs to be part of the discussion, especially if we are going to start talking about reforms to family-based immigration.

Getting to 60 votes is going to take a lot of negotiation. I know that as well as anyone. I have passed more bills into law than any other Member of Congress alive today. I know how this process works.

So I say to my colleagues, as you think about how to advance your priorities this week, keep in mind the priorities I have outlined recently. Take a look at my I-Squared bill and the amendments I will be filing. These are indications of what I am hoping to accomplish.

I believe we can get something across the finish line. I think we can have a bill we can all be proud of, but in order for that to happen, we have to be reasonable. We have to consider a broad range of views. It can't just be “my way or the highway.” We need a bill that can also pass the House and then be signed into law by the President.

I am ready to roll up my sleeves and get to work, and I am ready to work with my colleagues to find areas of compromise and to accommodate competing priorities. I have made my priorities clear. Let's work together to get something done.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I am looking forward to this debate. As Senator HATCH has indicated, it is going to be a robust debate, and it could produce the best of what the Senate can produce: a bipartisan agreement, which it will have to be in order to get to 60 votes.

I am glad to come here to the floor to support the Dreamers. Six months ago, the President said he was eliminating protections for Dreamers, and some of them have already lost that status. These young people, of course, were brought here sometimes as infants, they grew up here, and they only know America as their country. We need it to be a bipartisan agreement, a path to protection and a path to citizenship. It is long past time for Congress to act and to make sure this becomes law. This week presents a very good opportunity to do that after we have been waiting for almost a decade. I am a sponsor of the Dream Act, and I have supported Senator DURBIN in his efforts ever since I came to the Senate. Now, this is the third term.

I have always been inspired by the story of Elisha Dawkins. I found out about him because I read a news clip that he was in jail. Here was a fellow who grew up in America, only knowing that he was American because he was brought to America from the Bahamas when he was 6 months. He served two tours in Iraq. He came back and joined the Navy Reserves. He had a top secret clearance. His Reserve duty was in Guantanamo, with that top secret clearance. Then, because of an application for a passport, he was suddenly swept up and put in jail.

Fortunately, we found out about it and started raising a stink about it. It was brought to the attention, in one of the court hearings, of a Federal judge, and the Federal judge in fact was an assistant U.S. attorney: What in the world are you doing putting a fellow like this in jail?

Of course, after that tongue-lashing from a Federal judge, we got involved with Elisha. I am happy to report that today Elisha is a U.S. citizen. Elisha is a productive member of the Jacksonville community, he is educated, and he is contributing to his community.

Our country is so much better off having the Dreamers. They are our people. They are among the best and the brightest.

The Senate has voted overwhelmingly to pass a bipartisan bill that includes victories and concessions from both sides. That was the comprehensive immigration reform in the past, about 5 or 6 years ago, but of course the House wouldn't take that up. So the only way to achieve a solution to the DACA crisis is to keep it simple: on one side, a path to citizenship for Dreamers, and on the other side, what is required by the White House—a path for funding for border security.

I have been working with the next Senator who is going to speak in what we call a bipartisan group that has been carefully trying to put together a balanced approach to find a solution. Neither side is going to get everything they want, but that is why it is called a negotiation.

I urge my colleagues in the Senate to come together to achieve a reasonable and bipartisan agreement as soon as possible—I hope by the end of this week. The Dreamers need to know we
appreciate them, and now we are going to
turn that appreciation into law.
Madam President, I yield the floor.
THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Sen-
ator from Oklahoma.
Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President. If
we look back over the past 20 years, it
is hard to find an immigration debate
that occurred that ended with making
law. Immigration issues have been con-
tentious over the years—unnecessarily
so. They have been emotional over the
years—unnecessarily so. It is con-
ected to families, to people, to real
lives, and to real stories. I get that.
But now we are at a point again where
we will be debating immigration on
this floor all of this week.
The DREAM Act was proposed 15
years ago, Three different times it has
come up before the House or the Senate
or both. All three times in 15 years, it
has failed—just dealing alone with
those Dreamers. Then a very, very
large group tried in 2013. That
included not just the Dreamers but
their parents and every other person il-
legally present in the United States—
wholesale reform of every part of the
immigration system. That was tried in
2013; it also failed. Now it is time to
find the basic issues here.
In September, the President of the
United States challenged the House
and the Senate to get a legisla-
tive solution for the recipients of DACA
and those who are going to rush at our
border, to illegally cross into the United
States is to bring a child with you. We do not
want that to occur. That is a dangerous
crossing in many places, many children
have died, and individuals have had
terrible things happen to them on the
dangerous journey. So now what do we
set the June 2012 date—that is when
President Obama first announced the
program—and said that is a reasonable
time period, but with that, we said it
would take 10 years for those individ-
uals to naturalize, but, in fact, it has been
so long now and said: From the
time President Obama announced
that—which was June 2012—if you were
in the country at that time or before
and you are under that time period and
that certain age, you are eligible for it.
Apply. Go through the process.
We think that is not only entirely fair,
it is also entirely compassionate. But
it also sends out a warning to those
who are going to rush at our bor-
der and go through the process. Let's get
people around the world who are cur-
tent that they understand what is going
on.
Right now, there are 600,000 people in
a backlog waiting for their day in
court, for due process—600,000. That
is absurd. One of the reasons we have
had such crossings is that when
individuals know that if they get across
the border, they will only be detained a
couple of weeks and then they will be
released into the United States with
what is a notice to appear. Some people
claim asylum, and others say, "I am
here, and I am not a threat," and some
people do not, but they have been released
into the United States in the mean-
time. We need to accelerate that proc-
ess.
We have individuals who come across
the border and they claim asylum, but
they don't get an asylum hearing for a
couple of years. We should have that as
a rapid process. They should get due
process, and they should be able to
make that claim. As we have said over
and over again, justice delayed is jus-
tice denied.
We have some interesting things that
we put out in this dealing with the cost
to the taxpayers. We put a cap on the
amount that we can spend per person,
per day in housing individuals, and we
set the cap at $500 per day, per person
to actually do detaining. We think it is
reasonable amount, and, honestly, it
is one of the things I think should be
universally accepted, both by the tax-
ers and by this body. We put in ad-
ditional Customs and Bor-
der Patrol agents. We need additional
ICE agents. My colleagues immediately
recol from that and say that is inte-
rior enforcement. Actually, it is not. If
you have additional Customs and Bor-
der Patrol agents and they pick up
someone at the border, they are imme-
diately transitioned into ICE custody,
where they are detained as they go
through the process. But you can't just
detain people. You also have to have
dates and attorneys. You have to have
advocates for those individuals. So we
need to increase the number of judges,
attorneys, and advocates to be able to
help. We need to increase the number
of translators to make sure that we get
good response from those individuals
and that they understand what is going
on.
Time is running out. The DREAM Act
was proposed 15 years ago. We need to
find the basic issues here.
Those four items begin, obviously,
with DACA and those who are DACA-
eligible, about 1.8 million individuals
who are currently living in the coun-
try, who grew up literally speaking
English, pledging allegiance to our
flag, going to our schools, and engaging
in our commerce. In every way, they
have lived and functioned as Ameri-
cans, except they are not. They were
bracketed illegally. So what we are doing
is taking those
individuals to naturalize.
During that 10-year time pe-
period. But with that, we said it
would take 10 years for those individ-
uals to naturalize. That is in line with other individ-
uals around the world who are cur-
tently getting in the line right now.
There is no one jumping ahead of any-
one else but holding those individuals
harmless who are already here and say-
ing: Let's start you through the proc-
ess, and 10 years from now, you will get
naturalization.
At the same time we put them in
line, we also put in a process for border
crossers. The country today have
11-plus million individuals in the coun-
try with no legal status is because our
border security process has been so
bad. This is no great shock to anyone.
So what we are doing is taking those
individuals in DACA and saying: Let's
take 10 years to move you into natu-
ralization. During that 10-year time pe-
riod, we also want to set up the basics of
border security. That gives us time
to get security first and naturalization
second for those individuals but both
with great certainty.
It is not just a wall, although there
should be sections of wall. In areas
where it is highly populated on both
sides of the border, we need a wall as a
demarcation. But in most areas of the
border, it is not highly populated on
both sides; it is open desert or moun-
tains. We need cameras. We need tech-
nology. We need interaction with our
National Guard, who can bring re-
sources to the border, where we try to
interdict drugs. We need increased ability in
our laws dealing with terrorism, drug
smuggling, human smuggling. We need
consistency in how we handle immigra-
tion. Right now, there is one policy if
you come from Cuba, another policy if
you come from Honduras, and another
policy if you come from Mexico. Why
don't we be consistent with our immi-
gration policy?
We have additional Customs and Bor-
der Patrol agents. We need additional
ICE agents. My colleagues immediately
recol from that and say that is inte-
rior enforcement. Actually, it is not. If
you have additional Customs and Bor-
der Patrol agents and they pick up
someone at the border, they are imme-
diately transitioned into ICE custody,
where they are detained as they go
through the process. But you can't just
detain people. You also have to have
dates and attorneys. You have to have
advocates for those individuals. So we
need to increase the number of judges,
attorneys, and advocates to be able to
help. We need to increase the number
of translators to make sure that we get
good response from those individuals
and that they understand what is going
on.
Right now, there are 600,000 people in
a backlog waiting for their day in
court, for due process—600,000. That
is absurd. One of the reasons we have
had such crossings is that when
individuals know that if they get across
the border, they will only be detained a
couple of weeks and then they will be
released into the United States with
what is a notice to appear. Some people
claim asylum, and others say, "I am
here, and I am not a threat," and some
people do not, but they have been released
into the United States in the mean-
time. We need to accelerate that proc-
ess.
We have individuals who come across
the border and they claim asylum, but
they don't get an asylum hearing for a
couple of years. We should have that as
a rapid process. They should get due
process, and they should be able to
make that claim. As we have said over
and over again, justice delayed is jus-
tice denied.
We have some interesting things that
we put out in this dealing with the cost
to the taxpayers. We put a cap on the
amount that we can spend per person,
per day in housing individuals, and we
set the cap at $500 per day, per person
to actually do detaining. We think it is
reasonable amount, and, honestly, it
is one of the things I think should be
universally accepted, both by the tax-
ers and by this body. We put in ad-
ditional penalties for those who are
doing human smuggling and human
trafficking and trafficking drugs across
our border. We deal with some nation-
states that will not accept criminal
aliens.
Many people in this body, and cer-
tainly across the United States, may
be surprised to know that for countries
such as Cuba, if there is an individual
picked up in the United States who was
criminally convicted of armed robbery and is ille-
ligely present in the United States,
even though they have committed a
violent offense, typically in other
countries, they would have to suffer the consequences of being in prison here for their offense, and then they would be deported back to their country, but Cuba does not accept them. Even though they are illegally present in the United States and they commit a violent offense, they do it, they do their time period here, and then they are released back into the United States.

Why would we do that? We need to establish a process to resolve this. That is border security and also dealing with naturalization.

DACA. We have had individuals who have said: Where does the diversity lottery and the issue of family unification come into this?

Let me tell you how it connects—and they absolutely do connect. Right now we have 4 million people waiting through the process to legally come to the United States. That is a 20-year backlog—20 years. That is irrational. What we would like to be able to do is to fast-track the process. Before we add another 2 million people into this and take a 20-year process to maybe a 25-year or 30-year process, once we get to that backlog time period, let’s fix what is obvious.

Quite frankly, this issue of family reunification is not a new issue. In 1995, Democratic House Member Barbara Jordan led a study on what to do on immigration and made a major proposal on what to do on what they called then the 1995 Democratic-led group—chain migration. It said that adult siblings and adult children should come in under their own merit, not under their family and that we should target skills for individuals who are coming in, not just “It is my brother-in-law; so he gets a chance to come as well.”

This would allow us to empty out that backlog—the 20-year backlog—to come into the United States at a faster pace. The diversity lottery is not a challenge with diversity—far from it. We have people from all over the world who come into the United States, and we continue to welcome people from all over the world.

I am fascinated watching the Olympics. I watch people march in from many countries. Everyone looks the same under their flag until you get to the United States. When the United States marches in, you can’t pick out who is American. We are American. In many countries around the world, they all look the same because you are not welcome if you don’t look like them. That is not so with us. We welcome people freely from around the world, but we also want them to bring a set of skills. We believe that we can use those same numbers to encourage people from around the world and bring their skills into the United States, to repurpose the diversity lottery and say: Yes, come. Come from everywhere and bring your skills because we need it as a nation. You are always welcome to come.

It is far from making the Statue of Liberty cry or polishing up her torch. It is saying: We are open to the world. Come and bring your talents and abilities. We will need it in the days ahead.

If we want to prevent a 20-year backlog from getting worse, we have to fix the family migration issue. If we want to deal with border security and deal with the very real threats that we face, as well as just individuals who want to come to work, we have to deal with the basics of border security, and also address the backlog of DACA recipients. We can do this. We will walk through this journey together. Over the course of this week, I hope we can keep this civil and open and fact-based, rather than charged with emotion and accusations. We all want to help the country. Let’s work on helping the country together this week.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Moran). The Senator from Iowa, Mr. Grassley. Mr. President, we have had a chance today to listen to my colleagues discuss what we think is the only piece of legislation that can get through the Senate, through the House of Representatives, and, most importantly, the President of the United States. All are co-sponsors of this bill, except Senator Hatch, who spoke on another issue that he is very interested in, but it is a very important immigration issue as well.

We have heard from Senator Cornyn. Then I spoke. Senator Cotton spoke and Senator Ernst, Senator Tillis, and Senator Lankford. Senator Perdue is one of those who is a co-sponsor of the bill and would have liked to have been here to speak, but he is just now returning from his constituency.

We have tried to lay out a path to giving DACA kids certainty, doing it from a standpoint of being humanitarian for people who were brought to this country by their parents. Their parents may have broken the law—and they did break the law—by coming over our borders without documentation, but we never should hold children responsible for what their parents did. This legislation takes a compassionate and reasonable approach to reforms, including a pathway to citizenship for a broad population. It grandfathers people waiting in line for family-based visas, and it expedites clearing that backlog. It helps to keep young people in the United States and reasonable approach to reforms, including a pathway to citizenship for a broad population. It grandfathers people waiting in line for family-based visas, and it expedites clearing that backlog. It helps to keep young people out of the same legal limbo in the future.

This legislation is a product of compromise. The President and many conservatives have come a long way to offer this plan and especially the part of the plan that offers citizenship to this group of people. For one example of compromise, as chairman of this committee, there are a lot of things I would have liked to have seen in this bill, but as a way of getting a broad base of compromise, I am a strong supporter of mandatory E-Verify, but that is not in this document. I think the other side needs to be willing to compromise as well. We need to pass something that can become law. Several times my colleagues have been told that this is the only plan the President supports, and you have heard him say that on television. We have the four-pillars program, as we call it, that came from his White House. The House isn’t going to bring up anything that the President will not sign. I think we need to stop political posturing and see something that can fix a real problem by providing border security and certainty for DACA kids.

This legislation is a reasonable approach to shielding children illegally brought to our country through no fault of their own while also taking meaningful steps to ensure that nobody finds themselves in the same situation in the future. This is a rare opportunity to fix a real problem and protect the country in a thoughtful and comprehensive manner.

Our proposal is supported by the President, who has come a long way to reach a compromise. Just think of the long way from the positions he took during his campaign for President. This President can be very correct in stating that a platform he once ran on he wants to see us act on.

In this particular case, I think he has come to the same conclusion as a lot of us have: These young people are here through no fault of their own. They may be technically violators of the law, but as a practical matter, humanitarianism calls for us to make a legalization. This is the only Senate proposal that has any chance of passing the House and being signed into law. If my colleagues are serious about actually finding a real and permanent solution to the DACA crisis, they should be ready and willing to support this compromise.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada, Mr. Cortez Masto. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. Cortez Masto. Mr. President, last September President Trump rescinded the DACA Program. Since that time, nearly 200,000 DACA recipients have lost their status. That number continues to grow. I have posted this sign outside my office so my colleagues can see that 122 Dreamers are losing their status every single day. This chart cannot begin to tell the story of the impact this arbitrary decision has had on Dreamers’ lives.

Over the past year, I have held roundtables with Dreamers throughout Nevada. I wanted to hear their concerns, listen to their stories, and make sure they know their rights. Dreamers
are not charts or numbers. They are people. They are amazing. They are putting themselves through school, studying hard, serving in our communities, our churches, and our military—all while working multiple jobs to support their families.

In my conversations with them, I have learned that they are their own best advocates. Dreamers deserve the chance to speak for themselves. They deserve better than to be used as pawns in a cynical game. They should not be forced to choose between going home or staying here. In the only country they have ever known and seeing their families attacked with arbitrary and cruel cuts to our family reunification and diversity visa programs. I am tired of seeing the White House pit people against one another.

Tonight and this week, Congress is about to determine the future of these patriotic young men and women. Before we begin this debate, we need to take a few moments to understand who they are, what they are doing for our country, and what the consequences will be if we fail them. I wish to read a few letters they sent me.

Listen to this letter from Jevi. He is a freshman at Nevada State College.

Jevi said:

I was born in Mexico in March 1998 and was brought to the United States when I was six months old. I recently started my freshman year at Nevada State College. I am majoring in Business Administration in the hope that I can open a small family restaurant some day. I have grown up in Las Vegas my entire life. It’s the city I know, the city that raised me. It is my home, my only home.

Listen to this letter from Maggie. She wrote:

I came to the United States when I was ten years old. I faced language barriers when I started elementary school, but I quickly learned English and excelled as a student. I graduated from High School in 2007 with $20,000 in academic scholarships, but couldn’t use them because I was undocumented. After receiving Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals in June of 2013, I was able to begin working as a health care enrollment counselor for Nevada Health Link. In January 2014, I was accepted to the University of Nevada Reno, where I continued working to help people access affordable health care while going to school full time.

That was from Maggie. That was her letter to me.

Listen to this letter from Francisco. This is his letter to me.

My story is very much like others in this country. I am one of the 1.3 million undocumented residents who were brought to the United States as minors by their parents. On September 17th, 2012, I applied for Deferred Action, hoping to be granted a work permit. Around that same time, I learned that I had been admitted to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. On November 5 my work permit arrived. My family and I all came to tears upon receiving it. I quickly looked for a job so that I would be able to enroll and start paying for my school.

That was from Francisco.

Now hear from Anna, who wrote:

I came to the United States with my family, from the Philippines, at the age of 7. My father left our family in 2001, and our visas expired soon after. I graduated from Centennial High School in 2008 and started nursing school at the College of Southern Nevada. I graduated in 2012 and received my DACA acceptance a year later. I am currently going on my third year working at University Medical Center . . . as a pediatric ICU nurse.

These are only four of the stories that I have heard from Dreamers, and there are hundreds of thousands more just like them.

I want to point out that just recently, I received a batch of 32 letters from seventh graders at Bailey Middle School in Las Vegas. To a T, the concern for every single one of these seventh graders was the same thing.

Clarisa, one of these seventh graders, wrote:

I would like to change Trump’s decision and let the DACA program stay so immigrants get to have the life they had before. My family and friends are all I have in my life. I don’t want to see them go because they cannot go to school or get a job. Thank you.

That was from Clarisa.

We also have a letter from Andrea O.:

President Trump’s decision affects my family, the people I know, and the community. It affects my family because my two older siblings were brought here when they were just babies. It affects people I know because some of my other family members were brought here as well. I hope President Trump does not end DACA. Thank you.

To a T, with regard to all of these letters, all of the information, all of the people with whom I have met both here in the Capitol and in Nevada, these Dreamers are incredible people. They are not illegal aliens who are contributing to our communities.

When you hear these stories, you see that this fight is not about charts and numbers or political leverage. This fight is not even about individuals. It is about entire communities. It is not just about what will happen to Jevi and Maggie and Franciso and Anna and all of those families who are connected somehow to those kids at Bailey Middle School. It is about what will happen to their students, their patients, their employers, their parents, their families, and their friends.

You see, Dreamers are our first responders. They serve in our military. They drive our ambulances. They pray with us in church. They are on the frontlines, teaching our kids and defending our country. What happens when they are not here anymore?

The debate over immigration in this country has been based on misconceptions and stereotypes. Immigrants are not taking our jobs; they are creating them. They are not causing crime; they are putting their lives on the line to fight it. What do we gain by deporting them?

What do we gain when Maggie and Franciso are forced to drop out of school? How do we gain when Anna cannot go back to work in the pediatric ICU?

Jevi has no memory of the country in which he was born. He spent only the first 6 months of his life there. What do we gain when we send him back?

Living in a community means depending on the people around you. It means having neighbors you can turn to in times of need. Dreamers are our neighbors. This is their time of need.

I urge my colleagues to understand who Dreamers really are. Don’t pit kids against parents or neighbors against neighbors. This is bigger than partisan politics. It is about human lives. It is time to fight for these families and for keeping these families together, who are an integral part of our communities.

I know many of my colleagues support the Dream Act and reasonable border security measures. Let’s get through to the finish line. The American people are watching us, and 80 percent of them want us to help Dreamers. Dreamers belong here, and Dreamers are American. This is our chance to do what is right.

I yield the floor.

**CLOTURE MOTION**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will read as follows:

The legislative clerk read as follows:

**CLOTURE MOTION**

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 302, H.R. 2579, an act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the premium tax credit with respect to unsubsidized COBRA continuation coverage.


The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to H.R. 2579, an act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the premium tax credit with respect to unsubsidized COBRA continuation coverage, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DAINES). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 97, nays 1, as follows:

* * *

YEAS—97

Barrasso—Blumenthal

Booker—Brown

Baldwin—Blumenthal

Booker—Brown

Alexander—Boozman

Barrasso—Brown

**[Rollcall Vote No. 32 Leg.]**
towers. Andy donated the beam to the University of the Cumberlands, where it was established as part of the school’s Patriot Park in 2003.

Andy is also dedicated to helping members of the next generation succeed. Promoting high school football in Kentucky and Tennessee, he has served as the chairman of the Border Bowl for several years. This nonprofit organization hosts a football game in Williamsburg, KY, featuring top players from both States. Andy’s work on the Border Bowl demonstrates his belief in the States’ chance to hone their skills and compete in a popular event.

I want to congratulate Andy Croley on being named the 2018 Leader of the Year. I would like to commend him on this accomplishment, and I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing his work.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY BLANN
Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Jerry Blann and recognize his extraordinary contributions to Jackson Hole Mountain Resort and the State of Wyoming. Under Jerry’s leadership, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort has flourished to become the foremost ski resort of North America and one of the premier destinations in the world.

After 22 years as President of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Jerry is moving on to new challenges and to enjoy the mountain and the community he has spent decades to help build. Through his passion and knowledge of the industry, Jerry is one of the most respected and sought-after leaders in the ski industry today. His vision helped revolutionized Jackson Hole Mountain Resort and turn it into a year-round destination attracting skiers worldwide to Wyoming.

From his childhood, Jerry has been involved in skiing. His father served as the general manager of Mt. Bachelor in Bend, OR. Jerry received a ski scholarship to the University of Denver, where he was an All-American athlete and captain of the team. The team won the NCAA championship three of his four seasons. After graduation, Jerry moved to Aspen to work in the ski industry and eventually became the president of Aspen Skiling Company.

In 1985, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort named Jerry president and board member. For more than two decades, Jerry’s guidance and vision transformed the resort, strengthening businesses and tourism in Jackson and the rest of Wyoming. During his tenure, Jerry increased the number of annual skier visits from the 200,000s to almost 600,000. He spearheaded over $200 million in capital improvements. He oversaw the replacement of the famous iconic aerial tram, the longest continuous vertical rise at a ski resort in the world. He also partnered with community members to create the JH-AIR nonprofit to expand service from major airlines and bring more nonstop flights to Jackson Hole Airport. This partnership has proved incredibly successful, allowing the resort to flourish and help introduce our beautiful State to thousands of new visitors every year.

In addition to these achievements, Jerry focused always on employees. He recognizes people are fundamental to success. He considers the quality of his staff one of his proudest accomplishments. That focus resulted in one of the highest rates of retaining employees in the industry. It is no wonder Ski Magazine and Forbes recognize the resort as the No. 1 top destination ski resort.

Jerry’s impact is not limited to skiing. Jerry serves his community and state as vice president of the Jackson Hole airport board and serves on the Board of Directors for the Wyoming Business Council. He oversaw the Teton Village Master Plan and became the treasurer of the Teton Village Association, Improvement Service District.

Jerry also made the wild lands he worked in and around a priority. He served on the Board of Directors for the National Ski Area Association, NSAAA, and chaired the environmental committee for a decade. His commitment to preserving the environment and beauty of Jackson has earned the resort multiple environmentally focused awards. The resort was twice the recipient of the Golden Eagle Award, the highest industry environmental honor.

Jerry’s leadership and the success of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort was felt statewide. Governor Matt Mead awarded him the BIG WYO Award in 2016, given to individuals who achieved great strides in tourism and business to advance Wyoming. Governor Mead said Jerry’s leadership was to the community and across the state as awe-inspiring as the mountain itself.

I spoke to Jerry on the day his retirement was announced. What he told me was not surprising, only true. What he told me was that he was looking forward to the next challenge and next opportunity to serve the community he lives in and to many more days skiing the mountain he loves.

In the years ahead, Bobbi and I wish Jerry, his wife, Rebecca, and his kids Brooke and Katie many more days serving and experiencing again the special place he helped reimagine.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF AUBURN, MAINE
Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today I wish to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the city of Auburn, ME. Auburn was built with a spirit of determination and resiliency that still guides the community today, and this is a time to celebrate the generations of hard-working and caring people who have made it such a wonderful place to live, work, and raise families.

Auburn was first settled in 1786 and incorporated as a town in 1842. The
name was inspired by a popular poem by Oliver Goldsmith that begins with this line: “Sweet Auburn! Loveliest village of the plain.”

With the mighty Androscoggin River providing power, Auburn soon was home to paper, oil, flour, drug, and textile mills. When the factory system of shoe manufacturing was developed there, the people of Auburn formed a skilled and dedicated workforce that built a great Maine industry. The factories attracted many French-Canadian immigrants, whose culture continues to enliven the city. The prosperity produced by hard work and determination was invested in schools and churches to create a true community.

On February 12, 1868, the fast-growing community incorporated as the city of Auburn. Together with Lewiston across the Androscoggin River, an economic powerhouse was created and the cities of the Androscoggin today form Maine’s second most populated municipal region.

The decline of traditional industries in the 20th century posed a great challenge. Auburn’s response is described in words etched into the walls of Auburn Hall, a Latin phrase that translates to “No Steps Backward.” Auburn is a community that was built by the power of a great river. Now, the power of community is building a new future on that river with new economic opportunities, wonderful food, vibrant arts and entertainment, and exciting recreation. Auburn is building its history as it continues to move forward.

Auburn is a city of compassionate, involved people. It is home to the Good Shepherd Food Bank, the largest hunger relief organization in Maine. The Auburn Police Activities League, which provides educational and athletic opportunities to children and teens after school and during the summer, is an outstanding example of public officials and committed citizens joining together to change lives today to create the leaders of tomorrow. It is the hometown of a role model for all leaders, former Senator Olympia Snowe. The energy and planning that are going into Auburn’s 150th anniversary celebration demonstrate the pride residents have in their city.

The celebration of the city of Auburn’s 150th anniversary is not merely about the passing of time. It is about human accomplishment. We celebrate the people who, from the dawn of our Nation to our time, have pulled together, cared for one another, and built a great community. Thanks to those who came before, Auburn, ME, has a human accomplishment. We celebrate about the passing of time. It is about residents have in their city.

The celebration of the city of Auburn’s 150th anniversary is not merely about the passing of time. It is about human accomplishment. We celebrate the people who, from the dawn of our Nation to our time, have pulled together, cared for one another, and built a great community. Thanks to those who came before, Auburn, ME, has a wonderful history. Thanks to those there today, it has a bright future.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GLUCKSMAN IRELAND HOUSE OF NYU

• Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Glucksman Ireland House of NYU as they celebrate 25 years of dedication to the promotion of Irish studies and providing a valuable, vibrant center for the appreciation and understanding of Irish and Irish-American culture and scholarship.

Established in 1993, the Glucksman Ireland House strives to form enriching, comprehensive connections to Irish and Irish-American culture for students at New York University and other members of the community. The house was created to recognize the importance of Irish history and combines curricula for undergraduates and graduate students with an impressive array of public programming.

For a quarter of a century, the Glucksman Ireland House has earned its status as the hub for one of the world’s top-ranked academic Irish Studies programs. Boasting a faculty that specializes in Irish and Irish-American language, cultural studies, literature, history, and music, the house proudly hosts lectures, concerts, and other stimulating events, often headed by notable guests with personal expertise on a wide range of Irish topics.

This month, the house will celebrate its milestone anniversary at its annual gala, where it will honor Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Paul Muldoon and entrepreneur Carl Shanahan. This year’s gala focuses on Irish-Jewish themes, in a tribute to Loretta Brennan Glucksman Ireland House director and Lewis L. Glucksman, whose joint vision helped transform the house into the lasting institution it is today. Lew strongly believed the ethnic and immigrant experience is universal and strongly supported the open cultural exchange that occurs so often at the house.

The Glucksman Ireland House continues to build a distinguished legacy as a key forum for discussion and learning, starting relevant conversations, and commemorating rich histories. I applaud their numerous accomplishments and hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Glucksman Ireland House of NYU on their 25 years of education, awareness, and community.

REMEMBERING FONG GAY LEON WU

• Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the remarkable life of Fong Gay Leon Wu, who passed away peacefully on January 24, 2018.

Fong Gay Leon Wu was born in a village in Guangdong, China, in the early 1920s. She was the first female in her large extended family to finish her secondary education. This was not a common practice in China in those days because girls were not generally allowed to go to school.

Subsequently, she married Yung Chi and settled to care for her new family during very turbulent times in China. She survived the Chinese civil war and the rise of the Communist Party. In 1949, her new family was facing increasingly belligerent villagers. Motivated by the presence of imminent danger to her family and armed with courage, strength, and ingenuity, she led her infant daughter to another haven of their fratricidal home village in the early days of communism in China, narrowly escaping death. Fong Gay and her family fled Guangdong to a safe haven in Hong Kong, where they were protected by family and friends, until she was able to rejoin her husband and start a new life in Santiago de Cuba. In her new home in Cuba, she gave birth to her second daughter.

Shortly after the Cuban Revolution succeeded in 1959, she recognized signs of communism in the early days of Castro’s Cuba and once again planned her family’s escape from a communist regime. With her family in tow, Fong Gay Leon Wu arrived to the United States.

Her indomitable spirit, her strength, and her courage, which she has shown throughout her life, helped the family forge a new life here in the United States. Twice in her life, she had to start all over again, with little or nothing but the clothes on her back. Although raised as a child of privilege, Fong Gay was not afraid of hard work and challenges. She was dedicated to the ideals of America, most importantly to the importance of freedom, because she experienced firsthand what it meant to live under a regime that limited freedom. In those early days after she arrived with her family in the United States, even though she could not speak English, she helped supplement the family income by helping with a family business startup in Chicago and later by working in the garment industry in New York City’s Chinatown.

After overcoming countless hardships and challenges throughout her life, Fong Gay never lost her big heart. Her love for her family and courage on their behalf has set an example for us all and especially for her daughters and granddaughters, each of whom has followed her lead and committed herself to a life and career of service. Her spirit and warmth will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LARRY BOWMAN

• Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. President, it is an honor to recognize Dr. Larry Bowman of Seneca, SC, as he throttles back his duties as director of orthopedic sports medicine for Clemson University’s football team.

He completed his undergraduate education at West Virginia University before earning his masters in bio-engineering at Clemson University. Following an internship at the William Beaumont Army Medical Center, Larry served our country as a flight surgeon in the U.S. Army at Fort Lewis, WA. He returned to the Palmetto State to earn his medical degree at the Medical University of South Carolina College of
To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with that requirement, I have sent to the Federal Register for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13566 of February 25, 2011, with respect to Libya is to continue in effect beyond February 25, 2018.

Colonel Muammar Qadhafi, his government, and close associates took extreme measures against the people of Libya, including using weapons of war, mercenaries, and wanton violence against unarmed civilians. There remains a serious risk that former members of the Qadhafi government, members of the Qadhafi family, the Qadhafi family’s close associates, or others determined to undermine the United Nations peace process might misappropriate Libyan state assets. The diversion of these resources could prolong and deepen the current instability in Libya, which would benefit the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria and other terrorist groups and pose a serious risk to the national security of the United States and the security of regional partners.

A strong and united Libya is the best defense against terrorism in the region. The violence among Libyans that began in Benghazi in May 2014, and spread thereafter to Tripoli and throughout the country, has destabilized the country. Until Libyans resolve their underlying political divisions, there will remain a significant threat of civil conflict in Libya. Many of the ongoing political divisions are over power and access to Libya’s resources, and further destabilization is possible were sanctions to be lifted. We continue to encourage Libyans to engage in political dialogue and refrain from violence. Those who reject dialogue and obstruct or undermine Libya’s democratic transition must be held accountable. While we work with the international community to identify those individuals who pose a threat to Libya’s democratic transition, we must also continue to ensure that appropriate sanctions remain in place.

The situation in Libya continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States, and measures are needed to protect against the diversion of assets or other abuses by members of Qadhafi’s family, their associates, and others hindering Libyan national reconciliation. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency with respect to Libya.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 9, 2018.
spending, lower the national debt, and focus Government on what matters most—protecting the Nation.

Expanding Economic Growth and Opportunity. The Budget continues our efforts to grow the economy, create millions of jobs, and raise wages. To accompany our efforts to cut spending and implement massive tax cuts and reforms for American families, workers, and businesses, we will continue to relentlessly target unnecessary regulations for elimination. We will also continue driving America toward energy dominance and making the United States a net energy exporter by 2026.

The Budget also redefines what is possible, by putting the American economy on a path to sustainable 3-percent long-term economic growth. Over the next decade, a steady rate of 3-percent economic growth will infuse trillions of additional dollars into our economy, fueling the dreams of the American people and sustaining a new era of American Greatness.

Preserving Peace Through Strength. The Budget recognizes that we confront political, economic, and military adversaries and competitors that have rejected our national security strategy. Foremost, the Budget rebuilds and modernizes the military—to fulfill a core constitutional responsibility of the Federal Government. The Budget provides resources to enhance readiness to build the planes, tanks, warships, and cyber tools that the brave men and women who defend us need to deter aggression and, when necessary, to fight and win. Most importantly, the Budget provides funds to increase the size of our Armed Forces and to give our men and women in uniform a well-earned pay raise. The Budget recognizes that we must deftly employ all of our tools of statecraft—diplomatic, intelligence-related, military, and economic—to advance American influence. A world that supports American interests and reflects our values makes America more secure and prosperous.

Building the Wall, Dismantling Transnational Criminal Organizations, and Enforcing Our Immigration Laws. The Budget reflects my Administration’s serious and ongoing commitment to fully secure our border, take the fight to criminal gangs like MS-13, and make immigration system work for Americans. The Budget provides funding for a wall on our Southwest border and additional resources for law enforcement at the Departments of Homeland Security and Justice. The Budget also funds an increase in the number of Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers, Border Patrol agents, and immigration judges to improve enforcement at the border and within the United States.

Rebuilding our Infrastructure. World-class infrastructure is possible for the American people. Together we will build stunning new bridges, railways, waterways, tunnels, water treatment facilities and highways. The Budget reflects a new vision for American infrastructure that would generate $1 trillion in infrastructure investment and speed its delivery to the American people.

Supporting American Working Families. Due to changes in family structures, labor force composition, and participation rates, the demands on American families have never been more complex or widespread. In addition to the middle income tax relief achieved with the passage of tax reform, the Budget reflects the importance of investing in American working families by making paid family leave available to new parents. Investing in effective approaches to skills training like formal apprenticeships, and maintaining Federal funding and leveraging additional State dollars for programs that help America’s working families raise their children and find well-paying jobs.

Protecting Our Veterans. The Budget fulfills our promise to care for our veterans and their families—men and women who answered our Nation’s call for help and sacrificed so much to defend us. Our veterans have earned nothing less than the absolute best care and benefits after their service has ended, and the Budget provides the funding necessary to treat them with the honor and respect they deserve. It is our Nation’s duty to ensure veterans have access to the medical treatments when they need it—and that they have a choice when it comes to their care. The Budget also ensures that veterans receive training and support to re-enter the workforce and find well-paying jobs.

Combating Opioids and Addiction. More Americans died from drug overdoses in 2016 than those who lost their lives in the Vietnam War. Opioids caused the overwhelming majority of these deaths, which is why my Administration has declared a nationwide Public Health Emergency with respect to opioids. The Budget reflects a solemn and unshakable commitment to liberate communities from the scourge of opioids and drug addiction.

Fighting High Medical Drug Prices. Many patients face illness that could be cured or managed with the right medical drugs. But the prices for the drugs they need are often exorbitant. The unnecessarily high prices force many patients to choose between going without the medicines they need or making tremendous financial sacrifices. In addition, taxpayers all too often are left to pay inflated prices for drugs companies are more aggressively raising through Government programs. The Budget proposes new strategies to address high drug prices and increase access to drugs by addressing perverse payment incentives and exposing drug companies to more aggressive competition, all while continuing to promote innovation and extend American dominance in the pharmaceutical field.

Moving from Welfare to Work. Millions of our fellow Americans have been robbed of the dignity and independence that comes through the opportunity to work. Despite significant economic improvements and a strong recovery in the job market, enrollment in welfare programs remains stubbornly high in many places around the Nation. Millions of Americans are in a tragic state of dependency on a welfare system that does not reward work, and in many cases, pays people not to work. These programs, during the previous administration, must now be reformed. While moving able-bodied Americans back into the workforce, welfare reform must also protect public resources for the truly needy, especially the low-income elderly, children, and Americans with disabilities. The Budget includes sensible reforms to problems in our current welfare system, and aims to end debilitating dependence while ensuring that our safety net is reserved for those Americans who truly need help.

More Pathways to Affordable Education and Well-Paying Jobs. The Budget takes important steps to expand opportunities for Americans to access affordable, employment-relevant education that puts them on the path to a well-paying job and, ultimately, a fulfilling career. The Budget promotes formal apprenticeships, an evidence-based system that allows individuals to “earn-while they learn.” The Budget also makes important investments in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education in K-12 schools, and supports career and technical education in high schools and postsecondary institutions.

Promoting School Choice. So many of America’s poorest children—especially African-American and Hispanic children—attend failing public schools that the Budget empowers parents, especially of our disadvantaged youth, to choose the very best school for their children.

The Budget reflects our commitment to the safety, prosperity, and security of the American people. The more room our economy has to grow, and the more American companies are freed from constraining over-regulation, the stronger and safer we become as a Nation.

It is now up to the Congress to act. I pledge my full cooperation in unleashing the incredible and unparalleled potential of the American people. There is no limit to the promise of America when we keep our commitments to our fellow Americans and continue to put their interests first. Working together, we will do just that.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

LEGISLATIVE OUTLINE FOR REBUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE IN AMERICA—PM 29

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

I have enclosed with this message my Administration’s framework for rebuilding infrastructure in America. Our Nation’s infrastructure is in an unacceptable state of disrepair, which damages our country’s competitiveness and our citizens’ quality of life. For too long, lawmakers have invested in infrastructure inefficiently, ignored critical needs, and allowed it to deteriorate. As a result, the United States has fallen further and further behind other countries. It is time to give Americans the working, modern infrastructure they deserve.

To help build a better future for all Americans, I ask the Congress to act soon on an infrastructure bill that will stimulate at least $1.5 trillion in new investment over the next 10 years, shorten the process for approving projects to 2 years or less, address unmet rural infrastructure needs, empower State and local authorities, and train the American workforce of the future.

To develop the infrastructure framework I am transmitting today, my Administration engaged with Governors, mayors, Federal agencies, State and local agencies, Members of Congress, industry, and most importantly, the American people who depend on upgraded infrastructure. The product of these efforts is a roadmap for the Congress to draft and pass the most comprehensive infrastructure bill in our Nation’s history. My Administration’s plan presents an infrastructure future beyond traditional infrastructure—like roads, bridges, and airports—but addresses other needs like drinking and wastewater systems, waterways, water resources, energy, rural infrastructure, public lands, veterans’ hospitals, and Brownfield and Superfund sites. The reforms set forth in my plan will strengthen the economy, make our country more competitive, reduce the costs of goods and services for American families, and enable Americans to build their lives on top of the best infrastructure in the world.

My Administration is committed to working with the Congress to enact a law that will enable America’s builders to construct new, modern, and efficient infrastructure throughout our beautiful land.

DONALD J. TRUMP.


MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on February 9, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 96. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure the integrity of voice communications and to prevent unjust or unreasonable discrimination among areas of the United States in the delivery of such communications.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1892) to amend title 4, United States Code, to provide for the flying of the flag at half-staff in the event of the death of a first responder in the line of duty.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 582) to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require multi-line telephone systems to have a configuration that permits users to directly initiate a call to 9–1–1 without dialing any additional digit, code, prefix, or post-fix, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1301) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1301) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the resolution (H. Con. Res. 194) providing for a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 1892.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on February 9, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has passed the following bills, which were previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 1892. An act to amend title 4, United States Code, to provide for the flying of the flag at half-staff in the event of the death of a first responder in the line of duty.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:32 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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1153. An act to amend the Truth in Lending Act to improve upon the definitions provided for points and fees in connection with a mortgage transaction.

H.R. 4771. An act to raise the consolidated assets threshold under the small bank holding company policy statement, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 1301. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

H.R. 582. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require multi-line telephone systems to have a configuration that permits users to directly initiate a call to 9–1–1 without dialing any additional digit, code, prefix, or post-fix, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1892. An act to amend title 4, United States Code, to provide for the flying of the flag at half-staff in the event of the death of a first responder in the line of duty.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1153. An act to amend the Truth in Lending Act to improve upon the definitions provided for points and fees in connection with a mortgage transaction.

H.R. 4771. An act to raise the consolidated assets threshold under the small bank holding company policy statement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:
EC–4259. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Modernization of the Commission’s Rules Relating to Interstate and Intrastate Telephone Traffic Carried Over the Physical Plant of Common Carriers” (FR No. 9974–16–Region 2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 7, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4259. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2018–2020 Enterprise Regulatory Agendas” (FR No. 9974–6–Region 10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 7, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–4260. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Zoxamide; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 9972–69) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–4261. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Rimsulfuron; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 9972–61) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–4261. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “New York: Incorporation by Reference of Massport’s Stated Management Program” (FRL No. 9974–6–Region 2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4273. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District” (FRL No. 9973–55–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4274. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District” (FRL No. 9973–55–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4277. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; West Virginia: Removal of Clean Air Interstate Rule Trading Programs Replaced by Cross-State Air Pollution Rule Trading Programs” (FRL No. 9974–12–Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4276. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Quality State Implementation Plans: Approvals and Promulgations; California; South Coast Moderate Area Plan for the 2006 PM2.5 Standards; Correction of Deficiency” (FR No. 9974–11–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4275. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Approvals and Promulgations; California; South Coast Moderate Area Plan for the 2006 PM2.5 Standards; Correction of Deficiency” (FR No. 9974–11–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4274. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District” (FRL No. 9973–55–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4273. A communication from the President of the Senate on February 7, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4280. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval of American Society of Mechanical Engineers’ Code Cases” (RIN3150–AI13) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 7, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4281. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “An Approach for Using Probabilistic Risk Assessment in Risk-Informed Decisions on Plant-Specific Changes to the Licensing Basis” (Regulatory Guide 1.174, Revision 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 7, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4282. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the designation of a group as a Foreign Terrorist Organization by the Secretary of State (OS–2018–0075); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4283. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a certification, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country (OS–2018–0074); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4284. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Market Data for Overseas Cost-of-Living Adjustments for Foreign Service Officers and Federal Government civilians who are stationed abroad; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–4285. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Generating Antibiotic Incentives Now”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.


to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4297. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–05629)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4298. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Agusta S.P.A. Helicopters” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–06399)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4299. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–06231)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4300. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; AE Industrial Park, Inc.” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–06210)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4301. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc.” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–06229)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4302. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–12422)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4303. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–12431)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4304. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–12421)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4305. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc.” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–06231)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Honeywell International Inc. Turboprop and Turboshaft Engines (RIN 2120-AA83) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4314. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; British Aerospace Regional Jet (RIN 2120-AA84) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4315. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Kane, PA” (RIN 2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2017–0176) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4316. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class D Airspace and Revocation of Class E Airspace; Fort Eustis, VA” (RIN 2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2017–0993) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4317. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Charlotte, NC” (RIN 2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2017–0949) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4318. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Lebanon, MO” (RIN 2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2017–0176) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4319. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Cerrabassett, ME” (RIN 2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2017–0610) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4320. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (26); Amdt. No. 3784” (RIN 2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4321. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (19); Amdt. No. 3783” received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4322. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (46); Amdt. No. 3782” (RIN 2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4323. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Uniform Procedures for State Highway Safety Grant Program” (RIN2127–AL71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4324. A communication from the Program Analyst, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Standard for Child’s Folding Chairs and Stools” (16 CFR Parts 112, 1130, and 1232) (Docket No. CPSC–2015–0029) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4325. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Standard for Children’s Folding Chairs and Stools” (16 CFR Parts 112, 1130, and 1232) (Docket No. CPSC–2015–0029) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4326. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (26); Amdt. No. 3784” (RIN 2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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. ROYDY (for himself and Mr. BENNETT): S. 2415. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment of certain Medicaid providers and suppliers across State lines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. COONS): S. 2416. A bill to amend titles 5, 10, and 37, United States Code, to require that an order to serve on active duty under section 12304 of title 10, United States Code, is treated the same as other orders to serve on active duty for defense of the United States; to require the uniformed services for certain benefits; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. Tester, Mr. Hoeven, Mr. Udall, Mr. Gardner, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Risch, Mr. Rounds): S. Res. 401. A resolution designating May 5, 2018 as the “National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Menendez): S. Res. 402. A resolution calling upon the President to exercise relevant mandatory sanctions authorities under the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act in response to the Government of the Russian Federation’s continued aggression in Ukraine and illegal occupation of Crimea and assault on democratic institutions around the world, including through cyber attacks; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. Murkowski, Ms. Heinrich, Ms. Cantwell, Ms. Stabenow, Ms. Fischer, Mr. Hoeven, Mr. Capito, Ms. Baldwin, Ms. Shaheen, Ms. Warren, Ms. Murray, Ms. Hassan, Ms. Smith, Ms. Klobuchar, and Ms. Duckworth): S. Res. 403. A resolution designating February 2018 as “American Heart Month” and February 2, 2018, as “National Wear Red Day”; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 196

At the request of Mr. Rubio, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Klobuchar) was added as a cosponsor of S. 196, a bill to require continued and enhanced annual reporting to Congress in the Annual Report on International Religious Freedom on anti-Semitic incidents in Europe, the safety and security of European Jewish communities, and the United States to partner with European governments, the European Union, and civil society groups, to combat anti-Semitism, and for other purposes.

S. 372

At the request of Mr. Portman, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. Roberts) was added as a cosponsor of S. 372, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to ensure that merchandise arriving through the mail shall be subject to review by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and to require the provision of advance electronic information on shipments of mail to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and for other purposes.

S. 751

At the request of Mr. Warner, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. Coons) was added as a cosponsor of S. 751, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in the National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.
At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 910, a bill to prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1550, 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.

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1685, a bill to require Pannie Mae and Freddie Mac to establish procedures for considering certain credit scores in making a determination whether to purchase a residential mortgage, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1764, a bill to extend the principle of federalism to State drug policy, provide access to medical marijuana, and enable a more thorough research into the medicinal properties of marijuana.

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1824, a bill to provide for wildfire suppression operations, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2335, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to issue permits for recreation services on lands managed by Federal agencies, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2514, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the processing of veterans benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, to limit the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recover overpayments made by the Department and other amounts owed by veterans to the United States, to improve the due process accorded veterans with respect to such recovery, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2345, a bill to amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to provide additional resources to State and local prosecutors, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2360, a bill to provide for the minimum size of crews of freight trains, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2370, a bill to better support our early childhood educators and elementary school and secondary school teachers, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2408, a bill to prohibit the use of funds for an exhibition or parade of military forces and hardware for review by the President outside of authorized military operations or activities.

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2286, a bill to amend the Peace Corps Act to provide greater protection and services for Peace Corps volunteers, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

Mr. DAINES. 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. Res. 401

Whereas, according to a study commissioned by the Department of Justice, in some tribal communities, American Indian women face murder rates that are more than 10 times the national average murder rate;

Whereas, according to the most recently available data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2015, homicide—

(1) ranged from the second to seventh leading cause of death for American Indian and Alaska Native females between 1 and 39 years of age; and

(2) remained a leading cause of death for most American Indian and Alaska Native females between 10 and 34 years of age;

Whereas little data exist on the number of missing American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls in the United States;

Whereas, on July 5, 2013, Hanna Harris, a member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, was reported missing by her family in Lame Deer, Montana; and

Whereas the body of Hanna Harris was found 5 days after she went missing;

Whereas Hanna Harris was determined to have been raped and murdered, and the individuals accused of committing those crimes were convicted;

Whereas the case of Hanna Harris is an example of many similar cases; and

Whereas Hanna Harris was born on May 5, 1992. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved. That the Senate—

(1) designates May 5, 2018 as the “National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States and interested groups—(A) to commemorate the lives of missing and murdered American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls whose cases are documented and undocumented in public records and the media; and

(B) to demonstrate solidarity with the families of the victims in light of those tragedies.

SENIOR RESOLUTION 402—CALLING UPON THE PRESIDENT TO EXERCISE RELEVANT MANDATORY SANCTIONS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE COUNTERING AMERICA’S ADVERSARIES THROUGH SANCTIONS ACT IN RESPONSE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION’S CONTINUED AGGRESSION IN UKRAINE AND ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF CRIMEA AND ASSAULT ON DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AROUND THE WORLD, INCLUDING THROUGH CYBER ATTACKS

Mr. CARDIN for himself, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. MENENDEZ submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. Res. 402

Whereas, on January 6, 2017, an assessment by 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 U.S. presidential election” and warned “Moscow will apply lessons learned from its Putin-ordered campaign aimed at the U.S. Presidential election to future influence efforts directed against U.S. allies and their election processes”.

Whereas a report of the minority staff of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate dated October 10, 2017 and titled “Putin’s Asymmetric Assault on Democracy in Russia and Europe: Implications for U.S. National Security” assessed that the Government of the Russian Federation employs and deploys a arsenal that includes military invasions, cyber attacks, disinformation, support for fringe political groups, and the weaponization of energy resources, organized crime and corruption, and that the Government of the Russian Federation “will continue to develop and refine its arsenal to use on democracies around the world, including against U.S. elections in 2018 and 2020”;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation continues to undermine democracy in the United States and threatens the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine, including its illegal occupation of Crimea and its support for violent separatists in the eastern part of Ukraine;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation continues to provide financial, material, and technological support to the Government of Syria, which has enabled the latter to acquire or develop a range of lethal capabilities that it has deployed against civilians in its territory, including acts that may constitute war crimes, crimes against humanity or other violations of international humanitarian law;

Whereas the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Public Law 115–44; 131 Stat. 866) passed with overwhelming bipartisan majorities in the Senate and the House of Representatives, and title II of that Act was developed to respond to the interference of the Government of the Russian Federation in the 2016 U.S. election and the aggression of that Government in Ukraine and Syria and to deter such malicious activities in the future;

Whereas the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act was signed by the President and enacted into law on August 2, 2017, thereby codifying a range of mandates and authorities to impose sanctions on the Russian Federation for its malicious activities against the United States, democratic process and in Ukraine and Syria;

Whereas, in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation on January 29, 2018, Central Intelligence Agency Director Michael Pompeo said he had “not seen a significant decrease” in attempts by the Government of the Russian Federation to subvert democracies in Europe and the United States, and added that the U.S. intelligence community would try and interfere in the 2018 United States election, he said that he had “every expectation that they will continue to try and do so”;

Whereas, on March 6, 2014, President Barack Obama issued Executive Order 13660 (79 Fed. Reg. 15553; 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 certain persons and prohibiting certain transactions with respect to the situation in Ukraine), and Executive Order 13685 (79 Fed. Reg. 77307; relating to blocking property of certain persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine);

Whereas, on April 1, 2015, President Barack Obama issued Executive Order 13694 (80 Fed. Reg. 18077; relating to the blocking of property of certain persons engaging in significant malicious cyber-enabled activities), which authorized 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;

Whereas, on December 29, 2016, President Obama issued an annex to Executive Order 13694, which authorizes—

(1) the Main Intelligence Directorate (also known as Glavnoe Razvedyvatel’noe Upravlenie or the GRU) in Moscow, Russian Federation;

(2) the Federal Security Service (also known as Federalnaya Sluzhba Bezopasnosti or the FSB) in Moscow, Russian Federation;

(3) the Special Technology Center (also known as STLTC, Special Technology Center St. Petersburg) in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation;

(4) Zorsecurity (also known as Esage Lab) in Moscow, Russian Federation;

(5) 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;

(6) Igor Valentinovich Korobov;

(7) Sergey Aleksandrovich Glinzon;

(8) Igor Olegovich Kostyukov; and

(9) Vladimir Stepanovich Alexseyev;

Whereas, on December 20, 2017, the Department of the Treasury imposed targeted sanctions on 5 nationals of the Russian Federation under the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act of 2012 (title IV of Public Law 112–208) and, on December 21, 2017, the Department imposed targeted sanctions, including against one national of the Russian Federation for significant acts or attempts to engage in malign cyber-enabled activities, and a derivative Executive order signed by President Donald Trump;

Whereas, on January 26, 2018, sanctions maintenance packages were issued by the Department of the Treasury under Executive Orders 13660, 13661, 13662, and 13685, signed by President Barack Obama, and those packages targeted additional entities in connection with the conflict in Ukraine and the illegal occupation of Crimea by the Government of the Russian Federation;

Whereas no additional targeted sanctions have been imposed pursuant to mandatory provisions enacted under title II of the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (22 U.S.C. 9501 et seq.) relating to sanctions with respect to activities of the Russian Federation undermining cybersecurity;

(3) calls on the President to immediately exercise sanctions authorities provided for by section 226 of the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (relating to sanctions with respect to Russian and other foreign financial institutions); and

under the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act to impose sanctions on relevant Russian individuals and entities found to have knowingly engaged in sanctions subjects, including and
(A) section 4 of the Ukraine Freedom Sup-
port Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8923), as amended
by section 226 of the Countering America’s Ad-
versaries Through Sanctions Act (relating
to sanctions relating to special Russian crude oil products);
(b) section 5 of the Ukraine Freedom Sup-
port Act (22 U.S.C. 8924), as amended
by section 226 of the Countering America’s Ad-
versaries Through Sanctions Act (relating
to sanctions with respect to Russian and other foreign financial institutions);
(c) section 233 of the Countering America’s Ad-
versaries Through Sanctions Act (22 U.S.C. 9527; relating to sanctions with respect to the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States); and
(d) section 233 of the Countering America’s Ad-
versaries Through Sanctions Act (22 U.S.C. 9538; relating to sanctions with respect to the transfer of arms and related material to Syria);
(4) the President—
(A) to publicly acknowledge the ongoing threat posed by the Government of the Rus-
sian Federation to democratic values and processes in the United States, Europe, and elsewhere;
(B) to prioritize the development of a co-
cordinated, whole-of-government response to that urgent threat; and
(C) to work with Congress to provide for the funding and implementation of that re-
sponse as soon as possible before the 2018 elections;
(5) urges the President—
(A) to vigorously implement section 231 of the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (22 U.S.C. 9527; relating to sanctions with respect to persons engaged in transactions with the intelligence or defense sectors of the Government of the Russian Federation);
(B) to continue to work diplomatically to encourage substantial reductions in signifi-
cant transactions with the intelligence and defense sectors of the Government of the Russian Federation; and
(C) to ensure that sanctions are imposed under section 231 in the event that a significant transaction with a person that is part of, or operates for or on behalf of, the intelligence or defense sectors of the Government of the Russian Federation, as defined in guidance issued by the Department of State, takes place;
(6) supports efforts to expose and publicize threats posed by the malign influence and disinformation campaigns of the Government of the Russian Federation, as the United States intelligence community did in January 2017, including through efforts by social media platforms, independent media, State and local governments primarily responsible for elections management and oversight, and other governmental and civil society actors; and
(7) calls on the President to take specific measures to ensure the protection of United States democratic institutions in advance of the 2018 mid-term elections, including the provision of cybersecurity defensive measures to elec-
tion administrators at the State and local
level that request assistance and to political parties and candidates.

SENATE RESOLUTION 403—DESIGN-
NATING FEBRUARY 2018 AS
“AMERICAN HEART MONTH” AND FEBRUARY 2, 2018, AS “NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY”
Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mrs. MUR-
kowski, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HEITKAMP,
Ms. COTTON, Ms. STARK, Ms. FISHER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. WARREN,
Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. SMITH,
Ms. KLOBUCAR, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. Res. 403
Whereas cardiovascular disease affects men, women, and children of every age and race in the United States;
Whereas, between 2013 and 2017, the death rate from cardiovascular disease fell nearly 30 percent, but cardiovascular disease continues to be the leading cause of death in the United States, taking the lives of approxi-
ately 800,000 people in the United States each year and accounting for 1 in 3 deaths across the United States;
Whereas congenital heart defects are the most common birth defect in the United States, as well as the leading killer of in-
fants with birth defects;
Whereas, every year, an estimated 790,000 individuals in the United States have a heart attack, of whom an estimated 115,000 die;
Whereas cardiovascular disease accounts for $555,000,000,000 in health care expendi-
tures and lost productivity annually;
Whereas, by 2035, cardiovascular disease will affect 1 in 3 Americans in the United States who support American military families and will be a major factor in the health care costs of the United States military;
Whereas greater awareness and early detection of risk factors for cardiovascular disease can improve and save the lives of thou-
sands of individuals in the United States each year;
Whereas, under section 101(1) of title 36, United States Code, the President is re-
quested to issue an annual proclamation des-
ing February as American Heart Month;
Whereas the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health, the American Heart Association, and many other organizations celebrate National Wear Red Day during February by going red and raising awareness about cardio-
vacular disease as the leading killer of women; and
Whereas, every year since 1964, the Presi-
dent has issued a proclamation designating the month of February as American Heart Month: Now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) designates—
(A) February 2018 as “American Heart Month”; and
(B) February 2, 2018, as “National Wear Red Day”;
(2) supports the goals and ideals of Amer-
ican Heart Month and National Wear Red Day;
(3) recognizes and reaffirms the commit-
mint in the United States to fighting cardio-
vacular disease by—
(A) promoting awareness about the causes, risks, and prevention of cardiovascular dis-
ease;
(B) supporting research on cardiovascular disease; and
(C) expanding access to medical treatment;
(4) commends the efforts of States, terri-
tories, and possessions of the United States, localities, nonprofit organizations, busi-
nesses and other entities, and the people of the United States who support American Heart Month and National Wear Red Day; and
(5) encourages every individual in the United States to learn about his or her risk for cardiovascular disease.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET
Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a request for a committee to meet during today’s session of the Sen-
ate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Sen-
ate, the following committee is author-
ized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the ses-
sion of the Senate on Monday, Feb-

uary 12, 2018, at 5 p.m., to hold a hear-
ing entitled “Countering America’s Ad-
versaries Through Sanction Act.”
### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

**U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2017**

#### Name and country

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SENATOR PAT ROBERTS,
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry,

### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

**U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2017**

#### Name and country

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January 11, 2018.

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### FOREIGN TRAVEL FINANCIAL REPORTS

In accordance with the appropriate provisions of law, the Secretary of the Senate herewith submits the following reports for standing committees of the Senate, certain joint committees of the Congress, delegations and groups, and select and special committees of the Senate, relating to expenses incurred in the performance of authorized foreign travel:

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## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

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*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 500(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.*

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**CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22**

### CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

**February 12, 2018**

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### Delegation Expenses

Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

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*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

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**Foreign Travel Expenses**

Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Jan. 26, 2018.

### Consolidated Report of Expenditure of Funds for Foreign Travel by Members and Employees of the U.S. Senate, Under Authority of Sec. 22, P.L. 95-384—22

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### Consolidated Report of Expenditure of Funds for Foreign Travel by Members and Employees of the U.S. Senate, Under Authority of Sec. 22, P.L. 95-384—22

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Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Jan. 3, 2018.
### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

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*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1978.

### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

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* Delegation Expenses include Embassy overtime, transportation, as well as official expenses in accordance with the responsibilities of the host country.

### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

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* Delegation Expenses include Embassy overtime, transportation, as well as official expenses in accordance with the responsibilities of the host country.
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<th>U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency</th>
<th>Foreign currency</th>
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<td>20,220.95</td>
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*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 501(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and Sec. 175(b) of P.L. 95–384—22

**U.S.C. 1754(b), Committee on Foreign Relations for Travel from Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 2017**

### Delegation Expenses: *

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<th>Amount (USD)</th>
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### Delegation Expenses: *

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* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384 and S. Res. 179, agreed to May 25, 1977.

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## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2017

### Name and country | Name of currency | Per diem | Transportation | Miscellaneous | Total |
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* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384 and S. Res. 179, agreed to May 25, 1977.

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### Name and country | Name of currency | Per diem | Transportation | Miscellaneous | Total |
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* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384 and S. Res. 179, agreed to May 25, 1977.

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## CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2017

### Name and country | Name of currency | Per diem | Transportation | Miscellaneous | Total |
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* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384 and S. Res. 179, agreed to May 25, 1977.
### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22

**U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2017—Continued**

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| **Transportation** |                  |                                       |
|-------------------|------------------|                                       |
| **Delegation Expenses:**  |                  |                                       |
| Austria           | Euro             | 973.07                                |
| France            | Euro             | 1,558.92                              |
| Germany           | Euro             | 1,230.48                              |
| Italy             | Euro             | 1,355.91                              |
| Jordan            | Euro             | 1,243.68                              |
| Kuwait            | Kina             | 473.68                                |
| Oman              | Ruble            | 1,207.64                              |
| Poland            | Zloty            | 98.47                                 |
| Russia            | Ruble            | 98.47                                 |

| **Miscellaneous** |                  |                                       |
|-------------------|------------------|                                       |
| **Delegation Expenses:**  |                  |                                       |
| Austria           | Euro             | 973.07                                |
| Austria           | Euro             | 1,558.92                              |
| Germany           | Euro             | 1,230.48                              |
| Italy             | Euro             | 1,355.91                              |
| Jordan            | Euro             | 1,243.68                              |
| Kuwait            | Kina             | 473.68                                |
| Oman              | Ruble            | 1,207.64                              |
| Poland            | Zloty            | 98.47                                 |
| Russia            | Ruble            | 98.47                                 |

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.*

**U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 1, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of currency</th>
<th>Foreign currency</th>
<th>U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Per diem</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Delegation Expenses:</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Euro</td>
<td>3,549.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
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<td>Poland</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Euro</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Euro</td>
<td>98.47</td>
</tr>
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</table>

| **Transportation** |                  |                                       |
|-------------------|------------------|                                       |
| **Delegation Expenses:**  |                  |                                       |
| Austria           | Euro             | 973.07                                |
| France            | Euro             | 1,558.92                              |
| Germany           | Euro             | 1,230.48                              |
| Italy             | Euro             | 1,355.91                              |
| Jordan            | Euro             | 1,243.68                              |
| Kuwait            | Euro             | 473.68                                |
| Oman              | Euro             | 1,207.64                              |
| Poland            | Euro             | 98.47                                 |
| Russia            | Euro             | 98.47                                 |
| United Kingdom    | Euro             | 98.47                                 |

| **Miscellaneous** |                  |                                       |
|-------------------|------------------|                                       |
| **Delegation Expenses:**  |                  |                                       |
| Austria           | Euro             | 973.07                                |
| Austria           | Euro             | 1,558.92                              |
| Germany           | Euro             | 1,230.48                              |
| Italy             | Euro             | 1,355.91                              |
| Jordan            | Euro             | 1,243.68                              |
| Kuwait            | Euro             | 473.68                                |
| Oman              | Euro             | 1,207.64                              |
| Poland            | Euro             | 98.47                                 |
| Russia            | Euro             | 98.47                                 |
| United Kingdom    | Euro             | 98.47                                 |

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.*

**Chairman, Committee on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Jan. 29, 2018.**
### AMERICAN HEART MONTH AND NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 403, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 403) designating February 2018 as “American Heart Month” and February 2, 2018, as “National Wear Red Day.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I further 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. 403) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s Record under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

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, following the remarks of Senator HASSAN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from New Hampshire.

### OPIOID CRISIS

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, in my home State of New Hampshire and in communities across the Nation, there is no greater public health and safety challenge than the fentanyl, heroin, and opioid crisis.

Everywhere I go, I hear stories by people affected by this crisis. I hear inspiring stories from those in recovery who are tirelessly working to stay healthy and rebuild their lives, and I hear tragic stories from siblings, parents, and friends who have experienced the unimaginable pain of losing a loved one.

The courage of people willing to share their stories is key to breaking down the stigma of addiction and pushing for solutions. This month, I saw reports that mothers in New Hampshire and in our neighboring State of Massachusetts are doing just that. These mothers have all lost their children to overdoses, but through their grief, they are fighting to ensure that other parents are spared from what they have endured. They are writing letters to the White House that are set to arrive on Valentine’s Day—all enclosed with photos of the children they have lost.

Their message is that more must be done to end this epidemic and that more funding must be allocated to help those struggling.

Their initiative is putting faces to this crisis and showing the White House that these lives lost are more than just numbers. One of the mothers said: “We have broken hearts, so we want the President to see that.”

We can never thank the families who have lost loved ones enough for speaking out and for working tirelessly and courageously to try to prevent others from suffering as they have. We owe it to them to listen to their stories. But more importantly, we owe it to them to take stronger action.

I am encouraged by recent work in Congress to provide a significant increase in funding to combat this crisis. Our message is that we have been pushing for more support for treatment, recovery, prevention, and law enforcement efforts.

### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), MAJORITY LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2017

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name and country</th>
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<th>Transportation</th>
<th>Miscellaneous</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Foreign currency</td>
<td>U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency</td>
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<td>Dr. Brian Monahan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>3,257.80</td>
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### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2017

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Per diem</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
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<th>Total</th>
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<td>Foreign currency</td>
<td>U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senator Orrin G. Hatch</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Dollar</td>
<td>8,657.46</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Pound</td>
<td>1,346.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Sandgren</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Dollar</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Pound</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Bates</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Dollar</td>
<td>8,657.46</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Delegation Expenses*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
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<td>16,082.19</td>
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</table>

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

**Senator Mitch McConnell**

The bipartisan agreement that passed last week included billions of dollars in additional resources—an important next step in strengthening our response. This is welcome news for States across the Nation grappling with the challenges of this epidemic, and it will be critical that these new Federal dollars are prioritized for States like New Hampshire that have been the hardest hit. I will continue working to ensure that happens, but even with this additional funding, we know that it will ultimately take a far greater investment to turn the tide of this horrible epidemic. Communities, law enforcement, and those struggling need our continued support and action, and Members of both parties must continue to work together in order to make progress.

Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO CASSANDRA LEVESQUE

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I also rise today to announce the next Granite Stater of the Month, a young woman who is well known among people in the New Hampshire State House and across the Granite State.

Cassandra Levesque, an 18-year-old from Barrington, is an advocate at the forefront of an important fight: outlawing the practice of child marriage in New Hampshire and across the country.

Last year, after learning that child brides face a higher likelihood of domestic violence and divorce and a lower chance of professional success, Cassandra set out to close the legal loopholes that allow children as young as 13 to wed in New Hampshire. As she took on this fight, she heard stories of women in her community who had been abused by their spouses after being married as minors. Cassandra bravely shared the story of her own grandmother and great-grandmother, both of whom were married as young teenagers and were subsequently abused by their husbands.

With encouragement and support from her Girl Scout community and with the help of a State representative, Cassandra got a bill introduced in the legislature that would have closed the loopholes that would allow childhood marriages to occur. She testified during a hearing on the bill, closely followed debate on the bill in the full house of representatives, and spoke out in the media to explain why the legislation was so important.

While the bill ultimately failed by a close margin, Cassandra has continued to speak out and raise awareness, and just last month, the legislative efforts to end child marriage began anew.

Cassandra exemplifies New Hampshire’s strong tradition of civic engagement, especially by women, and she has inspired other young people to become active in their communities too. Cassandra launched a program in libraries around the State that helps kids learn about issues they are passionate about and gives them the tools they need to become advocates.

In New Hampshire, we roll up our sleeves and work together to address injustices and solve problems in our communities, and Cassandra is a perfect example of that spirit.

I am deeply grateful for Cassandra’s hard work, and I will continue to follow her efforts closely. I look forward to the day when we can say that thanks to people like Cassandra, child marriage is a thing of the past in New Hampshire.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:15 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at 10 a.m.
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, February 13, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 14

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph Simons, of Virginia, Christine S. Wilson, of Virginia, Noah Joshua Phillips, of Maryland, and Rohit Chopra, of New York, each to be a Federal Trade Commissioner.

10 a.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Business meeting to consider S. 2221, to repeal the multi-State plan program, S. 2236, to increase access to agency guidance documents, S. 2400, to eliminate or modify certain audit mandates of the Government Accountability Office, S. 2113, to amend title 41, United States Code, to provide the manner in which Federal contracts for design and construction services are awarded, to prohibit the use of reverse auctions for design and construction services procurements, S. 2349, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 306 River Street in Tilden, Texas, as the “Tilden Veterans Post Office”, H. R. 1208, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9155 Schaefer Road, Converse, Texas, as the “Converse Veterans Post Office Building”, H. R. 1836, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office Building”, H. R. 1998, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1730 18th Street in Bakersfield, California, as the “Merle Haggard Post Office Building”, H. R. 2254, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the “Antioch Post Office Building”, H. R. 2392, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 259 Nassau Street, Suite 2 in Princeton, New Jersey, as the “Dr. John F. Nash, Jr. Post Office”, H. R. 2464, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”, H. R. 2672, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 520 Carter Street in Fairview, Illinois, as the “Sgt. Douglas J. Riley Post Office”, H. R. 2815, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 206 East Somersett Street in Raritan, New Jersey, as the “Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone Post Office Building”, H. R. 2873, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncote, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Peter Twah Post Office Building”, H. R. 3109, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, as the “Sgt. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building”, H. R. 3390, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, as the “Sgt. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building”, H. R. 3390, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 225 North Main Street in Spring Lake, North Carolina, as the “Howard B. Pate, Jr. Post Office”, H. R. 3636, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Kings Road in Jacksonville, Florida, as the “Rutledge Pearson Post Office Building”, H. R. 3655, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 Main Street in Belmar, New Jersey, as the “Dr. Walter S. McAfee Post Office Building”, H. R. 3921, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 Main Street in Clermont, Georgia, as the “Zach T. Addington Post Office”, H. R. 3993, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Math Avenue in Interlachen, Florida, as the “Robert H. Jenkins, Jr. Post Office”, H. R. 4072, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1415 West Oak Street, in Kissimmee, Florida, as the “Borinqueneers Post Office Building”, H. R. 4285, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 Bridgeport Pike in Mullica Hill, New Jersey, as the "James C. 'Billy' Johnson Post Office Building", and the nominations of Jeff Tien Han Fon, of Virginia, to be Director, and Michael Rigas, of Virginia, to be Deputy Director, both of the Office of Personnel Management.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joel M. Carson III, of New Mexico, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Colin F. Connolly, and Maryellen Noreika, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Delaware, William F. Jung, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, and Ryan T. Holte, of Ohio, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019.

SD-215

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support
To hold hearings to examine the current readiness of United States forces.

SR-222

Committee on Finance

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Dennis Shea, of Virginia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador, and C. J. Mahoney, of Kansas, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Investment, Services, Labor, Environment, Africa, China, and the Western Hemisphere), with the rank of Ambassador; to immediately follow by a hearing to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019.

SD-215

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of John F. Ring, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board.

SD-430

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
Committee on Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider S. 995, to provide for equitable compensation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation for the use of tribal land for the production of hydro-power by the Grand Coulee Dam, and S. 193, to amend the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine Native Americans and the 2020 Census.

SD-628

3 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Personnel
To hold hearings to examine military and civilian personnel programs and military family readiness.

SR-328A

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on National Parks
To hold hearings to examine S. 400, to establish the Susquehanna National Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania, S. 995, to establish a program to accurately document vehicles that were significant in the history of the United States, S. 1160, to include Livingston County, the city of Jonesboro in Union County, and the city of Freeport in Stephenson County, Illinois, to the Lincoln National Heritage Area, S. 1260 and H.R. 2615, bills to authorize the exchange of certain land located in Gulf Islands National Seashore, Jackson County, Mississippi, between the National Park Service and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, S. 1335, to establish the Ste. Genevieve National Historic Site in the State of Missouri, S. 1446 and H.R. 1135, bills to reauthorize the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation program, S. 1472, to reauthorize the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area, S. 1573, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to place signage on Federal land along the trail known as the “American Discovery Trail”, S. 1602, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Finger Lakes National Heritage Area, S. 1645, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of P.S. 103 in West Baltimore, Maryland, S. 1646, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of President Station in Baltimore, Maryland, S. 1692, to authorize the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, S. 1966 and H.R. 2697, bills to authorize the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Director of the National Park Service to enter into cooperative management agreements for the operation, maintenance, and management of units of the National Park System in the District of Columbia, S. 2102, to clarify the boundary of Acadia National Park, S. 2213 and H.R. 4380, bills to authorize Pacific Historic Parks to establish a commemorative display to honor members of the United States Armed Forces who served in the Pacific Theater of World War II, S. 2225, to reauthorize the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area, S. 2238, to amend the Ohio & Erie Canal National Heritage Canalway Act of 1996 to repeal the funding limitation, H.R. 1397, to authorize, direct, facilitate, and expedite the transfer of administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal land, and H.R. 1500, to redesignate the small triangular property located in Washington, DC, and designated by the National Park Service as reservation 392 as “Robert Emmet Park”.

SD-366

3:30 p.m.
Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of David Christian Tryon, of Ohio, to be Chief Counsel for Advocacy, and Hannibal Ware, of the Virgin Islands, to be Inspector General, both of the Small Business Administration.

SD-428A

FEBRUARY 15

9 a.m.
Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019.

SD-215

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine the state of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, focusing on pending rules, cryptocurrency regulation, and cross-border agreements.

SR-328A

Committee on Armed Services

SD-G50

10 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Andrea L. Thompson, of South Dakota, to be Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, Susan A. Thornton, of Maine, to be an Assistant Secretary (East Asian and Pacific Affairs), and Francis R. Fannon, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Energy Resources), all of Department of State.

SD-419

Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 1917, to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions, and the nominations of Michael B. Brennan, of Wisconsin, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Susan Paradise Baxter, and Marilyn Jean Horan, both to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Daniel Desmond Domenico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, and Adam I. Klein, of the District of Columbia, to be Chairman and Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.

SD-226

2 p.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
Closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

FEBRUARY 28

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of State and redesign plans.
Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S855–S888

Measures Introduced: Two bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2415–2416, and S. Res. 401–403.

Measures Reported:

H.R. 535, to encourage visits between the United States and Taiwan at all levels.

H.R. 1625, to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to include severe forms of trafficking in persons within the definition of transnational organized crime for purposes of the rewards program of the Department of State, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. Res. 92, expressing concern over the disappearance of David Sneddon.

S. 2060, to promote democracy and human rights in Burma, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2286, to amend the Peace Corps Act to provide greater protection and services for Peace Corps volunteers, with amendments.

Measures Passed:

American Heart Month and National Wear Red Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 403,designating February 2018 as “American Heart Month” and February 2, 2018, as “National Wear Red Day”.

Measures Considered:

Broader Options for Americans Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, February 13, 2018; and that all time during recess, adjournment, morning business, and Leader remarks count post-cloture on the motion to proceed.

Messages from the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Libya that was originally declared in Executive Order 13566 of February 25, 2011, received during adjournment of the Senate on February 9, 2018; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–26)

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the notification of the President’s designation as emergency requirements as outlined in the enclosed list of accounts, received during adjournment of the Senate on February 9, 2017; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget. (PM–27)

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the Budget of the United States Government for Fiscal Year 2019; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975, as modified by the order of April 11, 1986; which was referred to the Committees on the Budget; and Appropriations. (PM–28)

Transmitting a legislative outline for rebuilding infrastructure in America; which was referred to the Committee on Finance. (PM–29)

Messages from the House:

Measures Referred:

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Executive Communications:

Additional Cosponsors:

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Additional Statements:

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—32)
Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:15 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2018. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S887.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

COUNTERING AMERICA’S ADVERSARIES THROUGH SANCTIONS ACT

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee received a closed briefing on the Countering America’s Adver-
saries Through Sanctions Act from A. Wess Mitchell, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eur-
asian Affairs, and Christopher A. Ford, Assistant Sec-
retary, Bureau of International Security and Non-
proliferation, both of the Department of State; and
Andrea Gacki, Deputy Director, Office of Foreign
Assets Control, Department of the Treasury.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 12 noon on Tuesday, Feb-
ruary 13, 2018.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D115)

H.R. 1892, to amend title 4, United States Code, to provide for the flying of the flag at half-staff in the event of the death of a first responder in the line of duty. Signed on February 9, 2018. (Public Law 115–123)


Committee MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold closed hearings to examine the United States Special Operations Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program, 10 a.m., SVC–217.

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense’s role in protecting democratic elections, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019, 10 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine improving animal health, focusing on reauthorization of Food and Drug Administration Animal Drug User Fees, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold hearings to examine worldwide threats, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine worldwide threats, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of February 13 through February 16, 2018

Senate Chamber

On Tuesday, Senate will continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2579, Broader Options for Americans Act, post-clo-
cure.

During the balance of the week, Senate may con-
sider any cleared legislative and executive business.
Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: February 15, to hold hearings to examine the state of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, focusing on pending rules, cryptocurrency regulation, and cross-border agreements, 9:30 a.m., SR–328A.


February 13, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense’s role in protecting democratic elections, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

February 14, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine the current readiness of United States forces, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

February 14, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine military and civilian personnel programs and military family readiness, 3 p.m., SR–232A.


Committee on the Budget: February 13, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019, 10 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: February 14, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph Simons, of Virginia, Christine S. Wilson, of Virginia, Noah Joshua Phillips, of Maryland, and Rohit Chopra, of New York, each to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: February 14, Subcommittee on National Parks, to hold hearings to examine S. 400, to establish the Susquehanna National Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania, S. 966, to establish a program to accurately document vehicles that were significant in the history of the United States, S. 1160, to include Livingston County, the city of Jonesboro in Union County, and the city of Freeport in Stephenson County, Illinois, to the Lincoln National Heritage Area, S. 1260 and H.R. 2615, to bill authorize the exchange of certain land located in Gulf Islands National Seashore, Jackson County, Mississippi, between the National Park Service and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, S. 1335, to establish the St. Genevieve National Historic Site in the State of Missouri, S. 1446 and H.R. 1135, to bill authorize the historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation program, S. 1472, to reauthorize the Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area, S. 1573, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to place signage on Federal land along the trail known as the “American Discovery Trail”, S. 1602, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of P.S. 103 in West Baltimore, Maryland, S. 1646, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of President Station in Baltimore, Maryland, S. 1652, to authorize the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, S. 1956 and H.R. 2897, bills to authorize the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Director of the National Park Service to enter into cooperative management agreements for the operation, maintenance, and management of units of the National Park System in the District of Columbia, S. 2102, to clarify the boundary of Acadia National Park, S. 2213 and H.R. 4300, bills to authorize Pacific Historic Parks to establish a commemorative display to honor members of the United States Armed Forces who served in the Pacific Theater of World War II, S. 2225, to reauthorize the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area, S. 2238, to amend the Ohio & Erie Canal National Heritage Canalway Act of 1996 to repeal the funding limitation, H.R. 1397, to authorize, direct, facilitate, and expedite the transfer of administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal land, and H.R. 1500, to redesignate the small triangular property located in Washington, DC, and designated by the National Park Service as reservation 302 as “Robert Emmet Park”, 3 p.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: February 14, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019, 10:30 a.m., SD–215.

February 14, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Dennis Shea, of Virginia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador, and C. J. Mahoney, of Kansas, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Investment, Services, Labor, Environment, Africa, China, and the Western Hemisphere), with the rank of Ambassador; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019, 2:30 p.m., SD–215.

February 15, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019, 9 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: February 15, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Andrea L. Thompson, of South Dakota, to be Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, Susan A. Thornton, of Maine, to be an Assistant Secretary (East Asian and Pacific Affairs), and Francis R. Fannon, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Energy Resources), all of Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: February 13, to hold hearings to examine improving animal health, focusing on reauthorization of Food and Drug Administration Animal Drug User Fees, 10 a.m., SD–430.

February 14, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of John F. Ring, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, 2:30 p.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: February 14, business meeting to consider S. 2221, to repeal the multi-State plan program, S. 2296, to increase
access to agency guidance documents, S. 2400, to eliminate or modify certain audit mandates of the Government Accountability Office, S. 2113, to amend title 41, United States Code, to improve the manner in which Federal contracts for design and construction services are awarded, to prohibit the use of reverse auctions for design and construction services procurements, S. 2349, to direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to establish an interagency working group to study Federal efforts to collect data on sexual violence and to make recommendations on the harmonization of such efforts, S. 2413, to provide for the appropriate use of bridge contracts in Federal procurement, S. 2178, to require the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency to make open recommendations of Inspectors General publicly available, H.R. 2229, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide permanent authority for judicial review of certain Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, S. 931, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4910 Brighton Boulevard in Denver, Colorado, as the “George Sakato Post Office”, S. 2040, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 621 Kansas Avenue in Atchison, Kansas, as the “Amelia Earhart Post Office Building”, H.R. 294, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7000 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the “Endy Ndidiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building”, H.R. 452, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the “Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office”, H.R. 1207, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 306 River Street in Tilden, Texas, as the “Tilden Veterans Post Office”, H.R. 1208, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9155 Schaefer Road, Converse, Texas, as the “Converse Veterans Post Office Building”, H.R. 1858, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office”, H.R. 1888, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1730 18th Street in Bakersfield, California, as the “Merle Haggard Post Office Building”, H.R. 2254, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2655 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the “Janet Capello Post Office Building”, H.R. 2302, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 259 Nassau Street, Suite 2 in Princeton, New Jersey, as the “Dr. John F. Nash, Jr. Post Office”, H.R. 2464, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”, H.R. 2672, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 520 Carter Street in Fairview, Illinois, as the “Sgt. Douglas J. Riney Post Office”, H.R. 2815, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 30 East Somerset Street in Raritan, New Jersey, as the “Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone Post Office”, H.R. 2873, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncoate, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Peter Taub Post Office Building”, H.R. 3109, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, as the “Sr. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building”, H.R. 3369, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 225 North Main Street in Spring Lake, North Carolina, as the “Howard B. Pate, Jr. Post Office”, H.R. 3638, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Kings Road in Jacksonville, Florida, as the “Rutledge Pearson Post Office Building”, H.R. 3655, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 Main Street in Belmar, New Jersey, as the “Dr. Walter S. McAfee Post Office Building”, H.R. 3821, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 Main Street in Clermont, Georgia, as the “Zach T. Addington Post Office”, H.R. 3893, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Mathe Avenue in Interlachen, Florida, as the “Robert H. Jenkins, Jr. Post Office”, H.R. 4042, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1415 West Oak Street, in Kissimmee, Florida, as the “Borinqueneers Post Office Building”, H.R. 4285, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 Bridgeton Pike in Mullica Hill, New Jersey, as the “James C. ’Billy’ Johnson Post Office Building”, and the nominations of Jeff Tien Han Pon, of Virginia, to be Director, and Michael Rigas, of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Director, both of the Office of Personnel Management, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: February 14, business meeting to consider S. 995, to provide for equitable compensation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation for the use of tribal land for the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam, and S. 1953, to amend the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine Native Americans and the 2020 Census, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: February 14, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joel M. Carson III, of New Mexico, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, Colm F. Connolly, and Maryellen Noreika, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Delaware, William F. Jung, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, and Ryan T. Holte, of Ohio, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, 10 a.m., SD–226.

February 15, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1917, to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions, and the nominations of Michael B. Brennan, of Wisconsin, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Susan Paradise Baxter, and Marilyn Jean Horan, both to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Daniel Desmond Domenico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, and Adam I. Klein, of the District.
of Columbia, to be Chairman and Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: February 14, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of David Christian Tryon, of Ohio, to be Chief Counsel for Advocacy, and Hannibal Ware, of the Virgin Islands, to be Inspector General, both of the Small Business Administration, 3:30 p.m., SR–428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: February 13, to hold hearings to examine worldwide threats, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

February 13, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine worldwide threats, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

February 15, Full Committee, closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Armed Services, February 14, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Military and Security Challenges and Posture in the Indo-Pacific Region”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled “Air Force Readiness Posture”, 3:30 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

February 15, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Strategic Competition with China”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.


Committee on the Budget, February 14, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The President’s Fiscal Year 2019 Budget”, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, February 14, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, hearing entitled “Examining the Government’s Management of Native American Schools”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

February 15, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions; and Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, joint hearing entitled “The Opioids Epidemic: Implications for America’s Workplaces”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.


February 14, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Examining the Impact of Health Care Consolidation”, 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “New Source Review Permitting Challenges for Manufacturing and Infrastructure”, 2 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

February 15, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Oversight of the Department of Health and Human Services”, 12:30 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, February 14, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled “Examining the Current Data Security and Breach Notification Regulatory Regime”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities, and Investment, hearing entitled “Legislative Proposals Regarding Derivatives”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.


Committee on Foreign Affairs, February 14, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Modernizing Food Aid: Improving Effectiveness and Saving Lives”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled “Israel, the Palestinians, and the Administration’s Peace Plan”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, hearing entitled “Advancing U.S. Interests Through the Organization of American States”, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.


Committee on the Judiciary, February 15, Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security, hearing entitled “The Effect of Sanctuary City Policies on the Ability to Combat the Opioid Epidemic”, 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, February 14, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 835, to update the map of, and modify the maximum acreage available for inclusion in, the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument; H.R. 4134, the “Cecil D. Andrus-White Clouds Wilderness Redesignation Act”; and H.R. 4895, the “Medgar Evers National Monument Act”, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

February 14, Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans, hearing entitled “The State of the Nation’s Water and Power Infrastructure”, 2 p.m., Room 1324 Longworth.


February 15, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on H.R. 2591, the “Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow’s Needs Act of 2017”; H.R. 4429, the “Cormorant Control Act”; H.R. 4609, the “West Fork Fire Station Act of 2017”; H.R. 4647, the “Recovering America’s Wildlife Act”; and H.R. 4851, the “Kennedy-King Establishment Act of 2018”, 2:30 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, February 14, Subcommittee on Information Technology, hearing
entitled “Game Changers: Artificial Intelligence Part I”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

February 15, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “General Services Administration—Checking in with the Government’s Acquisition and Property Manager”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, February 14, Subcommittee on Oversight; and Subcommittee on Research and Technology, joint hearing entitled “Beyond Bitcoin: Emerging Applications for Blockchain Technology”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

February 15, Subcommittee on Research and Technology, hearing entitled “Mentoring, Training, and Apprenticeships for STEM Education and Careers”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, February 14, Full Committee, markup on the Committee’s budget views and estimates for fiscal year 2019, 10:45 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

February 14, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Job Creation, Competition, and Small Business’ Role in the United States Economy”, 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

February 15, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Energy, and Trade, hearing entitled “Restoring Rural America: How Agritech is Revitalizing the Heartland”, 9:30 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, February 14, Full Committee, markup on fiscal year 2019 budget views and estimates; H.R. 4921, the “STB Information Security Improvement Act”; and H.R. 4925, the “FRA Safety Data Improvement Act”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.


Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, February 15, Full Committee, hearing entitled “U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2019”, 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, February 14, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Department of Health and Human Services’ Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Request”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

February 15, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The President’s Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Proposals”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Tuesday, February 13

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2579, Broader Options for Americans Act, post-cloture.
(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 noon, Tuesday, February 13

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: To be announced.