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No. 184

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 7, 2023.

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

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

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

AMERICA REMAINS UNITED AND THE BEACON OF LIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY AROUND THE WORLD

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, we are at a seminal moment in world history, comparable to times in the 20th century, like the Depression, World War II, and the 1960s.

The world is on fire with conflict. Democratic countries like Israel, Ukraine, and Armenia are under attack from terrorists and other authoritarian

regimes that want to reshape the world order and take away basic freedoms and human rights.

These authoritarian regimes and these attacks from terrorists are anti-Semitic, they involve hate crimes that are sadly on the rise for other ethnic groups, as well.

Terrorist groups like Hamas and bad actors like President Putin of Russia and Xi of China are spreading misinformation to create discord. We see the impacts of that propaganda here at home.

Our actions today, therefore, will determine the future success of free societies throughout the world, and that is why it is important for us to stand firm in our support of democracies around the world.

We must stand against the attempts to undermine Israel's very existence. It is disturbing to see the chants of "from the river to the sea." This is a phrase used by Hamas—a rallying cry of terrorists calling for the destruction of the Jewish state. It is anti-Semitic, and it is hateful.

Israel has the right to defend itself. It has an obligation to protect its citizens and secure its borders.

Let us not forget the families, the children, and the elderly who were slaughtered in their homes a month ago by the terrorists who carried out a planned, coordinated attack on innocent Israeli civilians on October 7.

We should also hold sorrow for the Palestinian people. Many of those who live in Gaza are equally victims of Hamas and their barbaric actions against humanity in using these Palestinians as human shields.

Hamas, therefore, is responsible for this terror and their suffering. Congress must help the Palestinian people out of this horrific situation, starting with humanitarian aid. The Palestinians have a right to determine their own future.

Congress also must send military and economic resources to Israel. It must

work to expand and strengthen the Abraham Accords, which are critical. We cannot allow Iran and its proxy terrorist groups like Hamas and Hezbollah to disrupt the accomplishments of this diplomacy.

Let's understand what is at stake here. Iran wants to have hegemony over the entire Middle East, and we must be mindful of that with their alliances with Russia and China.

Congress must also send additional aid to Ukraine. These Ukrainians, these brave people, are defending their sovereignty. We must give them everything they need to win their fight for freedom and defeat Putin, who I believe is a war criminal by the actions he has carried out in the last 18 to 19 months. Russia today, really, is a syndicate masquerading as a country, and its mob boss is Putin.

For some of my Republican colleagues who are having second thoughts on funding additional support for Ukraine, I remind you of President Reagan and Senator John McCain who always recognized the threats of Russia's Communism to our democracy. I believe in Putin's heart he is still a Communist.

It is important that we have this bipartisan package to support the President's proposal and the supplemental package that will provide funding for the next year for Ukraine, Israel, Taiwan, additional border security and humanitarian assistance. This could benefit Armenia and the over 120,000 Armenians who have been displaced from their historic homeland as a result of Azerbaijan.

These are all critical issues in the foreign affairs of America and the world security if we are to remain the beacon of light around the world.

These are critical times, to be sure, therefore, America must be together with our allies in Europe. We cannot lose sight of what is at stake if we do not stop these threats against freedom,

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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whether it is in the Middle East, whether it is in Asia, or elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker, this is the test of our time. It is the test of our generation, and historians will look back 10 to 20 years from now and they will determine: Did we make more good decisions than poor decisions in standing up for human rights and the freedoms we cherish?

I pray that we make more good decisions than poor decisions and that America remain united and the beacon of light for democracy around the world.

DELTA 8

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to address the growing threat of Delta 8 across communities in Nebraska.

For anyone who may not be following this issue yet, Delta 8 is a variant of THC and is derived from cannabis. Today, retailers across Nebraska are selling THC-laced products aimed at kids. For example, a retailer in Madison County has allegedly been selling gummies containing 200 times the level of THC needed to send a kid to the hospital. Delta 8 products are made to look like common types of candy or snacks to appeal to children.

I am glad Nebraska is cracking down on Delta 8, which are illegal even in States that have legalized recreational marijuana. Attorney General Mike Hilgers has filed complaints in 10 counties across Nebraska as he works to confront this challenge.

I commend him and others across the country who are taking action to stop the threat of Delta 8 that is hurting our children.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage everyone watching to visit AGO.Nebraska.gov to learn more.

SALUTING NEBRASKA STATE TREASURER TOM BRIESE

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the service of newly-appointed Nebraska State Treasurer Tom Briese.

For almost 7 years, Tom honorably served the people of District 41 in the unicameral. I sat next to him on our State's revenue committee. During those years, he fought hard to reform the State's high property taxes and school funding formula.

Over the course of time in the legislature, he worked with both Governor Ricketts and Governor Pillen to deliver historic tax relief.

Earlier this year, Governor Pillen announced that he would appoint Senator Briese to fill a vacancy in the role of State treasurer.

Tom brings with him a wealth of experience in working with the legislature and State senators to shape public policy. He leads an office that manages the State's college savings plan and unclaimed property programs while watching over the State's resources.

I know Tom will do an outstanding job in his new role and I wish him all the best as he takes on this new challenge.

Mr. Speaker, I wish the treasurer best wishes in the years ahead.

CONGRATULATING HAMPTON ENTERPRISES ON 75 YEARS OF BUSINESS

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Hampton Enterprises on 75 years of business. The late Joe Hampton opened the real estate and construction company in Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1948 when he was just 22 years old.

Throughout the past 75 years, Hampton has constructed everything from houses to offices to the Pinnacle Bank Arena. Hampton has an impressive and extensive list of arenas, schools, and offices, and with all of these buildings comes numerous tenants and customers.

One tenant has been renting office space from Hampton for nearly 40 years. He says they offer a complete spectrum of services. Hampton prides themselves on maintaining their core values of integrity, quality, work ethic, relationships, and stewardship, which is likely why they have found so much success.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Nebraska's First Congressional District, I congratulate Hampton Enterprises on 75 years.

BIDEN-XI MEETING

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the upcoming meeting between President Joe Biden and China's President Xi Jinping.

President Biden and President Xi are expected to meet later this month during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit. Leading Biden Cabinet members have been meeting with high-level officials from the Chinese Communist Party in recent months.

The focus of these meetings has been framed as "engagement." While that might sound nice, the Biden administration's approach has weakened America's position in relation to China.

The CCP respects strength, and America must project it if we are going to succeed in this new era of competition. If President Biden wants to find success in this policy area, he needs to be willing to communicate clear principles around national security, trade, and human rights as he meets with their President. Failure to do this will only mean America's ability to compete against China will fade away.

Mr. Speaker, I wish President Biden all the best as he takes on this challenge. I hope he is up to it.

RECOGNIZING BECKENHAUER CONSTRUCTION ON 145 YEARS IN BUSINESS.

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Beckenhauer Construction of Norfolk, Nebraska, on 145 years in business.

Since 1878, Beckenhauer has built everything from churches to schools to hospitals and community projects built around the good life. Today, it is still a family business being run by the fourth and fifth generations.

They have been involved in the Box Butte General Hospital and the Boone County health clinic. The University of Nebraska had them renovate the UNL Barkley Memorial Center in Lincoln just last year.

Beckenhauer Construction's reach extends beyond Nebraska. They recently broke ground on a new law enforcement center in Clay County, South Dakota.

The Beckenhauer commitment is to hold the standards of quality, reliability, integrity, safety, and honesty to provide unparalleled service to their clients. That is why they are likely to grow for another 145 years and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Beckenhauer Construction and wish them the best in the years to come.

SECOND AVENUE SUBWAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank President Joe Biden for the investment of \$1.2 trillion—that is right, Mr. Speaker—trillion with a t, of the Bipartisan Infrastructure and Jobs Act.

We hear a lot of noise from the other side every single day, but when we see those shovels going in the ground and when we see those major projects coming forward across the Nation, those same Members that are making noise on the other side of the aisle will show up to the ribbon-cutting, Mr. Speaker, and some of them may be there to take credit for the project.

The biggest investment in the history of our Nation with regard to infrastructure and jobs. It is not just infrastructure; it is an economic development machine that will generate hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of jobs across our Nation.

I thank our President for his investment in our Nation, and particularly in the 13th Congressional District, which is an iconic district that has Harlem; East Harlem, also known as El Barrio; Washington Heights—yeah, some of you may have seen the movie "In the Heights"—Inwood; and the Northwest Bronx. The second phase of the Second Avenue subway just kicked off this past weekend.

Mr. Speaker, I thank our Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg, for coming to our district to kick off the second phase of the Second Avenue subway right in East Harlem. This phase is such an important phase for a community that has for far too long been subjected to a transportation desert.

On Saturday, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration stood hand in hand with East Harlem leaders to sign off on a \$3.4 billion Full Funding Grant Agreement.

□ 1015

This was part of the capital investment grant program that received

record funding under the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. I thank the Secretary for coming to my district.

The funding will help support a 1.8-mile extension of the Q line. Some people seem to think that America cannot build a subway anymore. Yes, we can. Yes, we can when we put people over politics.

This new initiative on the East Side of Manhattan will connect the Q line from 96th Street to 125th Street to Harlem and will relieve an over-crowded Lexington Avenue line which is the most overcrowded line in the Nation, if not the world. It will transport over 200,000 riders on a daily basis in the most heavily used transit corridor in America.

Saturday marked the start of a vibrant economic future for families across East Harlem, and we worked with the Charles B. Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative at City College that Congressman Rangel and I have been working on to ensure that we train those young people in our communities so they can have access to prevailing wage jobs.

This project is also called Uptown Grand Central. As you can see, Mr. Speaker, we will have a transportation hub that will connect Harlem to the rest of the world. You can see the lines here that will go from 125th Street to 96th Street.

Now, the first phase went uptown right through the Silk Stocking District, the richest ZIP Codes in the country. Maybe they weren't too open about the jobs, but we are laser focused on making sure that the second phase creates thousands of jobs.

The first phase created 16,000 jobs and generated \$142 million in wages and produced \$2.87 billion in economic activity during the construction. This second phase will lift that district, East Harlem, not only producing jobs but injecting oxygen to our economy.

Yes, we can when we put people over politics.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to be here to tell you that this project will connect Harlem to the rest of the world. It will connect the Second Avenue Subway to the Metro-North line and 14 counties outside of New York City.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here to say we have a bright future.

CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF CORPORAL LEONARD TURNER

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of Corporal Leonard Turner who recently celebrated his 100th birthday.

Corporal Turner is a World War II veteran who was part of the revered Marine Raiders, an elite infantry group that took on the most dangerous tasks during the war.

As his 100th birthday approached, his children decided to honor him and celebrate his very special birthday by inviting an array of veterans, generals, colonels, and dignitaries from the State.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Corporal Turner on reaching this incredible milestone of 100 years. His journey through life, including his valiant service during World War II, is an inspiration to us all.

His dedication, courage, and sacrifices have left an indelible mark on history, and we will be forever grateful for his service to our country.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM "BILL" EASTERLIN

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Queensborough National Bank president William Easterlin on receiving the James Collier Award from the Georgia Bar Foundation at their annual grants meeting in July.

The James Collier Award is reserved for individuals, lawyers or nonlawyers, who make exceptional efforts to advance the foundation's primary objective of providing legal assistance to Georgians in need.

Mr. Easterlin has shown extraordinary support for the foundation through his counsel as a banker and dedication to assisting disadvantaged Georgians.

From growing his family-owned bank's assets from \$106 million to \$2 billion and expanding to 27 locations, he is committed to providing exceptional financial services and giving back to the community he serves.

Mr. Speaker, Bill has done great work. I look forward to seeing what else he achieves.

REMEMBERING ARLIE MAXTON MCNEILL

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Arlie Maxton McNeill, a resident of Brunswick, Georgia, who passed away on August 16, 2023, surrounded by his family after battling cancer.

Arlie was born in Seagrove, North Carolina, in 1936. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1955 where he became a dental assistant and soon realized he wanted to be a mortician.

In 1961 he married his wife, Sheila McNeill, and the following year he graduated from John A. Gupton College mortuary school in Nashville, Tennessee.

Arlie returned to Brunswick and started working at Edo Miller and Sons Funeral Home where he served for over 50 years and became part owner with Johnny Wilson.

Arlie was a well-known auctioneer and a 50-year Mason at Lodge 214 F&AM. In 1977 he became an ordained deacon at Norwich Street Baptist Church. He also served on the Georgia State Board of Funeral Services from 1998 to 2004. He was the area manager for the Loewen Funeral Group for 5 years and was a devout Christian.

He will be remembered by all, including his family and the community that he served well.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. GEORGE SKARPALEZOS, SR.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. George Skarpalezos, Sr., an American hero and a father to three children.

Upon graduating from basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia, First Lieutenant George Skarpalezos led a platoon of the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne during the Vietnam war.

After serving in the military, George returned to his roots of Brunswick, Georgia, to raise three children.

Mr. Skarpalezos was also a musician. He performed at many local establishments on St. Simons Island. He also played in several bands, including the Ascots, the Gypsies, and The Fabulous Sixty Minute Men.

He also found enjoyment in real estate, leading him to open his own real estate company called Skarpalezos Realty.

While we are all sad that he is no longer with us, we will remember the life of Mr. Skarpalezos, his service to the United States, and the contributions to the State of Georgia.

UAW TENTATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH THE BIG THREE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, as a grateful and proud daughter of the United Auto Workers, I am heartened to see General Motors, Ford, and Jeep Stellantis reach tentative agreements with the hardworking brothers and sisters of the UAW.

This historic strike is deeply personal to me. I know firsthand from my parents and constituents the difficult jobs they do day in and day out, sometimes 10 hours a day 6 days a week.

While too many manufacturing jobs have been shipped overseas to penny wage havens, I salute companies inside our borders, the largest consumer market in the world, for agreeing to pay fair wages with good benefits that our hardworking American autoworkers have earned.

Firms in other nations should follow suit. Our trade negotiators should focus on reciprocal contracts for market access to achieve fair trade globally to stop the exploitation of workers in the automotive industry in the Third World.

Let's recall after the United Auto Workers conceded major benefits during the 2008 Great Recession to literally save the Big Three from bankruptcy. These agreements represent a monumental step toward finally making these workers whole again.

They say that when unions fight, all workers win. Last week we saw Toyota raise wages for their workers knowing they must now compete.

RECORD profits should mean record contracts. Americans must honor people who work hard hour by hour building the economic prosperity of our great Nation.

From Toledo to Wayne to Wentzville to Belvedere, their vigilance, fortitude, and guts have made this new progress possible. I salute those in our unions who have fought so hard and have dedicated their lives to building our middle class from the middle out and the bottom up.

Onward.

BACK TO WORK

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

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss my priorities for protecting America's future. We need to reduce and reprioritize government spending, secure the border, and end the weaponization of the Federal Government.

The Biden administration's spending has created massive inflation and increased our national debt to \$33 trillion, and \$2.4 trillion of that debt has accrued over just the last 365 days. That is over \$76,000 every second.

The Biden administration's spending is out of touch with what Americans want, and it is crushing our economy. We are all feeling it, especially in middle America where new and costly regulations are forcing small businesses to close, gas is nearly \$4 a gallon, and people's paychecks are overtaxed.

House Republicans have offered commonsense solutions to these problems. We have passed the Limit, Save, Grow Act to stop wasteful taxpayer spending, reclaim unspent COVID relief money and promote pro-growth economic policies, and we must stand firm in our commitment to reducing and reprioritizing government spending.

While the Biden administration is burning through taxpayer dollars like there is no tomorrow, there is also a humanitarian crisis raging at our southern border, and it is getting worse every day. This is a national security emergency. As we speak, fentanyl is flooding American streets, victims of human trafficking rings are getting abused and killed, and our brave border patrol agents are overwhelmed.

The funding to secure the border had already been appropriated by Congress before President Biden even took office, and then he killed the completion of the border wall by executive order. In response, House Republicans passed H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act, which would force the Biden administration to resume construction of the border wall, increase the number of Border Patrol agents, protect unaccompanied children from human trafficking, and terminate catch-and-release policies.

We also passed the Schools Not Shelters Act and the HALT Fentanyl Act. We must keep pressing to secure the border and protect Americans.

In addition to wasting taxpayer dollars and ignoring the border crisis, the Biden administration is overseeing and directing an unprecedented

weaponization of the Federal Government. President Biden's Department of Justice refuses to apply justice equally, and House Republicans are constantly fighting back against overreaching government regulations that are hurting agricultural producers and small business owners.

Even the Supreme Court had to step in and declare the Biden administration's definition of Waters of the United States was unconstitutional.

When government grows, freedom shrinks. So we must stop the weaponization of the Federal Government to protect our freedoms. The appropriations process is a critical opportunity to address all of these concerns. We must restore fiscal sanity. Americans deserve to have their taxpayer dollars used wisely, and giving the President endless, no-limit credit cards is no way to govern in a democracy.

It is hard for me to imagine how anyone would love \$33 trillion of debt or love the open border or love losing to China or love \$200 billion of unaccounted for COVID relief dollars so much they would be willing to shut down the Federal Government to maintain them.

We have 10 days to pass the remaining appropriations bills in a fiscally responsible way. We owe it to the American people to work tirelessly toward that end and to get our country back on track.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BISHOP EMERITUS TOD BROWN

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of my good friend Bishop Emeritus Tod Brown, who recently passed away at the age of 86.

Bishop Brown led our diocese for 14 years in a community that is now 50 percent Roman Catholic. Under his leadership, the diocese more than doubled in its membership, and by the year 2012, there were more than 1.2 million Roman Catholics in Orange County, California.

In recognizing the diversity of our church, Bishop Brown ordained the Nation's first Vietnamese Roman Catholic bishop in 2003 and one of the first Hispanic bishops in the United States in the year 2000.

On a personal note, Bishop Brown administered first communion to my children in the good old days.

Bishop Brown will be remembered. God bless him. We thank my good friend for all the good work he did.

HONORING JERRY MUMFORD PATTERSON

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the extraordinary career of Jerry Patterson, a lawyer, educator, and former U.S. Congressman who dedicated his life to public service.

As a UCLA alumnus just like myself, Mr. Patterson served Santa Ana as a city councilmember and as Santa Ana mayor.

He fought to double the size of city-owned parks and created the first nationally recognized golden circle bikeway. After serving in Congress, Mr. Patterson came home and represented our community as an educator until 1999.

Jerry Patterson always put the needs of his communities first. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his service to our great Nation.

□ 1030

HONORING ORANGE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL'S MARINE CORPS JROTC

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Orange High School's Marine Corps Junior ROTC program.

The JROTC program at Orange High School began in 1995 under the leadership of Master Gunnery Sergeant James Fearn, but not without a fight. After having his request denied over and over again, Master Gunnery Sergeant Fearn flew to Washington, D.C., himself to demand a meeting with the Commandant of the Marine Corps, and he got it done.

Today, Orange High School has one of the largest Marine Corps ROTC units in the Western United States, and it teaches over 160 cadets the values of citizenship, service, discipline, and responsibility. I must say these cadets are the leaders of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate them, and I wish the Marine Corps a happy birthday. They are 248 years old this year.

CALIFORNIA'S HIGH-SPEED RAIL IS BIGGEST BOONDOGGLE IN U.S.

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

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I will be voting for the transportation appropriations bill, and one of the reasons why is that it provides exactly the right amount of funding for California's high-speed rail, which is zero dollars.

Zero dollars are appropriated for high-speed rail in this bill, and it is well past time that we stop throwing good money after bad.

High-speed rail was an idea in the early 2000s in California that might have initially had some promise, but because of sheer political dysfunction, it has become perhaps the biggest boondoggle in United States history.

The price tag is now pegged at \$128 billion, and a decade and a half after it was approved, there is still absolutely nothing to show for it. When you look at the press releases that come out from the high-speed rail authority, it is almost beyond belief what now counts as success.

This press release is from just 5 days ago: "California High-Speed Rail Authority Moves Closer to Designing Tracks and Systems."

This is a decade and a half after the project was conceived. According to The New York Times, at the current

pace, the high-speed rail project will not be completed in this century.

Last year, an investigation by The Times produced a story headlined: "How California's Bullet Train Went Off the Rails." The Times explained that the tortured effort to build the country's first high-speed rail system is a case study in how ambitious public works projects can become perilously encumbered by unrealistic cost estimates, flawed engineering, and a determination to persist on projects that have become too big to fail.

The Times reported how one of the early operators that actually knows how to build high-speed rail systems, SNCF, became so frustrated after their ideas and plans were repeatedly discarded that they pulled out in 2011 and decided to go to North Africa, where it was less politically dysfunctional. Indeed, they then helped Morocco bring a high-speed rail system online in 2018.

All the while, the condition of California's roads continues to deteriorate and are among the very worst in the country. They are unsafe. They cause needless wear and tear on vehicles. They cause Californians to be stuck in traffic for hours on end.

This is an area where my particular district has unique needs. The Third Congressional District is one of the few parts of California that is still growing. Cities like Roseville, Folsom, and Lincoln are growing as fast as anywhere. People want to come to our communities because of the high quality of life. We have eluded the downward spiral that has afflicted many other parts of California because we support small businesses, law enforcement, and public safety. We have local governments that are accountable to taxpayers.

Precisely because of this success, many people want to move into our communities, and it is creating major challenges when it comes to traffic. Because of that, I have made it a top priority to look for every possible opportunity to stop spending Federal dollars on wasteful projects like the high-speed rail boondoggle and instead direct those funds to needed local road projects that will alleviate traffic for my constituents.

I was very glad to participate earlier this year in the groundbreaking for the I-80 fifth lane project, which is going to improve travel times westbound on I-80 between Douglas Boulevard and Riverside Avenue.

In the Transportation appropriations bill, which will be voted on by the House today, I have secured funding for three important projects in our district.

The first is the U.S. 50/Empire Ranch Road Interchange Project, which would reduce traffic congestion and improve safety on adjacent interchanges, ultimately enhancing local and regional circulation and transportation infrastructure in Folsom and surrounding areas.

The second is the Blue Oaks Boulevard Roadway and Bridge Widening

Project, which is going to alleviate a critical transportation bottleneck.

The third is the Folsom Lake Crossing safety improvement phase two project, which would enhance road safety on Folsom Lake Crossing by adding a median barrier rail to minimize head-on collisions, injuries, and fatalities.

Mr. Speaker, this is the way that Federal funding should be directed toward infrastructure and projects that will improve the quality of life for our constituents.

I am glad in the bill that we will vote on today that is the priority and that we will be sending zero dollars to the failed California high-speed rail.

STOP THE FRENZY OF MOTIONS OF CENSURE

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

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, it was in this Chamber on January 6, 2021, that I came to realize relatively late in life how fragile our democracy is. I realize that the words of the Constitution, to which we all pledge an oath, are important, and so are the concepts underlying those words, the concepts of a peaceful transition of power, the concept of the separation of church and state, and the concept of freedom of expression.

These are concepts that are hundreds of years older than the Constitution, but they are critical to our democracy, which I think we would all agree is currently a bit fragile.

For this reason, I am profoundly disturbed that this House has gotten into a frenzy of censure resolutions to censure the speech of Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it is the second clause of the First Amendment to our Constitution that says that Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech. Our Founders protected us, in particular, with another clause in the Constitution, the Speech and Debate Clause. Article I, Section 6, says that we will be protected: "For any speech or debate in either House, they shall not be questioned."

Our Founders decided that we would not be sanctioned for the things that we say, yet there are at least four resolutions before this House—one from Ms. JACOBS, one from Ms. GREENE, one from Ms. BALINT, one from Mr. MCCORMICK—seeking an official censure of Members of Congress for the things that they have said.

Mr. Speaker, this is what I mean by the erosion of the foundational principles on which our democracy exists.

I don't much like any of the speech that the Members who are accused of foul speech have engaged in, but the test of our commitment to freedom of expression is not how hard we fight in a moment for the rights of those that we agree with. The test is whether we are willing to stand up for freedom of

expression for somebody with whom we don't agree.

To my Republican friends, I would say they have quite rightly, in many instances, objected to the cancel culture, which is too rampant in our universities and elsewhere. Why now? Why in this institution?

To my Democratic friends, I would remind them that every progressive, going back to Galileo right up through Cesar Chavez to Martin Luther King, has been tolled and tortured and sanctioned for their expression.

It is time for this to stop in this Chamber. It is time for us to stop trying to punish each other for the things that we say, no matter how abhorrent.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that we are more than just Representatives. If we were just Representatives, we would go back to our constituents and bring their ideas here. We are stewards of this institution, which is why we take an oath to the Constitution.

If you take seriously your role as a steward of this institution, vote to table every one of these obnoxious motions to censure. If they do come up and aren't tabled, vote against them. The freedom of expression upon which this institution is built demands nothing less.

CELEBRATING VETERANS DAY

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, in 1919, President Woodrow Wilson declared November 11 as Armistice Day, a day in which to honor those who gave their all in World War I.

In 1954, Congress amended Armistice Day to be inclusive of all veterans who have fought for American freedom, effectively changing its name to Veterans Day. It is on this day that we salute our remarkable, brave patriots who keep America safe.

We the people enjoy the blessings of hard-earned peace, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness because of our warriors who answered the call to defend our Nation.

Our men and women in uniform are a constant reminder of the true source of our Nation's greatness, and many veterans have freely given the last full measure of their devotion for our Nation. Because of their defense, our Nation remains strong, and our children can pursue their dreams.

To our veterans, your loved ones have endured seasons without a parent, a child, a sibling. On Veterans Day, we also recognize your families and thank them for their sacrifice.

It is my greatest honor to represent so many heroes who have served our Nation or who are serving our Nation from the Fourth Congressional District of Florida. Just as they have fought for our country, I will always fight for them.

Mr. Speaker, here is the truth about Veterans Day. It is not just one day. It

is every day because every day America and her people cherish the sacrifice and the service of our Nation's veterans.

OCTOBER 7 IS DEADLIEST DAY IN JEWISH HISTORY SINCE THE HOLOCAUST

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on October 7, hearts, minds, and lives were forever changed. We believed hatred and murder of Jews to be a thing of the past, but we were heartbreakingly wrong.

October 7 will go down as the deadliest day in Jewish history since the Holocaust.

Today, our strongest ally in the Middle East, our friend, Israel, is at war after enduring a multipronged terror attack by Hamas.

Let me be clear: Hamas is not a militant group. They are terrorists.

The atrocities that took place on October 7 by Hamas against innocent Israelis were not the result of provocation. It was a massacre.

It was not in response to occupation of the Gaza Strip. It was a massacre.

It was not a flare-up. It was a massacre.

If you take elderly women, mothers, the disabled, and children hostage, or if you target families and slaughter and torture civilians indiscriminately, you do not get to claim the moral high ground.

There can be no confusion about the war between Israel and Hamas. It is good versus evil. It is civilization versus barbarism. It is self-defense against aggression.

We must be a voice for the truth, and here is the truth: At least 1,400 Israelis were murdered. More than 4,400 were severely injured. More than 200 hostages were taken to be used as human shields. Twenty-seven Americans are dead, and 10 remain unaccounted for.

Make no mistake, Israel is shaken but is not defeated. The United States must be bold and courageous in standing up for the nation of Israel and the right for her to defend itself.

When fighting evil, there can be no neutrality. We must send a clear message to Hamas and Hezbollah and those that fund them that the United States stands with Israel today, tomorrow, and always.

WORKING TO MAKE IT EASIER TO VOTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. NICKEL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, we need to make it easier, not harder, for eligible voters to make their voices heard in our elections. We need to make sure that voting is accessible to everyone, whether they want to go to the polls, vote early, or vote by mail.

In Congress, there is so much we can do to make it easier for people to vote and participate in our democracy. It starts with passing the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the Freedom to

Vote Act. These commonsense bills would end partisan gerrymandering, expand voting by mail, protect early voting, help get big money out of our elections, combat dark money, support election integrity, and make additional reforms to improve ballot access.

□ 1045

It is time to put politics aside and get these commonsense bills across the finish line. I will continue to do everything I can to protect the right to vote and work to make it easier for people to vote and to participate in our democracy.

CONGRATULATING MAYOR KEN MARSHBURN ON HIS RETIREMENT

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and celebrate the exemplary service of Mayor Ken Marshburn, a distinguished leader and devoted public servant to the town of Garner.

During his time in office, Mayor Marshburn has worked tirelessly alongside council members, town staff, and community leaders to enhance the quality of life in Garner. He has an unwavering belief in Garner's potential and has always worked to make Garner a place where people can not only live but also thrive.

Mayor Marshburn's leadership is coming to an end today with our elections in Garner. He has steered Garner toward a positive and prosperous future. His commitment to fiscal responsibility has laid a solid foundation for the town's growth, attracting new businesses that enrich our economic diversity. His legacy is one of leadership, service, and unwavering dedication to our community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Mayor Ken Marshburn for his unwavering commitment and invaluable contributions to the town of Garner and extending our best wishes to him and his family as they embark on this well-deserved retirement.

Our community is richer and brighter due to his leadership and service. I again thank Mayor Marshburn for his service.

FIGHTING HATRED IN ALL FORMS

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, in North Carolina last year, anti-Semitic incidents increased by 30 percent. The ongoing conflict in Israel has led to even more anti-Semitic attacks both in the U.S. and around the world.

Just this week, the ADL's Center on Extremism reported a nearly 400 percent increase in anti-Semitic incidents compared to the same period last year. The situation has been even worse since Hamas launched a brutal and calculated attack against Jewish people and the State of Israel on October 7.

In New York, Jewish students at Cooper Union College were forced to shelter inside the school library on Wednesday for their own safety during a campus protest. In Indianapolis, a woman deliberately crashed her car into the building of what she believed was a pro-Jewish organization.

Mr. Speaker, we have an obligation to remain vigilant against anti-Semi-

tism, discrimination, and prejudice. Let's work to fight hatred in all forms and ensure that the scourge of anti-Semitism does not rear its ugly head both at home and abroad.

AVOIDING A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss our core job here in Congress, funding the Federal Government. We have 10 days until a government shutdown. Mr. Speaker, I will say that again, 10 days, just over a week until the government runs out of money.

A government shutdown would hurt the economy, risk our national security, and would be a disaster for North Carolina. Hundreds of thousands of people would be put on temporary leave without pay or be forced to work without pay. Essential staff—like our TSA agents, air traffic controllers, and many others—would be required to work without pay through the duration of any shutdown.

Mr. Speaker, there is only one path forward, and that is bipartisanship. Republicans have a very narrow majority in the House. Democrats have a very narrow majority in the Senate. We have the White House, but we have to work together.

Right now there is no plan to fund our government, and we have to do it next week. This needs to be a priority for this body, for this institution, and we have to do our job. The American people expect us to fund the government, and right now there is no plan to do that.

A shutdown will cost taxpayers money. It will hit our economy hard. My constituents are hit hard right now with the rising cost of inflation, the high cost of mortgages, and the continuing costs that hit hard, whether it is childcare or healthcare. A shutdown would be an incredible unforced error at this time.

Mr. Speaker, we need to fund the government.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN CALIFORNIA

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, Congress is considering a transportation appropriations bill right now as we speak. It is critical that we don't give another dime to California's failed high-speed rail project that has sought money year after year after year from the Federal level.

Indeed, this document does not provide any new money for the high-speed rail project, but they are certainly seeking it. There are reportedly proposals for \$3 billion requested by Governor Newsom and even reportedly asks of a possible \$28 billion, which is what they really seek.

Let's go back just a little bit to learn the history of this project. In 2008, a proposition was passed on California's ballot with the idea to build a high-

speed rail system from San Francisco to L.A. The voters were told the cost would be \$33 billion. Okay. There would have to be a high-speed rail that would go from the two cities at approximately 220 miles an hour and get the job done in approximately 3 hours or less. It has fallen far short of those goals.

They only have to have one high-speed train a day go in order to be eligible to be called a high-speed train. Otherwise, it is going to be a commuter line stopping in every little burg along the way. As it is turning out, from San Francisco to San Jose, it looks they are going to use local electric rail. Passengers would need to jump on a train in San Jose and then take it down to an undetermined point in southern California and perhaps jump on another train there.

We were talking about this last night in the debate, and I mentioned that you could take a Southwest Airlines plane and already be on the beach and have half a sunburn before you could get off the high-speed rail at that point.

What is the cost these days? That is the interesting part. In 2008, \$33 billion is what they were sold. A year later, they adjusted the price up to \$42 billion. Not long after that, when I was still in the State legislature, they actually admitted the price then would be \$97 billion. Today's estimates show it to be \$128 billion.

How much construction is finished on it? The voters were told in 2008 that it would be ready to go by 2020. Well, it is 2023, and not a single mile of track has been laid. They have some bridges and aqueducts already built around Fresno and such, but it is nowhere near being completed.

They are trying to do it in segments, so they are doing the Central Valley segment because, as they said at the time—this is pretty funny—they can build it in the Central Valley, there are fewer people there, so there is less resistance to having it built. They are going to do a segment from Merced to Bakersfield, where it ends up in an orchard somewhere as the terminus. At this point, we are finding they need \$28 billion just to complete that segment, not the entire thing.

It has been a boondoggle from the beginning, with lies basically from the rail authority about what is going to happen with the timeline, the environmental work, and the number of jobs.

Here is another good one: They were promising there would be a million jobs for California. Well, 3 years into the project, they finally admitted it would be a million job years. Currently, they claim 5,000 people are working on the rail, and so at that rate for a million job years at 5,000 people, that would take 200 years to complete the system.

Well, the people who voted for it would probably like to see it done in their lifetime, which may not even happen. I think at this point, why don't

we just cut our losses and move toward something that is useful not just for Californians but for all Americans.

Indeed, we want to do infrastructure around here. Why don't we do true infrastructure? We talk about highways. We talk about a lot of things. I am focused a lot on California's water situation. We have several projects to add to its water supply so it can continue to grow crops and people can thrive in our State, not just environmental water that gets shifted more and more towards fish water and running it out the delta, which doesn't actually help that situation or do anything environmentally positive anyway.

Instead of continuing to come to Washington, D.C., for more money to do something that is only covering this little portion of California, rather than San Francisco all the way to L.A. as originally planned, I propose instead that we shift the money into other projects that can help all Americans.

They don't even have the route planned out for the high-speed rail project. They don't know how they are going to get the last leap from Bakersfield into southern California. Are they going to build a tunnel through there with all that seismic activity? Are they going to go around it? Are they going to go over it? They don't have the whole plan this many years into the project, and they still want more money from Washington, D.C., from all Federal taxpayers.

If they shift the money into other infrastructure that can help all Americans, these crops that are grown in California, look at these numbers, basically 100 percent of walnuts and tomatoes grown commercially are grown in California. Many of these other crops, 90-plus percent are grown in California. Having a stable food supply is what benefits Americans, so dollars invested into our water system in California would go much further than wasting money on high-cost rail.

COMMEMORATING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VAN DREW). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PORTER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Indigenous Peoples' Heritage Month and the enduring contributions made by the Acjachemen and Tongva people to our community. In Orange County, we are dedicated to supporting our indigenous neighbors, as they reclaim their history.

For generations, indigenous groups have fought against the pressure to assimilate. They have retained a strong connection with their cultures even when the Federal Government has failed to support them. Indigenous Peoples' Heritage Month is a celebration of their resilience.

We owe these communities recognition. In the past, I have held

roundtables with Tribal leaders and chaired hearings to better understand how our current systems leave Native people behind.

I am proud to represent indigenous populations, to lift up their stories, and to celebrate how their perspectives make our communities stronger. I will continue to be a partner with indigenous leaders and will fight to get their communities the help that they need.

STANDING UP FOR VETERANS

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, elected officials have a duty to stand up for veterans. I rise today not only to honor their sacrifices with my words but to reiterate a call for meaningful action.

Nearly 100,000 veterans call Orange County, California, home. They embody the resilience of our Nation. Yet, when they come home, they face institutions that systematically fail them. For those who have fought for our country, we must take care of them and their families. We must deliver the benefits that they are owed. We must address their invisible wounds by making it easier for them to get mental health care.

In Congress, I have proudly worked on improving military families' housing, strengthening the Veterans Crisis Line, and getting Orange County veterans answers and care from the VA.

On Veterans Day, we thank our troops for their service, and we recommit ourselves to getting them the help that they need.

STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, student debt holds back our entire economy and hurts all of us. Americans today, young and old, cannot start businesses or save for retirement because they are burdened by student loans.

I am glad the Biden-Harris administration is doing what it can to forgive student debt despite roadblocks from a corrupt Supreme Court. The administration's actions will extend relief to 125,000 Americans who can participate better in our economy, totaling \$9 billion that will go back into our communities.

In the long term, we must have a comprehensive plan to prevent another student debt crisis from happening as we fix the current one. I founded the College Affordability Caucus to address these problems.

Debt-free higher education is one of the best investments that we can make to improve the lives of young people and strengthen our Nation's workforce for decades to come.

STANDING UP FOR TRANS STUDENTS

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight how anti-transgender campus policies hurt students' well-being.

In September, the Orange Unified School District became the sixth school district in California to adopt a forced outing policy. As young people are growing up, these harmful mandates expose students for something as simple as going by a different name

without considering whether they are safe at home.

More than half of transgender youth contemplate suicide due to a lack of support from their family or community. Schools should be places where students can focus on learning, free from fear.

As a single mom of three, I rely on public schools to help my kids mature into thoughtful and confident citizens, and I oppose misguided policies that endanger LGBTQ+ Americans.

I urge all California schools to stand up for trans students and protect the safety of queer youth.

□ 1100

RENAMING FORT GORDON TO FORT EISENHOWER

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the formal renaming of Fort Gordon to Fort Eisenhower, a well-known name in history throughout the world.

Located in Augusta, Georgia, this military base has experienced a major transformation over the last 10 years and is widely considered a top-tier installation that will continue to grow, all while training and housing thousands of the best and brightest who serve our country.

As the home of the Eisenhower Medical Center, which provides top-notch healthcare services for our veterans and men and women in uniform, as well as the U.S. Army Cyber Command and the U.S. Army Cyber Center of Excellence, this renaming is a true representation of President Eisenhower's commitment to science and innovation and his love for the surrounding community that he so frequently visited for fellowship and sport.

A beloved visitor of Augusta, President Eisenhower's deep ties and admiration for the area were well known. My team and I worked side by side with local community members to ensure that if the base was to be renamed, its new name would reflect both the history of our community and the significance of the mission.

President Eisenhower made 45 trips to Augusta—5 before he became President, 29 while in office, and 11 after his first term—taking full advantage of all that our community has to offer, including the world-renowned Augusta National Golf Club, one of his favorite destinations.

President Eisenhower always found time for his faith, as well. At the Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church in Augusta, there is a pew known as the Eisenhower pew. It has a plaque on it where the former President would worship when he was in town.

With a name like Fort Eisenhower and the international renown that comes with it, as well as the critical missions housed there, this military base will endure from now on.

As President Eisenhower's granddaughter Susan Eisenhower stated at the renaming ceremony: "If Dwight Eisenhower were here today, he would be full of heartfelt appreciation for the focus and dedication this community has placed on serving our country and keeping it safe."

I couldn't agree more.

RELEASE OF CUBAN PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, two years ago, thousands of Cubans peacefully demonstrated for their basic rights, and their corrupt rulers responded with a brutal, indiscriminate crackdown.

Maykel Castillo Perez and Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara both helped forge the historic and resurgent pro-democracy movement on July 11. They have been imprisoned ever since. Maykel, a Latin Grammy-winning rapper, coauthored the song "Patria Y Vida," an anthem for the mass demonstrations. Luis Manuel, an Afro-Cuban visual artist, has fought passionately for free expression and against censorship.

Maykel disappeared from public view after being detained without a warrant on May 18, 2021, and a kangaroo court sentenced him to 9 years in prison. The U.N. reports Maykel remains in prison "solely for his prodemocracy activism," enduring inmate threats, solitary confinement, and denied family visits and medical attention. Yet he still rebels however he can. On the anniversary of the July 11 protests, he sewed his mouth shut and tattooed "Patria Y Vida" on his arm. Maykel told friends: "I have enough strength to keep bleeding . . . I prefer with great pride to descend in a coffin than to bow."

Luis Manuel's despicable treatment is compounded by the jarring legacy of anti-Black racism in Cuba. On July 11, he too was arrested after posting a video on his plans to join Cuba's mass democracy demonstration.

Like Maykel, he was tried behind closed doors and thrown in a maximum security prison. Due to abuse, bad medical care, and denial of food and water, Luis Manuel is suffering from extreme weight loss and severe medical issues.

I am grateful the Biden administration granted humanitarian parole to both Luis Manuel and Maykel, but for the Cuban regime, exiling these patriots isn't enough. Their very existence is a threat.

While these cases are egregious, thousands of peaceful prodemocracy protesters have been jailed, tortured, or killed. If we truly intend to live up to our Nation's values, we must work tirelessly to liberate those who continually sacrifice their freedom for others.

As co-chair of the Cuba Democracy Caucus, I proudly join forces with Free-

dom House and Amnesty International to demand justice for Maykel and Luis Manuel through the Defending Freedoms Project.

I intend to use my platform to ensure their unconditional release is a top priority in any discussion of Cuba policy.

I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join me.

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

Hoy me levanto para exigir la liberación inmediata de dos presos de conciencia cubanos. Maykel Castillo Pérez y Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara ayudaron a empezar el movimiento pro-democracia el once de julio.

Ellos están encarcelados desde ese día. Maykel, rapero y ganador del Grammy Latino, es coautor de la canción "Patria y Vida" que fue himno de las protestas.

Luis Manuel es un artista visual afrocubano que ha luchado duro por la libre expresión y contra la censura.

Maykel desapareció de la vista del público tras ser detenido sin orden judicial, y un tribunal irregular lo condenó a nueve años de prisión.

Según el informe de las Naciones Unidas, Maykel sigue encarcelado "únicamente por su activismo a favor de la democracia".

Sin embargo, todavía se manifiesta como puede. En el aniversario de las protestas, se cosió la boca y se tatuó "Patria Y Vida" en el brazo.

El trato despreciable recibido por Luis Manuel se ve agravado por el preocupante legado del racismo contra los Afrocubanos.

También fue arrestado luego de publicar un video sobre sus planes de unirse a manifestaciones masivas por la democracia en Cuba.

Al igual que Maykel, fue condenado y encarcelado atrás de una prisión de máxima seguridad. Luis Manuel a sufrido una pérdida extrema de peso y graves problemas médicos.

Agradezco que President Biden esté ofreciendo libertad humanitaria a Luis Manuel y Maykel, pero para la dictadura cubana exiliarlos no es suficiente. Su propia existencia es una amenaza.

Si queremos estar a la altura de los valores de nuestra nación, debemos trabajar todos los días para liberar a los que sacrifican por los demás. Como copresidenta del Caucus para la Democracia en Cuba, voy a luchar al lado de Freedom House y Amnistía Internacional para demandar justicia para Maykel y Luis Manuel.

Voy a hacer todo lo posible para abogar por su liberación incondicional.

Espero que mis colegas de ambos partidos se unan a mí.

I'd like to share more about these brave patriots, in their own words and those of people who know them well. The following is a letter written by Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara to the Miami Herald, entitled: 'Cuba's authorities have stolen my youth just for speaking my mind'. It was published July 10th of this year, two years after his arbitrary arrest.

I am an artist and a political prisoner in Cuba. I was arrested on July 11, 2021, on my way to a protest in which thousands of my compatriots rose up across the island to demand freedom.

I've been imprisoned ever since.

Last year, I was sentenced to five years in prison on charges of contempt and insult to national symbols, because I used the Cuban flag in a performance in August 2019. This is how the Cuban government views my art. I was tried, alongside my dear friend, the Grammy Award-winning rapper Maykel Castillo—known as El Osorbo—who is now serving a nine-year sentence for similar offenses. My imprisonment is a result of the Cuban authorities' systematic strategy to silence the voices of young people. They have been harassing me for years, arresting me 50 times between 2017 and 2021 and also through defamation, violation of privacy, threats and police beatings. But it wasn't until the historic protest of 2021 that the regime decided to lock me up for a longer period of time so I could no longer communicate with my people.

I'm imprisoned in Guanajay, a maximum-security penitentiary southwest of Havana. Many of my fellow prisoners are serving life sentences for murder. The authorities have separated me from other political prisoners. I share a cell with three others. I'm allowed to talk to other inmates in the hallway, but I'm only taken out to the yard when other prisoners are gone. I should be allowed to spend an hour outside every day, but I'm only let out occasionally at the whim of the guards.

I've lost weight because of the scarcity of food and poor quality of meals. I'm often afraid to eat because the food looks rotten. After I was sentenced in June 2022, the rules for visiting me changed. Now my family can only visit me once a month, instead of twice. No one else is allowed. Even my beloved uncle is banned because of his involvement in activism.

More than 1,800 Cubans, mostly young and Black, were arrested in the protests in 2021. Of these, 897 have been tried, and 777 remain in prison. Many are minors. Some have been sentenced to up to 30 years for sedition. But there's no evidence that the protest was premeditated. It started in a small town outside Havana, when a young boy posted a video on Facebook of people protesting power outages. Within hours, thousands of Cubans decided to take to the streets.

Since that day, hundreds of young Cubans have been trapped behind bars. Every day is the same. Violence is constant. Only one's body changes. Your hair falls out and your face ages prematurely from pain, frustration and sadness. Your friends leave the country. Lovers' caresses are long gone. The soundscape here is always the same. All you hear is the murmur of death slowly approaching. In these harsh conditions, human beings are stripped of their youth. They wander the four square meters of their cells with no sense of future.

I speak as a young man in today's Cuba. We are full of energy and confidence, determined to lend our talents to the quest for a truly democratic and free Cuba. The regime that has survived for 64 years on the Caribbean's largest island is once again trying to crush a generation, just as it crushed and erased those who preceded us.

Today every young Cuban is a political prisoner. A censored artist. An exile inside and outside Cuba. Even if you're an accomplice of the system, you will inevitably be crushed like the others, because to be young is to be daring and reckless, eager to bring change to the world. It means fighting for love, dreams and utopia. But these qualities are considered crimes in Cuba, and that condemns us all to martyrdom.

Today, as I approach the age of 35 behind bars, I reflect on the loss of youth under a dictatorial system. Forced to survive political violence, we all lose 90% of our physical and intellectual productivity. Only 10% is left for creative and life-affirming pursuits.

On behalf of the young Cubans locked up in the island's horrible prisons, I appeal to people of conscience around the world to support our struggle to liberate ourselves and our country. All we did was demand the right to choose our political future and to speak our minds.

No one should have to give up their youth for such a just cause.

Next, I'd like to share a story written by Jyllyssa Lopez and published January 6th, 2023 in Rolling Stone magazine detailing Maykel Osorbo's life and current detention. The article is titled "Two Years After 'Patria Y Vida.' Cuban Rapper Maykel Osorbo Remains in Jail."

Maybe it was the excitement of post-lockdown celebrations or the simple triumph of getting through the worst of the pandemic, but the energy felt different at the 22nd annual Latin Grammys back in November of 2021. Thousands of people, dressed in shimmering gowns and slick suits, had gathered at MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas for the awards ceremony. At the end of the night, when it was time for the anticipated Song of the Year category, the air turned electric as people waited to hear who might take home the trophy—maybe be a massive pop name like Cammilo or Rauw Alejandro, who were both nominated and sitting in the audience.

Instead, the award went to "Patria Y Vida," a song that started out in a small studio in Miami and spiraled across the streets of Cuba in 2021. The title, which inverts the popular Fidel Castro-era slogan "patria o muerte," took on such force that it became a common chant during the unprecedented demonstrations that swept the island that summer. Despite its political impact, no one expected "Patria Y Vida" to win in Las Vegas, particularly because of how traditional the Latin Recording Academy can be. Five of the song's performers—Yotuel Romero, Descemer Bueno, Eliexer "El Funky" Márquez Duany, Alexander Delgado Hermández, and Randy Malcom Martínez—appeared onstage, shocked and tearful, to accept the award. But there was one artist notably absent: the rapper Maykel Osorbo.

At that precise moment, Osorbo was sitting in Kilo 5 Y Medio, a maximum-security prison in the rural, tobacco-rich region of Pinal del Rio, Cuba, far from the glamour and glitterati of the awards show. By then, he'd been jailed for six months, after authorities detained him on accusations that included assault, resistance, public disorder, and "propagating the epidemic," all of which outside lawyers supporting him say are false charges. His family heard from him only sparingly, and they worried about his health, which had deteriorated since his arrest.

Since the late 2010s, Osorbo—whose real name is Maykel Castillo Pérez—had gained attention on the island as one of the most public figures of Movimiento San Isidro (MSI), a collective made up of dissident artists and intellectuals in Havana. He was also known for his bold, outspoken music, which caught the ear of Romero. Romero had begun working on "Patria Y Vida" in October of 2020, and he'd been collaborating with other artists who, like him, had moved to the U.S. from Cuba. Still, he felt the track—which was inspired by the political anthems of nueva trova legend Silvio Rodríguez—needed the voices of people still living on the island. He asked Osorbo to be part of the song,

aware that the music risked provoking the Cuban government; the lyrics call for freedom and mention several activists by name. Bus Osorbo wasn't afraid.

He and his close friends El Funky recorded verses in secret, sending them to Romero through WhatsApp. Over the next few months, they watched in awe as the song caught on in Cuba, becoming a rallying cry as unrest started brewing in the country. Frustrations had been mounting as Cubans faced food and supply shortages something many saw as a direct product of government mismanagement and the effects of the pandemic—though others, including Cuban president Miguel Diaz-Canel, pointed to the effects of the U.S. embargo. Additionally, there was a tightening of restrictions during lockdown that reflected the Cuban government's broader limits on civil liberties. Osorbo continued working with MSI, often using his platform to speak out and demand justice for people who'd been detained for expressing themselves. His rising popularity and outspokenness made him a frequent police target and, according to the humanitarian organization Prisoners Defenders, he was arrested and beaten multiple times before he was thrown in prison in May 2021.

Meanwhile, tensions in Cuba boiled over in July that year, resulting in rare nationwide protests. Many of them were set to the sound of "Patria Y Vida"—a sign that even if Osorbo was locked away, the messages he'd gotten out were still resonating with people.

After the Latin Grammys that November, there was a faint sense of hope: Perhaps such massive international attention would eventually mean Osorbo's release. In February 2022, the United Nations Group on Arbitrary Detention responded to a complaint, spearheaded by Prisoners Defenders, and determined that Osorbo had been "persecuted and arbitrarily detained for exercising his fundamental rights to freedom of opinion, expression, assembly, association and participation." They demanded his release, and Osorbo's friends organized to fight for him. El Funky, who moved to the U.S. in 2021, released music lambasting Cuban authorities for imprisoning artists, and Osorbo's partner, the activist Anamely Ramos, spoke out at demonstrations and rallied supporters on social media.

But in June 2022, a court in Havana made its final decision. Osorbo was sentenced to nine years in prison; artist Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara, a close MSI associate, was sentenced to five. Javier Larrondo, the president of Prisoners Defenders, believes some of the recognition Osorbo got for his music did help. In addition to winning Song of the Year, "Patria Y Vida" also secured the award for Best Urban Song, making Osorbo a two-time Latin Grammy winner—and, perhaps, lightening his sentence. "Given the way crimes were fabricated the way they were for Maykel, if he'd been hidden in anonymity, he perhaps could have even had a 12- or 13-year sentence dropped on him," Larrondo says.

Still, the sentence was a painful one for him and those who'd been following Osorbo's case. Osorbo will turn 40 this August; he'll be almost 50 by the time he's released. People have continued to denounce his imprisonment: Last month on Christmas Eve, the Argentine-Venezuelan singer Ricardo Montaner called for his liberation. Others, like El Funky, want to make sure Osorbo isn't forgotten. "We're going to keep making music, keep speaking up, until Maykel is free," he says.

Maykel Osorbo grew up in Old Havana as an only child. When he was 10 years old, his mother left in the dead of the night, part of a swell of Cubans who left the island after the 1994 Maleconazo protests that led then-

president Fidel Castro to briefly allow citizens to leave the island voluntarily. Osorbo was largely on his own after that.

"Maykel had a hard childhood," says El Funky, who met Osorbo in the neighborhood as a kid. "He had to become a man at a really young age and went through really difficult things." They stayed friends throughout the years, and they always had a love of music in common. They both wanted to be performers, but El Funky had to put his career ambitions on hold in 2005, after his first child was born, to focus on opening a café with his father.

In 2013, Osorbo came knocking on his door. "He said, 'Compadre, you have talent, we've known each other for years. There are all these music festivals in Cuba with prizes. I have a studio where we can work without a problem,'" El Funky remembers. At first, El Funky told Osorbo that he was done with music, but Osorbo had a way of inspiring. Within a few months, they were releasing songs together and independently, building recognition as artists in the neighborhood. They rapped about life in Cuba, and invariably what they were releasing was political. "I've always said that anyone who writes songs about everyday realities in Cuba is talking about the situation in Cuba," he says. "So, without meaning to, we were making protest music."

Osorbo's work took on a radical urgency in 2018, when Cuba proposed Decree 349, a law that prohibited any artistic expression in both public and private spaces without approval by the government's Ministry of Culture. Authorities were also given the power to shut down artistic activity that they deemed as containing "sexist, vulgar or obscene language." Many artists and poets spoke out against the law, many of them eventually creating the MSI collective. Osorbo took on a central role alongside Otero, who was arrested dozens of times for staging demonstrations and art performances. Osorbo's music became more direct than ever, filled with lacerating critiques of the government. In late 2020, he teamed up with El Funky for "Diazcarao," a heated, blistering rap that directly took aim at president Diaz-Canel. El Funky believes that song is what started to rattle the government, just before "Patria Y Vida" exploded into the world.

Once they'd recorded their parts in "Patria Y Vida," Osorbo and El Funky decided to take a huge risk by shooting a few scenes for a music video Romero was planning. They worked with the video director Anyelo Troya, who pawned off one of his cameras to get better equipment for the shoot, and snuck into an abandoned building in the dead of night. The Cuban government had enforced lockdown curfews, and they'd all face fines and even jail time if they got caught. They had three friends stand watch the entire night, switching off so they could sleep, and featured Otero in the video as well. Once it was finished, the video made an impact quickly, garnering one million views within three days.

"People who know me and my work were like, 'Now you really went crazy.' I knew there was going to be a fallout," El Funky remembers. Ramos says that shortly after the song came out, she heard people starting to use the phrase "patria y vida" casually on the street, and she noticed neighbors playing the song in public. She says that she was stunned by how much other Cubans were connecting to "Patria Y Vida," but she was concerned about Osorbo. "All of us knew when we saw the reaction it got that there were going to be consequences. We know the authorities weren't going to forgive something like that."

Cuba, at the time, had been ramping up arrests on artists in particular. A 2021 report

from the international NGO Freemuse, which has been documenting and researching incidents of censorship and suppressing freedom of expression, showed that Cuba's rappers are some of the most persecuted rap artists in the world. Prisoners Defenders outlined more than 120 "repressive police acts" committed against Osorbo between 2019 and 2021, including beatings and arbitrary detentions. In one incident, he was picked up by police when he was at a park with his two-year-old daughter, who was left alone after authorities took him away.

Clashes that intensified that April ultimately led to his arrest. According to Prisoners Defenders, Osorbo had been walking to MSI headquarters when he saw police harassing a woman on the street. He attempted to intervene, and police moved to arrest him instead, despite not having a reason. By then, Osorbo had become a beloved figure in town, and neighbors quickly jumped in and helped him escape. They surrounded police officers and screaming at them to let Osorbo go, showing the mass support he had from Cubans. (An image of Osorbo holding one handcuffed arm up in the air after evading arrest went viral.) Almost a month later, on May 18, authorities picked him up again, handcuffing him shirtless and without shoes on while he was at home. Like many of the previous arrests, this one was made without an arrest warrant or clear charges against him. He's been held ever since.

El Funky was detained at one point as well, but ultimately let go. "I'm not the type of person they were going to arrest," he says. "I've done stuff, don't get me wrong, and I'm a person who has a lot of support, but I don't have a personality like Maykel and Luis Manuel. These guys are leaders—natural leaders. When they thought of things, what they'd come up with was so ingenious that it was a danger to the state."

In addition to his work with Prisoners Defenders, Larrondo is a singer who's played the most renowned Venues in Spain and several other parts of the world. He's performed with the legendary Celia Cruz and sang on an album alongside artists such as Gloria Estefan and Alejandro Sanz. He understands the value of freedom of expression intimately. His interest in Osorbo's case came from his experiences both as a musician and a defender of human rights, and he's been working with the hope of finding organized, systematic ways for the artistic community to show solidarity with artists who are oppressed around the world.

"Patria Y Vida" was the main storyline at the 2021 Latin Grammys, and the song's two wins made headlines around the world. There was some inevitable controversy, with skeptical fans and musicians arguing that "Patria Y Vida" reflected a Western, anti-left political agenda and noting that the government organization USAID has used Cuba's hip-hop scene in the past as a way to infiltrate the Cuban government. (Some Cuban rappers Rolling Stone spoke to have countered that regardless of what the U.S. has done, Cuba's artists and hip-hop scenes have their own voice.) But more broadly, the Latin Recording Academy was applauded for swaying from its more risk-averse tendencies and recognizing a song with a strong social message.

And then, as the months passed, Osorbo's story largely faded from mainstream coverage—and, seemingly, from the Latin industry and Latin Grammy's consciousness. Osorbo, who remains behind bars, wasn't mentioned at the 2022 awards ceremony this past November, and El Funky says no one contacted him about other efforts to raise awareness. However, he has kept writing music about Osorbo and other political pris-

oners in Cuba, refusing to back down. Artists such as Romero have also spoken out; he's currently working on a documentary about "Patria Y Vida."

Larrondo believes that cases such as Osorbo's illustrate a violation of fundamental rights, and that limits on artistic expression—like other human-rights violations—require bigger, broader movements in response. "In the music industry, as well as in the sports industry, there isn't a systemic process to show solidarity with oppressed artists or athletes," he says. "I say this thinking of the Iranian case of the athlete sentenced to death. I haven't seen soccer players, or soccer clubs, express themselves against that sentencing in a big way, doing things like organized moments of silence at stadiums, the same way I haven't seen artists defending the freedom of Maykel Osorbo in a massive way."

He adds: "The fact that some artists have stood up for Maykel is good, but without some coordination or a major response from the collective art world to support a Latin Grammy winner, and a constant, permanent message—without that, you can't have that person set free from prison. Any artist in any regime could suffer things similar to Maykel."

Ramos worries constantly about Osorbo's medical condition in prison. She says he went through a critical period in which skin lesions and boils appeared on his skin, perhaps a result of contracting scabies or an infection in prison. Though he's since stabilized, she wonders if the symptoms could be a sign of cancer, and she believes the Cuban government is actively withholding medical attention—something it has been accused of doing with prisoners in the past. Beyond that, she says Osorbo's mood has dipped, especially after the holidays "He's really not doing well, and he's been that way for a long time," she says. "Especially these days toward the end of the year, which is a tough time that you typically spend with family."

Despite all this, Osorbo recently managed to share an audio recording, which was posted on his social media accounts. It's a message of gratitude to his family, his friends, and above all, those who have supported him. "Those supporters have been there for me at all times, they have made me grow," Osorbo says. "They have made me leave behind who I was and they've made me who I am."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Florida will provide the Clerk a translation of her remarks.

HONORING COMMANDER JAMES CHRISTIAN DUNCAN

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

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Commander James Christian Duncan of the 31st Combat Training Squadron of the United States Air Force.

Lieutenant Colonel Duncan joined the Air Force in 2003 and trained at Columbus Air Force Base where he finished with distinction, flying both the T-6 and the T-38.

He has a distinguished training career, training other pilots on both the F-15E and the F-35. Before the 31st was activated in April of 2021, Duncan served as commander of Detachment 1 of the 29th Training Systems Squadron.

In his career, Commander Duncan had received many honors and awards, including the Transition Top Gun Award, Military Training Award, Flying Excellence Award, and the Order of Daedalians AETC Commander's Trophy.

On November 1, he retired from the armed services and is looking forward to opportunities with his family, Amy, Elliana, Micah, and Sarah.

I thank Commander Duncan for a career of service to our country and wish him the best in retirement.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 9 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BICE) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, Your grace is sufficient for all that we will face this day. When we find ourselves faltering for want of a reason to hope, weakened from lack of energy or enthusiasm, dismayed by the complexity of the issues at hand, let us not, as Howard Thurman encouraged, shrink from the present intensity, lest we turn away from the power of Your love.

Yours is the power that is made perfect in our weakness. Yours is the strength that carries us through the difficulties of the day. Yours is the mercy that enables us to endure the repercussions of our own mistakes. Yours is the hope that gives us purpose when nothing in our lives is certain.

May we not shrink from the many challenges this day will reveal, and may we never turn away from the incredible power Your love provides.

In the strength of Your word we stand, and in the power of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. HARD-

ER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HARDER of California led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

FOCUS ON HONORING VETERANS ON VETERANS DAY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, as we approach Veterans Day this coming weekend, we will remember that on the eleventh hour of the 11th day of the 11th month it was originally the end of World War I. It was known as Armistice Day, and in 1919 was the first Armistice Day until the Treaty of Versailles finally was done after several iterations of armistice was done back then.

Finally, in 1945, World War II veteran Raymond Weeks had the idea to expand it to all veterans. Raymond Weeks was later known as the father of what we now know as Veterans Day. In 1954 it was fully renamed Veterans Day.

To properly put the focus on the service and thanking of all our living veterans, this Saturday on November 11, I urge all Americans to pause and participate in honoring our living veterans at local events you may find in your area, Madam Speaker.

Let them know. It is not just a Friday off for Federal employees and the banks or no mail on Saturday, but a grateful Nation, instead, thanks them for preserving our freedom and that we should also be participants in our citizenship for our country.

END HUNGER NOW

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I thank the Biden administration for meaningfully updating the Thrifty Food Plan as Congress mandated in the last farm bill.

Before the Biden administration took action, the Thrifty Food Plan had not been updated in 50 years. That is absurd. Needy families were having to make purchasing decisions based on data from one-half century ago.

Nevertheless, thanks to their updates, SNAP recipients now get an extra \$1.40 per day. It is a small increase, but it means more people can make ends meet.

Guess what, Madam Speaker?

It is something that is real that is already helping families buy groceries.

I am so sick and tired of hearing my Republican friends play the inflation blame game, but then, when it comes time to actually do something to actually help families pay for groceries, Republicans are floating the idea of rolling back the Thrifty Food Plan update. Really, that is a rotten thing to do.

As Congress works to complete the 2023 farm bill, I strongly urge all of my colleagues to join me in rejecting this cruel and cynical approach.

Enough for God's sake.

THE DEVOTED SERVICE OF COLONEL CHARLES ECKART OF CORYDON, INDIANA

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

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, if you ask anyone who knows him, you will learn that Colonel Charles Eckart of Corydon, Indiana, among other things, is devoted. He is devoted to his faith, to his family, and to his country.

Colonel Eckart served in the United States Army for 28 years. He served our Nation with unwavering dedication, protecting our freedom and ensuring our liberty. His service extended beyond the call of duty, making a profound impact on countless lives and communities. This is why he is being inducted into the Indiana Military Veterans Hall of Fame.

Colonel Eckart was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroism during the Tet Offensive in Vietnam.

He taught English literature at his alma mater, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He was the battalion commander in charge of the U.S. Army Reserves in Jeffersonville and retired as a colonel in 1993 in Indianapolis.

Although he retired, his service never stopped. He has served his community of Corydon for decades and has served as the West Point liaison for Indiana's 9th District for the last 23 years.

This is where my staff and I have had the honor and privilege of getting to know him.

Colonel Eckart is loved by my staff, his family, his community, and his country. It is truly a blessing to honor him on the House floor today.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Colonel Eckart on being inducted into the Indiana Military Veterans Hall of Fame. Indiana is proud to call him one of its own.

HIGH AUTO INSURANCE RATES

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

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, auto insurance discrimination continues to keep our residents in the cycle of poverty in Michigan.

The Prohibit Auto Insurance Discrimination Act, or PAID Act, would prohibit auto insurance companies from using education level, marital status, credit scores, ZIP Codes, Census tracts, or homeownership status in insurance rating or underwriting decisions.

Madam Speaker, these factors don't determine your driving ability, yet our neighbors, especially in my district, regularly face higher auto insurance rates.

Currently many people are charged hundreds or even thousands of dollars more based on these factors, even though they aren't related to driving.

Madam Speaker, I don't know what the heck marital status or education level have to do with whether or not you are a good driver.

This summer Michigan residents saw a 42 percent fee increase adding on to higher fees that are still unaffordable for many families.

I am really grateful to be working with Congresswoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN on the PAID Act.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to please fight against this discriminatory practice.

HONORING MARY ANN RILEY OF INMAN, SOUTH CAROLINA

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

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Ann Riley of Inman, South Carolina, for her decades of service to our community and dedication to the South Carolina Republican Party.

Ms. Riley moved to South Carolina in 1982. That same year she began attending community meetings, getting involved in local campaigns, and was appointed president of the Spartanburg County Republican Women where she has served ever since.

More than politics, Ms. Riley is a major contributor to her local pregnancy center and supports upstate veterans undergoing hospice care. She is also active in her church and other organizations that work to assist our fellow South Carolinians every single day.

A former teacher, her life's work has been to make the world a better place for her students, her neighbors, and future generations.

Ms. Riley is a true public servant who has made a significant and lasting impact on South Carolinians. I thank Mary Ann for over 30 years of service to the people of Spartanburg County and the upstate as a whole.

CELEBRATING DIWALI

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

Mr. HARDER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Diwali and honor its message of light triumphing over darkness.

This Sunday, families in San Joaquin County and across the world will gather to celebrate the festival of lights with their families and friends.

Diwali holds a special place in the hearts of the South Asian community and serves as a beacon of hope, unity, and joy.

My wife grew up celebrating Diwali with her own family. From lighting diyas to decorating her doorstep with rangoli, it is a chance now to make sure that that tradition lives on with my own daughter and her Indian heritage celebrating the values that Diwali embodies.

I am so grateful to the South Asian community whose hard work, dedication, and vibrant culture are such an important part of San Joaquin County and across the United States.

Madam Speaker, I hope this year's Diwali is filled with joy, love, and plenty of good sweets.

RECOGNIZING MR. GERALD McCLELLAN ON VETERANS DAY

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

Ms. LETLOW. Madam Speaker, in honor of Veterans Day, I would like to take the time to recognize one of our very own veterans from the Fifth District of Louisiana.

Mr. Gerald McClellan, a resident of Pineville, Louisiana, is a retired Master Sergeant E-8 of the United States Army. He joined the Army straight out of high school in 1973, went through vigorous training, and spent his deployment in the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea.

He distinguished himself with outstanding achievements, going on to receive the Meritorious Service Medal upon retirement for impeccable service to the military.

On Veterans Day, we reflect on the service and sacrifice of our Nation's veterans like Gerald. They are responsible for protecting and ensuring that our freedoms continue to last from generation to generation.

We must never forget that we are the land of the free because of the brave.

Today we give our most sincere gratitude to our veterans. Their duty and fidelity to the cause of freedom is something for which they will forever be honored. Today and every day we thank them for their service.

REPUBLICANS ARE CUTTING FUNDING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

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

Ms. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to House Republicans' transportation and housing appropriations bill.

This week Republicans are fast-tracking a bill that would make it

more difficult for people in North Carolina to commute to work and find an affordable place to live.

Specifically, this legislation slashes funding for the HOME program, the sole Federal housing program dedicated to affordable housing construction.

Under their plan, funding will be cut by two-thirds, and 17,000 fewer affordable homes will be built or rehabilitated in the coming fiscal year.

I consistently hear from constituents about the high cost of housing and how it is an unbearable burden. Across North Carolina, 25 percent of all renter households are categorized as extremely low-income. These families need our help.

Madam Speaker, we must do more to make housing affordable, and we must reject this deeply flawed bill.

BIDEN DEFICIT THREATENS FAMILIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, last month the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget reported on the final Monthly Treasury Statement for 2023 by the Department of the Treasury.

The U.S. deficit totaled \$2 trillion. This figure is double the deficit of 2022 and higher than the Congressional Budget Office projected in June.

Officially, the deficit grew \$320 billion from 2022. As a share of the economy, the deficit was 7.5 percent of the gross domestic product. This is larger than at any time in American history outside of war, recession, or national emergency.

Republicans, led by Speaker MIKE JOHNSON, will continue to fight to pass legislation to reduce the deficit helping American families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America with Biden open borders.

The New York Post this week warns a 9/11 attack in America is imminent.

□ 1215

HONORING AMERICANS WHO SACRIFICED SO MUCH

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 16 million brave men and women alive today who valiantly served this Nation in the United States military.

Every year, on November 11, we unite as a nation to celebrate and honor all veterans who selflessly put their lives on the line, fighting for the freedoms that make this the greatest country on Earth.

Veterans have made considerable sacrifices serving this Nation. We must honor them and ensure they receive the benefits promised for their noble service. That is why I am introducing the Veterans Education is Timeless Act of 2023, removing arbitrary expiration dates for education benefits for veterans and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and uphold the commitments we have made to the men and women who serve and fought on our behalf.

As we approach Veterans Day, I express my profound gratitude to all veterans and especially recognize the 45,000 who live in Virginia's Fifth District. It is an honor to recognize and represent these Americans who sacrificed so much to defend the freedoms we enjoy.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CHAMPION CINDY MONTANEZ

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

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of an environmental justice champion, fighter for workers' rights, and former southern California assemblymember, Cynthia Montanez.

Cindy's activism started at UCLA, where she participated in a 14-day hunger strike to help establish the Chicano Studies Department.

At 25, she became the youngest councilmember of her hometown of San Fernando.

At 27, she became mayor.

At 28, she was the youngest woman elected to the State legislature.

Cindy used her talents to create immediate change for our communities. As an assistant general manager of the L.A. Department of Water and Power, she helped transition the Nation's largest publicly owned utility to cleaner energy. As CEO of TreePeople, she transformed the organization into the fastest-growing environmental nonprofit in southern California.

Madam Speaker, I thank Cindy for her tireless advocacy for Latino communities in California. She is gone way too soon. Rest in power.

HONORING VIETNAM VET WALTER BUECHI

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

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a Vietnam veteran and Clarence, New York, resident, Walter Buechi.

For most of his life, Walt has been dedicated to serving our country and our community. In 1965, he answered the call to serve our Nation and spent 18 months as a radio operator in Viet-

nam. However, his service didn't stop when he made it back home.

Instead, he joined the Clarence Fire Department, where he continued to exemplify the qualities that make him a hero in the truest sense. As a firefighter, Walt put his life on the line once again. He has gone above and beyond the call to serve, and we owe him a debt of gratitude that can never fully be repaid.

Walt is facing his next battle as he has been diagnosed with stage IV cancer. When we support veterans healthcare in this body, he is the kind of hero that we are helping.

Madam Speaker, I ask our Nation to pray for Walt. We are grateful for his remarkable contributions to our great Nation, to western New York, and to the town of Clarence.

DYCKMAN BASKETBALL IS BACK

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dyckman basketball, the red carpet of streetball.

In my district, basketball is everything to Dyckman. It is the opportunity to connect with friends and neighbors in fellowship and celebration of the vibrancy of our community.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a halt in the 30-year tradition of the Dyckman summer basketball tournament, but I am here to tell you that Dyckman is back.

Featured in the sports documentary "Dyckman: The Comeback," the incredible team of Dyckman sports worldwide, CEO Ken Stevens and Sharon Bond, or Ms. B as she is known throughout the community, have poured a tremendous amount of love into the sport.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate them on their Emmy award-winning documentary, and I congratulate the dedicated Dyckman team.

Dyckman basketball is back.

CONGRATULATING KEYSTONE CENTRAL CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Keystone Central Career and Technology Center in Clinton County, Pennsylvania.

Keystone Central Career and Technology Center was named a semifinalist and received \$10,000 as part of the Career Z Challenge.

The Career Z Challenge, run through the Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, aims to expand work-based learning opportunities for Gen Z students.

Schools, nonprofit organizations, and local educational agencies in urban and

rural communities across 35 States submitted entries describing their plans to create collaborative and sustainable work-based learning ecosystems to provide students with interconnected and expansive career development opportunities from grades 9 through 12.

Semifinalists will be eligible to move on to phase three, and during the 2023-2024 school year, semifinalists will receive technical assistance to support the refinement and implementation of their proposed WBL ecosystem plans.

They are also participating in a community of practice and have access to learning workshops, peer collaboration opportunities, and other resources.

Madam Speaker, as co-chair of the Bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus, I am pleased to see the next generation of learning of the many job opportunities CTE provides.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Keystone Central Career and Technology Center and wish them good luck in phase three.

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROJECTS REJECTED FROM T-HUD BILL

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Madam Speaker, as we consider the T-HUD appropriations bill, I stand here to remind this legislative body of the 3 of nearly 3,000 community funding projects that were rejected from this bill in July, including the LGBTQ Center of Reading in my home community.

The very sad reality can be boiled down to this: These organizations were rejected by the GOP-led House simply because they had LGBTQ in their names.

Let's be clear, these services provide lifesaving services like food and shelter for those who have been rejected from their homes because of whom they love. They equip our vulnerable populations with the tools they need for future success—financial literacy, professional resumes, and life skills, among many other things.

Unfortunately, the Republicans who pulled this funding are likely hopeful that the American people will not see this bigoted and targeted approach for what it is, but what we do here today does send a very clear message to our LGBTQ community. It is a message that says that too many of my colleagues in Congress don't want to support these vital community investments simply because of who they serve. We owe it to the American people to do better and to serve everyone.

Madam Speaker, for my daughter Molly, I ask those who are affected by this to not accept this bigotry and discrimination any longer.

CONGRATULATING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF COOKEVILLE, TENNESSEE

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate First Baptist Church of Cookeville on 150 years of spreading the Gospel throughout middle Tennessee.

I was raised at First Baptist Church and came to know my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, was baptized, and was a member for many years of First Baptist. My wife, Chelsea, and I were married in this church. Needless to say, I have received many blessings from this congregation.

The church was organized in 1873 with a congregation of 34 members. They agreed on a church covenant, which reads, in part: The purpose of this body is to advance the church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort, promoting prosperity and spirituality.

They continue to fulfill that commitment 150 years later.

The folks at Cookeville First Baptist embody what it means to have a servant's heart, whether it be through their many Bible study groups or missions, like Operation Christmas Child or their Family Life Center.

Today, the church enjoys a membership of more than 1,300 members. That is the result of 150 years of persistence and faith.

Madam Speaker, I pray they will continue to be a blessing to our community for the next 150 years.

REMEMBERING THE 12 LIVES LOST AT BORDERLINE BAR AND GRILL 5 YEARS AGO

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

Ms. BROWNLEY. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I come before this body to remember the 12 innocent lives lost 5 years ago today at Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks, California.

Our community was forever changed by this tragedy inflicted by the plague of gun violence that continues to permeate every corner of our country.

While House Republicans wasted precious time fighting with each other over electing a new Speaker for 21 days and 21 hours, there were 33 more mass shootings, 1,030 people died from gun violence, and another 2,072 people were injured.

Within hours of Speaker JOHNSON being elected, there was a mass shooting in Maine that resulted in the tragic loss of 18 lives and left 13 others injured.

Madam Speaker, the American people are no longer satisfied with empty offers of thoughts and prayers in times of such tragedies. They want action, not meaningless words.

In memory of the Borderline 12, I call on Speaker JOHNSON and my Republican colleagues to bring commonsense, lifesaving gun safety legislation, including a ban on assault weapons, to the floor now.

CELEBRATING HMONG NEW YEAR

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, we are beginning November here. What does November mean? It varies from city to city, but it means the Hmong New Year.

Madam Speaker, I call to my colleagues' attention that some time during November or December, if you have a Hmong population close by, they will be celebrating their new year. I encourage everyone to show up and learn more about Hmong culture, their beautiful dress, great clothes, and great music.

Our country always has a debt to pay to the Hmong, who fought during the Vietnam war against totalitarian atheism, the most evil form of government we have ever known. Afterward, they came to our country.

Wisconsin has the third most Hmong in the country, and I have gotten to know many. I have yet to run into a Hmong family—I am sure they must exist—that was not doing very well. Everyone was getting married, having children, living the American Dream.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate my Hmong friends. I look forward to celebrating separate the new year in Oshkosh and Sheboygan. I hope that anyone listening out there finds their local Hmong New Year celebration.

CONGRATULATING TOWN OF BETHEL, NORTH CAROLINA, UPON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the town of Bethel in Pitt County, North Carolina, on its remarkable 150th anniversary.

This past weekend, Mayor Carl and Mrs. Wilson, board members and staff, former Mayor and State Representative Gloristine Brown, Pitt County Board of Commissioners Chair Mary Perkins-Williams, Sheriff Paula Dance, town residents, and others far and near joined to commemorate the significant milestone.

Bethel is not just a town. It is a place of cherished experiences, stories, and enriched traditions that have enhanced countless lives. Indeed, Bethel offers old-time charm and exceptional family-friendly amenities.

Madam Speaker, I wish the town residents many more years filled with joy, unity, and prosperity.

□ 1230

NAHASDA REAUTHORIZATION

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

Mrs. PELTOLA. Madam Speaker, I have heard stories from people across Alaska, some of the most rural and distant parts of our country, of about 20 people sharing a house with only three bedrooms and one bathroom. They sleep in shifts because they don't have enough space.

Without enough places to live, people are being forced out of their communities, the communities they love and the Native cultures they were raised in.

The Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act, or NAHASDA, is called the backbone of Indian housing for the essential support block grants and financing it guarantees in order to develop critical affordable housing and community facilities. However, 15 years of inflation since the last reauthorization has decimated housing production.

I am asking Congress to reauthorize and properly fund NAHASDA. We cannot force Alaska Natives to make a choice between the communities of their place-based cultures or a roof over their head.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4664, FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 847 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 847

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4664) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived.

SEC. 2. (a) No further amendment to H.R. 4664, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, amendments en bloc described in

section 3 of this resolution, and pro forma amendments described in section 4 of this resolution.

(b) Each further amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 4 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

(c) All points of order against further amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules or against amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution are waived.

SEC. 3. It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 4 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

SEC. 4. During consideration of H.R. 4664 for amendment, the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate.

SEC. 5. At the conclusion of consideration of H.R. 4664 for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Indiana is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Last night, the Rules Committee met and produced a rule, House Resolution 847, providing for the House's continued consideration of appropriations bills for fiscal year 2024.

The rule provides for H.R. 4664, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act of 2024, to be considered under a structured rule with 104 amendments made in order.

It provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees and provides for one motion to recommit.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this rule and support the underlying pieces of legislation.

H.R. 4664, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act of 2024, was subject to a robust committee process, one that saw both Republicans and Democrats offer amendments during the markup.

This is a work product the whole House can be proud of. Chairman WOMACK and his team, working together with Ranking Member HOYER and his team, have produced a comprehensive and timely bill. While I am sure the two sides have differences of opinion on the final product, I am also sure I am joined by all my colleagues in thanking them for their hard work.

There are many aspects of this appropriations bill that I want to highlight. First and foremost is the commitment to rooting out wasteful spending.

The bill limits funds for 31 unauthorized accounts for a savings to the American taxpayer of approximately \$64 million. It ensures that the Small Business Administration focuses on its core mission—helping small businesses—and not undertaking unnecessary climate activism outside of its primary responsibilities.

The bill also claws back wasteful spending from previous fiscal years, including money used to hire an army of IRS workers. The American people have been very clear. They don't want tens of thousands of additional IRS agents.

I also commend this bill as a product of strong cooperation between the Appropriations Committee and the authorizing Financial Services Committee, on which I am proud to sit. The bill furthers a lot of the efforts we have been working on in that committee.

It would prevent the SEC under Chair Gensler from finalizing rules that vastly overstep the Commission's jurisdiction, including ones that push ESG and Green New Deal agenda items over the interests of everyday investors.

The bill prevents the Federal Housing Finance Agency from forcing responsible borrowers to subsidize individuals with bad credit.

This bill also eliminates funding for the Federal Insurance Office and stops the Federal Government from taking over the insurance industry, an industry that is already successfully regulated at the State level.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the waste and abuse that this bill prudently targets, starting with penalizing the administration for not submitting its budget request on time. If the Presi-

dent can't complete this task, then there must be consequences. This is a basic principle in business and in our households, one our government would be prudent to similarly adopt.

Additionally, this legislation prohibits funds for Federal agencies until telework policies are reinstated to prepandemic standards. The pandemic is over, and it is long past time that the Federal Government returned to work. Our constituents deserve fully staffed and responsive agencies, and I commend Chairman WOMACK for his commitment to this principle.

Finally, we are here today and over the course of this week to consider more appropriations bills like the one provided for in this rule because we must rein in Federal spending.

To be more exact, this bill comes in at approximately 20 percent below the President's request, without sacrificing essential government functions. If enacted, it represents a modest 7 percent cut below last year's fiscal level.

The most important number we should all keep in mind is \$33 trillion, that is \$33 trillion in debt. We can no longer afford to kick the can down the metaphorical road. Madam Speaker, there is no road left.

We need to pass this rule and the FSGG appropriations bill so we can continue to deliver on the fiscal sanity that puts us back on the right path.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Indiana, Mrs. HOUCHIN, for the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, after wasting weeks as Republicans tried to get their house in order, we have just 10 days left to fund the government or we shut down.

My colleagues across the aisle might say that the House has already passed 7 of 12 funding bills, but they know those bills are so extreme that they won't get the necessary Democratic or Republican votes in the Senate and don't have any chance of becoming law.

We are reviewing another extreme bill today, H.R. 4664, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2024.

Let's start with the numbers. The bill is 58 percent below last year's level. If any of you had a business or just balanced your housing budget, what would happen if you cut almost 60 percent from what you had to spend from one year to the next? Your business or your household would fail.

If a budget reflects your values, this extreme Republican bill values the wealthy, the well-connected, the fraudsters, and the scammers.

A family putting their baby to bed tonight knows cribs are safe. The babies aren't being strangled because of the work of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, which recently turned 50.

What are Republicans doing in this bill to this well-honored and respected

Commission? They are cutting their funding by 10 percent, so big corporations can put profit over safety. Right now a small business entrepreneur in a rural community or an affordable housing developer in an urban neighborhood that the big banks ignore can secure financing from a community development financial institution.

What is H.R. 4664 doing about those great affordable housing opportunities? They are cutting the CDFI funding by \$45 million. They are cutting the Small Business Administration's entrepreneurship program by \$72 million. They are destroying opportunities that could be created in small places that big banks just don't care about.

We want to grow the middle class and lower costs for Americans, but this bill would do the opposite by slashing the budgets of the agencies that protect consumers.

American consumers can sometimes feel helpless against the robocalls, the credit card and bank fees, and the financial scammers. Well, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau helped those consumers get \$19 billion back when they went after those scammers, when they went after those excessive fees. However, this bill would weaken this agency, an agency that was born out of the 2008 financial crisis and the Great Recession, a crisis that I will remind everybody occurred on Republicans' watch and brought great suffering to families and businesses.

This bill also undermines oversight of Wall Street when it cuts the SEC by \$149 million. Remember the SEC? It also came into existence, but this time during the Great Depression. In each financial crisis we have mentioned, Democratic Congresses and Presidents stood with small businesses and working families against greed. Yes, the greed of Wall Street and the greed of payday lenders.

This bill tells us that extreme Republicans are okay with dangerous or defective products making their way into homes. Indeed, last night, one Republican Member said we should just get rid of the Consumer Product Safety Commission or just let them make recommendations, maybe Congress will act. It is ridiculous to get rid of this important consumer product safety agency.

Finally, this bill rescinds \$10.2 billion from funding we gave to the IRS last year. Then it cuts more funds for the IRS to modernize or protect itself from cybersecurity threats. Why would you want to make the IRS vulnerable to cybersecurity threats?

To add insult, the bill would keep the IRS from developing a program so Americans can file their taxes for free. Really? You want to make sure for-profit companies can charge taxpayers to file their taxes? How cynical is that?

□ 1245

At a time when Americans are worried about fentanyl killing their loved ones, this bill cuts funding for the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

At a time when Americans are worried about terrorism, this bill cuts funding for the National Security Council and Homeland Security Advisory Council.

While this bill cuts funding for CDFI, Democrats are fighting to grow the middle class by making housing more affordable.

While Republicans cut funding to the SBA, we are putting people over politics by supporting small businesses.

Democrats, as we have been saying for the last 3 years, put people over politics.

Unfortunately, this weekend the Republican Speaker of the House stated he would not put people over politics. Well, today's appropriations bill actually proves that.

I will end where I started. There are just 11 days to fund the government. We need spending bills that are bipartisan, that address the real needs of American taxpayers instead of just protecting the wealthy and well off.

House Democrats want to work in a bipartisan manner to get things done for the American people, but we will not stand for the extreme culture wars, the attacks on reproductive healthcare, and the draconian cuts House Republicans keep putting up for a vote in these appropriations bills.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the sky is not falling. I would remind my colleagues on the other side of the aisle that the spending levels in this bill are the same as they were just 10 months ago. The sky was not falling then, and the sky is not falling now.

We are talking about cuts to some agencies, agencies that are intent on overregulating our small and midsize banks out of business.

If our colleagues on the left would have their way, we would have three major national banks and no access to community lending.

I certainly think my constituents would rather have access to their community banks than worry about how much funding level we are giving those agencies.

Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY).

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Madam Speaker, I thank my great friend and colleague from the Rules Committee, the gentlewoman from Indiana, for yielding the time.

Madam Speaker, since January 2021, the Biden administration has been laser focused on making the fantasy of the Green New Deal a reality for Americans.

Earlier this year, the Securities and Exchange Commission proposed the so-called Climate Disclosure Project, which would require an entirely new level of burdensome, costly emissions reporting.

Now, who will this rule impact the most? Not big business, as my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would like people to believe. Instead, all of these new compliance costs, as with almost every new rule and regulation imposed by this Biden administration, will be felt mostly and most painfully by small business owners, farmers, and independent manufacturers.

Let me be clear: This misguided rule will hurt hardworking Americans and hinder economic growth at a time where we should be focused on creating jobs and lowering inflation.

Madam Speaker, the bottom line is this: Main Street can't afford the Biden economy. The American people can't afford it.

It hasn't stopped this administration from plowing ahead with even more bans and phaseouts and regulations on everything from internal combustion engines to gas stoves.

My district sees some of the coldest and harshest winters in the country in a State that, thanks to Governor Kathy Hochul, is already one step ahead of the Biden administration in eliminating natural gas as an affordable and reliable source of clean energy.

We can't afford to allow this administration to take what climate extremists in States like New York and California are doing and turn it into a nationwide effort.

At a time when this world is on fire and the rising cost of living is unsustainable, the last thing President Biden should be worried about is banning gas stoves, nickel-and-diming small businesses for emissions, and mobilizing a new IRS and a whole lot more agents to target hardworking families and small businesses.

I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 4664 and protect American families, farmers, and small businesses from this administration's reckless agenda.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Americans know that the climate catastrophe is wreaking havoc on our economy.

I come from a State where we lost billions due to wildfires that were caused by many factors, but this repeats itself over and over again.

Across America, there is no place that is safe from the climate catastrophe: the flooding, the hurricanes, the fires, the drought, and those cost money.

They cost our farmers money. They cost our ranchers money, our cities, our towns, our governments, and so yes, we must address that.

In fact, this administration was elected precisely because he said he would address that. We need to emphasize that. To pretend that there isn't an economic cost is to put your head in the sand.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3½ minutes to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), my wonderful colleague representing the District

of Columbia, which is a Democratically elected city, and we should respect it as such.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend for yielding to me.

Madam Speaker, I rise to strongly oppose this rule and the fiscal year 2024 Financial Services and General Government appropriations bill.

The bill blocks, repeals, or amends ten laws and policies adopted by the District of Columbia's locally elected officials.

The rule also makes in order three amendments that would block D.C. from spending its local funds, which consist of local taxes and fees, to carry out local D.C. laws and policies.

While Congress has the constitutional authority to legislate on local D.C. matters, it does not have a constitutional duty to do so. Instead, legislating on local D.C. matters is a choice.

The Supreme Court has held that Congress may delegate "fully legislative power" to D.C. on local D.C. matters.

D.C.'s local legislature, the D.C. Council, has 13 members. All members are elected by D.C. residents. If D.C. residents do not like the laws the Council adopts, they can vote those members out of office. That is called democracy.

Congress has 435 voting Members. The Members are elected by residents of the States. None are elected by or accountable to D.C. residents.

If D.C. residents do not like the laws Congress adopts, they cannot vote the Members out of office. This is the antithesis of democracy.

The Revolutionary War was fought to give consent to the governed and to end taxation without representation. Yet, D.C. residents cannot consent to any action taken by Congress, whether on national or local matters, and pay full Federal taxes. Indeed, D.C. pays more Federal taxes per capita than any State and more total Federal taxes than 19 States.

D.C. residents, the majority of whom are Black and Brown, are capable and worthy of governing themselves. If House Republicans cared about Democratic principles affecting D.C. residents, they would bring my D.C. statehood bill, which would give D.C. residents voting representation in Congress and full local self-government to the floor.

Congress has the constitutional authority to admit the State of Washington, D.C. It simply lacks the will.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I just want to touch on a few things mentioned by my colleague on the other side of the aisle.

We talk about no economic cost to what they are doing in this bill in terms of climate, but we saw during the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank that our regulators Federally were spending more time focused on climate risk to our financial sector than to systemic risk.

This is an asleep-at-the-wheel approach of the Biden administration that we are trying to avoid in this piece of legislation.

My colleagues also discussed the District of Columbia. Well, the District of Columbia is receiving Federal funds in this piece of legislation which does give us an opportunity to weigh in on what we think the policies and the policy riders that should follow within that should be attached to this piece of legislation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT), an esteemed Member who I look forward to hearing his viewpoints on the importance of addressing the urgent needs that Americans have told us about such as how do we lower costs, how do we make sure that we bring into line Americans' dreams with Americans' realities.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the lack of resources for safe and affordable housing in the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development funding bill.

Sadly, it does nothing to address the significant housing and community development needs of our constituents.

Across the country, Madam Speaker, more Americans than ever are cost burdened with the price of rent. Parents are worried about whether they can keep a roof over their families' head. Frankly, Madam Speaker, the rent is too damn high.

This bill rescinds \$560 million from accounts that would address the current harmful conditions of the housing that residents currently face.

The New York City Housing Authority has revealed that over the next 5 years, to address the current and future capital needs, the agency will need \$60 billion. These needs will only continue to compound.

Instead of helping make these investments, the bill funds the public housing fund at a \$150 million below last year's fiscal budget.

Americans deserve to live in safe, reliable, and dignified housing, Madam Speaker. The bill does nothing, absolutely nothing, to accomplish this, and I urge my colleagues to vote against its final passage.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, again, this bill funds at a level that we were just at 10 months ago. The sky

was not falling then. The sky is not falling now, despite protestations of my friends from the other side of the aisle.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to House Resolution 847 and to reiterate our commitment to equal justice under the law.

As Members of this distinguished body, we all take an oath to support and defend the Constitution. Unfortunately, the Financial Services and General Government bill we will consider this week will undermine the constitutional rights of Americans.

In this legislation, Federal public defenders face a steep cut—an underfunding of nearly \$100 million. This is unacceptable and will disrupt equal access to justice.

Nearly 90 percent of defendants in Federal criminal cases cannot afford an attorney, which is their constitutional right to have. If there are not enough Federal defenders, cases could be delayed, and the cost will be more in the long run.

□ 1300

Defendants will be referred to private panel attorneys, who typically have less experience and cost more. That makes no sense.

This is not a partisan issue, Mr. Speaker. This is an issue of constitutional rights, and it is smart fiscal policy.

For several years, I have led bipartisan efforts to adequately fund Federal public defenders, and this year, I have led several bipartisan calls to fully fund our Federal defenders.

We must defeat this rule and return the bill to committee so we can follow through on our constitutional responsibility to adequately fund Federal public defenders. It is their right to have counsel. If it is not afforded, they will be referred to panel attorneys, who cost more. That makes no sense, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD a letter from the Defender Services Advisory Group, emphasizing that failing to adequately fund Federal public defense will inflict a cascade of dangerous and damaging consequences on their program, on clients, and on our criminal justice system.

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

There was no objection.

FEDERAL PUBLIC & COMMUNITY DEFENDERS, DEFENDER SERVICES ADVISORY GROUP,

Topeka, KS, November 1, 2023.

Hon. PATTY MURRAY,
Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations.

Hon. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN,
Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Financial Services and
General Government.

Hon. KAY GRANGER,
Chair, House Committee on Appropriations.

Hon. STEVE WOMACK,
Chair, House Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Financial Services and
General Government.

Hon. SUSAN COLLINS,
Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations.

Hon. BILL HAGERTY,
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government.

Hon. ROSA DELAURO,
Ranking Member,
House Committee on Appropriations.

Hon. STENY HOYER,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government.

DEAR CHAIR MURRAY, VICE CHAIR COLLINS, SENATOR VAN HOLLEN, SENATOR HAGERTY, CHAIR GRANGER, RANKING MEMBER DELAURO, REPRESENTATIVE WOMACK, AND REPRESENTATIVE HOYER: We write on behalf of the Federal Public and Community Defenders with an update on the federal defender appropriation crisis. We appreciate the opportunity to provide more information on this evolving topic.

Earlier this month, upon the close of FY 2023, the Judiciary directed us to prepare a fall re-estimate of our budgetary needs for FY 2024. The fall re-estimate reflects two realities: 1) the Judiciary's recognition that we need more on-board staff to adequately represent our clients; and 2) the fact that—due in substantial part to the emergency cost-saving measures we initiated earlier this summer—the defender program has a greater carryforward into FY 2024 than we first projected.

The defender-initiated cost-saving measures have narrowed the gap between the current congressional marks and the minimum appropriation required to meet our obligations. Before, we needed \$136.3 million above the Senate mark and about \$108 million above the House mark simply to maintain current services. Today—through defender discipline and diligence over the last fiscal quarter—we need at least \$109 million above the Senate mark or \$80.6 million above the House mark. We hope these lower, re-estimated numbers will make it easier for Congress to increase our appropriation by the amount we need to fulfill our constitutional mandate.

The austerity measures our program implemented over the past fiscal quarter have reduced the total appropriation we need to fulfill our mission in FY 2024. But we must emphasize that our efforts to conserve resources have not been without consequence to our program and our clients. Defender offices around the country have been short-staffed, which strains capacity and morale. We have seen an uptick in defender attrition, an inability to draw and retain experienced defenders, and a reduced availability of defender offices to take on critical assignments both within their districts and in connection with high-profile prosecutorial initiatives (such as McGirt cases). We are already bearing the burden of the appropriation shortfall.

We must also emphasize that our fiscal situation will dramatically change if we are subject to a prolonged continuing resolution

in FY 2024 that caps us at our FY 2023 appropriation minus one percent. In that scenario, our FY 2024 appropriation amount would be \$1.368 billion. At that level, we would need an additional \$136.9 million to meet our FY 2024 financial requirements as outlined in our fall re-estimate.

As we have explained elsewhere, failing to adequately fund federal public defense will inflict a cascade of damaging consequences on our program, on our clients, and on the judicial system. These consequences will cost more in the long run than they will save now. We remain in a dire situation where—barring an increase of at least \$109 million to the current Senate mark for our program (and \$80.6 million to the current House mark)—we will face catastrophic layoffs, unpaid furloughs, or panel deferments that will seriously damage the federal criminal system and our clients.

We are grateful that Congress still has an opportunity to appropriate or supplement the sum necessary to avert these grave consequences. And we deeply appreciate your ongoing support for the federal defender program. Please be in touch if you need any further information from us or if you have questions about our situation.

Sincerely,

MELODY BRANNON,
Federal Public Defender for the District of Kansas, Co-Chair, Defender Services Advisory Group.

CRAIG ALBEE,
Executive Director, Federal Defender Services of Wisconsin, CDO-Chair, Defender Services Advisory Group.

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

Mr. Speaker, with the Nation \$33 trillion in debt, a number higher than the U.S. GDP, Congress has the responsibility to reduce Federal spending when possible.

According to the CBO, the United States ran a \$1.7 trillion deficit in 2023, driven by \$6.1 trillion in spending and \$4.4 trillion in revenues following a \$1.4 trillion deficit in fiscal year 2022.

This type of spending is completely unacceptable, and every Member of Congress knows it.

With regard to funding for public defenders, \$1.14 billion is afforded in this bill for public defender services. This provides \$8.7 billion for the judiciary, of which \$110.4 million is above the fiscal year 2023 enacted level.

There is no amount of spending cuts that our friends on the left will support. We have to get our fiscal house in order. This is a responsible step forward while still providing for the needs of the American people.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, we hear time and again that these draconian spending cuts are necessary because of the deficit, but let's take a step back and think about how we got here in the first place and what we really can do about it.

We need to remember that 36 percent of the debt is due to Republican tax

cuts, the Iraq war, the Republican war. This does not include the \$12.5 billion that Republicans are adding to the deficit from their cuts to the IRS last week.

Clearly, Republicans like to talk about this, but they don't fix the problem. Indeed, they are the problem. Their tax cuts are the problem.

While the House GOP continues to blame critical social, economic development, and law enforcement programs for the Nation's debt, they hide the fact that if it weren't for those tax cuts enacted under President Bush and President Trump, our debt wouldn't be an issue. Indeed, the report shows that revenues would have kept up with spending if we wouldn't have had these tax cuts.

Mr. Speaker, let's remind people where those tax cuts went. Who benefited? The wealthy and the corporations that to this day still do not pay their fair share in taxes.

If you want to address the issue of the deficit, let's address the issue of the tax cuts, which you can see on this chart are primarily due to the Trump and the Bush tax cuts, which isn't included on here, or the Reagan tax cuts, which is when we started this downward spiral.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would note for my friends on the other side of the aisle that 40 percent of the debt was incurred under NANCY PELOSI. Both parties are responsible, but it is only House Republicans that seem to be focused on cutting Federal spending. It just simply cannot continue.

It is why House Republicans have put forward and support a bipartisan debt commission. We are talking about discretionary spending in these bills, not mandatory spending. The lion's share of our debt is due to our mandatory spending. We must address that.

Again, I commend Chairman WOMACK on this piece of legislation for trying to cut unnecessary programs, stop funding for unauthorized programs, cut spending, and get us back on a better path of fiscal sanity.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to provide for consideration of a resolution which clearly states that it is the people's House's duty to keep our promise to American workers and seniors to protect and preserve Social Security and Medicare and to fight against any cuts to these vital programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment into the RECORD along with any extraneous material immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MURPHY). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROBERT GARCIA), to discuss our proposal.

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, we all know that Social Security and Medicare are core promises that we make as a country to every American. More than 66 million seniors, people with disabilities, and children rely on Social Security, but make no mistake, my colleagues in the majority are committed to cutting these programs down to the bone.

In 2020, even our new Speaker wrote a budget proposal that called for raising Medicare and Social Security eligibility ages. It called for \$2 trillion in cuts to Medicare and \$750 billion in cuts to Social Security. It would be devastating to millions of people, including 8 million veterans who rely on Social Security and Medicare every single day and middle-class people across the country who would see their benefits cut. Cost of living increases that seniors rely on would also be slashed.

The new Speaker is calling for a commission, which would be empowered to slash Social Security and fast-track his extreme proposals through Congress.

Speaker JOHNSON is so out of touch that he also claimed Roe v. Wade and reproductive rights now require us to make more cuts to Medicare and Social Security. This is not the agenda the American people accept or support.

Congress should come together to pass H. Res. 178 and commit to protecting Social Security and Medicare for all Americans. No cuts and no stripping benefits away from the people who work for them.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question so we can bring up this important legislation.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, continuing to say that Republicans want to cut Social Security and Medicare, to quote my colleague, "cutting these programs down to the bone," doesn't make it so.

Republicans are committed to reducing spending. We are committed to trying to find a way to get our fiscal house in order and to get us out of the calamity that we are currently in with our financial situation.

The debt commission won't make cuts. It might make recommendations on how we can restore the Nation's fiscal health, which is a matter of national security. It doesn't matter if we don't make cuts or if we make cuts if Social Security becomes insolvent. We cannot let that happen, not on our watch.

Republicans are taking the initiative and taking the lead on trying to solve the problem.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, first, I will touch on the idea that the Trump tax cuts are suddenly the Pelosi tax cuts. That is ridiculous. We know the Trump tax cuts. They claimed them. They want to extend them. In fact, they have already been working on a bill in the Ways and Means Committee that would increase tax cuts for the wealthy, but let's put that aside.

Mr. Speaker, let me talk about something else that is in this bill that is very problematic. We know that we are in a period when elections are so key, and preserving the integrity of our elections and making sure that those who work on the democratic process, the day-to-day process of making sure that our elections work, have all the help that they can get.

Right now, State and local election administrators are working hard to make sure that is possible, but they are afraid.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD the 2023 Brennan Center poll analysis about the high turnover of election officials amid safety threats and political interference.

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

There was no objection.

[From the Brennan Center for Justice, Apr. 25, 2023]

POLL OF ELECTION OFFICIALS SHOWS HIGH TURNOVER AMID SAFETY THREATS AND POLITICAL INTERFERENCE

Forty-five percent of local election officials said they fear for the safety of their colleagues.

A new Brennan Center survey of local election officials from around the country shows that many election officials have left the field, and more plan to go. In 2020, confronted with the Covid-19 pandemic, election officials ran what the key government agencies at the time called the "most secure election in American history" with the highest voter turnout in over 100 years. But since then, the election officials have found themselves targeted by a campaign to lie about election results and undermine faith in American democracy.

Scapegoated for election outcomes that some politicians and voters did not like, many election officials have faced death threats, online harassment, and abuse. Political leaders interfered in their work by censoring or replacing some officials who told the truth about election security, and in some states they enacted new laws exposing officials to criminal penalties for minor infractions or for taking proactive steps to help their voters.

The result is hollowing out the ranks of experienced election administration professionals, with potentially more to come in the next year. The survey found that 12 percent of local election officials began their service after the 2020 election cycle. Another 11 percent of current officials say they are very or somewhat likely to leave before November 2024. If these officials follow through and exit their positions, we will have lost approximately 1.5 election officials per day between the November 2020 and 2024 elections.

The loss of institutional knowledge that accompanies such high turnover can mean

that election officials are less aware of resources available to assist them in securing and running their elections. Large numbers of resignations can also result in more administrative mistakes, which can in turn fuel conspiracy theories and threats, continuing the cycle that has led to resignations in the first place.

The findings of our survey provide some explanation as to why election officials continue to leave office at high rates, as well as some clues as to what can be done to staunch the bleeding and offer support where it is needed most, particularly to the field's newest members.

DANGERS ON THE JOB

Threats, abuse, and harassment continue to be a significant concern in the field. Cathy Darling Allen, the clerk and registrar of voters of Shasta County, California, has described fearing for the safety of her staff after discovering a surveillance camera planted at the back entrance of her office used by poll workers during the 2022 primary. At least one other official discovered a wireless video camera aimed at his front door. In Gillespie County, Texas, election staff endured several kinds of harassment, including volunteer poll watchers calling the police and filming staff in a dark parking lot, attempting to forcibly enter a secure ballot vault, and stalking and threatening some staffers. In August 2022, the entire staff resigned, with at least one person citing threats in her resignation letter.

This issue is not limited to a small number of places: our survey shows that nearly one in three election officials have been harassed, abused, or threatened because of their job. Alarming, more than one in five are concerned about being physically assaulted on the job in future elections. Election officials worry about their colleagues, with 45 percent of respondents expressing concern for the safety of other election officials and workers in future elections. Not surprisingly then, more than half of respondents expressed concern that the attacks will make it more difficult to retain or recruit election workers in future elections.

LACK OF FUNDING HURTS ELECTION SECURITY

At the same time, 74% of local election officials say they need their annual budget to grow to address security and election administration needs over the next five years. Election systems are critical infrastructure vital to our democracy and national security, and Congress's unwillingness to provide adequate funding is a significant failure. While the Department of Homeland Security's announcement requiring more federal grant money be dedicated to election security was a step in the right direction, our survey shows there is more work to do.

Election officials say increased funding would allow them to invest in more poll workers and improved voting equipment, as well as strengthen cybersecurity and the physical security of election offices. Many election officials have sought to secure their offices following threats. An election official in Jackson County, Oregon asked the state for about \$80,000 to install bullet-resistant glass and transaction windows at certain office counters after the parking lot was painted with threatening language. The Brennan Center has estimated that implementing basic physical security measures to protect election workers would cost about \$300 million over the next five years.

Our survey shows that election officials are unable to adopt basic physical and cybersecurity measures because they do not have the funds to do so. Of the 49 election officials we interviewed who availed themselves of free cyber hygiene scans provided by DHS's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security

Agency and the 54 who received their free physical security assessments, the vast majority implemented at least some of the recommended improvements. But in each category, only 10 adopted all recommendations. Of those who did not adopt more recommendations, lack of funds was the top reason why not.

POLITICAL INTERFERENCE

Election officials continue to express concern about political interference in alarmingly high numbers. In the aftermath of the 2020 election, many election officials faced pressure from political leaders to certify certain election outcomes. President Trump notoriously called Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger to ask him to “find 11,780 votes.” In 2021, Arizona legislators transferred powers from the state’s Democratic secretary of state over to the attorney general, apparently to prevent the settlement of lawsuits aiming to improve voter access. In Wisconsin and Arizona, sham partisan reviews of the 2020 election were used to misrepresent the work of election officials and cast doubt on legitimate results.

Many local election officials see this threat of political interference as ongoing, with 56 percent reporting that they are either somewhat or very worried about political leaders engaging in efforts to interfere with how their fellow election officials do their jobs. And more than one in nine say they are concerned about facing pressure to certify election results in favor of a specific candidate or party in future elections.

FEDERAL SUPPORT

Most election officials feel that the federal government could be doing more to help, with only 27 percent saying that the federal government is doing a “good job” supporting them in their roles. Election officials have reason to complain. In addition to the \$300 million mentioned above for protecting election workers from new threats and violence, the Brennan Center has also estimated the cost of protecting against insider threats as a result of growing belief in conspiracy theories around elections could similarly exceed \$300 million. Further, we estimated in 2022 that the cost to replace polling place voting machines that are aging out is nearly \$600 million over the following 5 years. Despite these massive numbers, Congress provided just \$75 million in new money for elections last year.

While this failure is frustrating, it’s also worth noting many election officials aren’t aware of the full range of federal services available to them, such as federal grant programs and communications toolkits. This lack of awareness is also an opportunity for the federal government. As soon as possible, federal agencies that provide resources to election officials should develop a comprehensive and coordinated communications plan to establish regular contact with election officials through the 2024 election, promote federal funding opportunities and resources, and provide election officials with a venue to highlight questions and concerns.

By and large, the 2022 election was a success for election administration. There was limited violence, courts pushed back on efforts to refuse to certify elections, and election deniers lost key governor and secretary of state contests.

With the 2024 presidential election approaching, now is the time to ask what we can do to further strengthen election administration. It’s clear that many election officials still feel they face a hostile environment, with more than 1 in 10 saying they very or somewhat likely to exit their office in the relatively short time before November 2024. We should work to strengthen cyber and physical protections for election offices, in-

crease funding, and elevate available resources for election officials.

Note on Methodology: Our calculation for the rate of turnover among election officials was made as follows: there are approximately 10,000 local election officials in the United States. In our survey, 12 percent of election officials stated they had replaced their predecessors after November 2020, amounting to 1,200 officials. About 900 days passed between the November 2020 election and when the poll was conducted: 1,200 officials divided by 900 days equals roughly 1.34. 11 percent of officials are unlikely to continue serving through November 2024, amounting to 1,100 officials. 1,100 officials divided by 560 days until the November 2024 election equals roughly 1.96.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4664 would make it harder for those hardworking election officials to do their jobs.

This bill cuts funding for the Election Assistance Commission by \$8 million. That funding helps State and local officials administer fair, free, and secure elections. H.R. 4664 would also eliminate funding for election security grants.

In New Mexico, the secretary of State has used that money for security trainings and to enhance voter registration.

Don’t we all want more people to vote? I know Democrats do.

Indiana, as an example, has used funds for election security and to upgrade voting equipment. This bill says to those election administrators: Good luck. We are not helping you anymore with these kinds of Federal funds.

Mr. Speaker, that is not all. This bill includes multiple riders that would allow private companies, nonprofits, and government contractors to keep their political spending secret. This type of secrecy leads the American public to lose faith in our representative government. Our constituents deserve transparency and to know that we work for them and not some special interest group.

Let’s put this bill aside and instead take up one that our democracy deserves. We must always be working to that more perfect Union that our Constitution calls out, but it requires work and funding our elections at adequate levels.

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

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I note again that this bill is funded at levels that we were just under 10 months ago. If we were operating just fine 10 months ago under the grants that my colleague mentioned, then we will be operating just fine following the passage of this bill.

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

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, think about this rule. It sets out many amendments, and that is what we have been seeing when we have been coming to the floor. We come down and spend 10 minutes debating amendments that would reduce

somebody’s salary to \$1, but then it loses overwhelmingly. Over and over, we keep coming to the floor and debating these amendments that are non-starters from the beginning, but we are taking up precious floor time to do that.

Mr. Speaker, there was an amendment that isn’t in this rule that passed out of committee on a 30-30 vote. It was highly bipartisan and didn’t make it into the underlying bill. We asked last night if we couldn’t bring an amendment like this that clearly has bipartisan support to the floor so that House Members would be able to vote on it.

Mr. Speaker, that amendment was the bipartisan Aguilar-Ciscomani amendment, which would have allowed DACA recipients to work for the Federal Government.

Remember, Dreamers can lawfully work for State, local, and Tribal governments and in the private sector. Americans overwhelmingly support Dreamers who were brought to this country at a young age and grew up here. Up to 73 percent of voters in battleground States support Dreamers and their ability to work.

This is the kind of amendment that this rule should have made in order. I am disappointed that it didn’t.

Mr. Speaker, as noted, after waiting weeks for the Republicans to stop their infighting, we have just 10 days to fund the government. However, my colleagues across the aisle have brought forward a bill that slashes crucial funding for agencies that protect hardworking Americans. Remember, this bill is 58 percent below what was appropriated last year.

What does it do? It makes it easier for scammers, fraudsters, and cheaters to exploit vulnerable citizens, including our seniors and children, and makes it easier for them to get away with it.

The proposed cuts to agencies like the IRS, the Federal Trade Commission, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission would expose families to greater risk, all while protecting the interests of the wealthy and the well connected.

As if that wasn’t enough, this bill reduces support for election officials by eliminating funding for election security grants.

In June, Congressional Republicans and Democrats and President Biden made a deal to keep the lights on, and we passed the Fiscal Responsibility Act into law. Mr. Speaker, 149 Republicans voted for that law.

Americans expect us to live up to our word. Americans expect us to live up to our promise. Americans expect us to live up to a law that came out of significant and intense negotiation as to what the funding level for government would be.

Unfortunately, Republicans broke that promise. They didn’t even wait a week before they broke that promise.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose the previous question and this

rule, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1315

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

We face another week of big legislation under consideration for a vote on the House floor to better the lives of everyday Americans. H.R. 4664, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act of 2024, as well as the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill, which was provided for under a separate rule, are important steps in delivering on our promises for a Nation that is both responsive and responsible to the American people and one that delivers a government that is accountable.

It is Republicans that are keeping our Commitment to America. With the passage of these two bills, we are closer to finalizing the appropriations process. We can continue to lead while also reining in out-of-control government spending.

As I said in my opening remarks, we need to pass this rule and the FSGG appropriations bill so we can continue delivering fiscal sanity to put us back on a better path.

I look forward to moving these promises out of the House this week. I ask my colleagues to join me in voting ‘yes’ on the previous question and ‘yes’ on the rule.

The material previously referred to by Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 847 OFFERED BY MS. LEGER FERNANDEZ OF NEW MEXICO

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 6. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the resolution (H. Res. 178) affirming the House of Representatives’ commitment to protect and strengthen Social Security and Medicare. The resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and preamble to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective designees.

SEC. 7. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H. Res. 178.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 1 o’clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1330

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MURPHY) at 1 o’clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 847; and

Adoption of House Resolution 847, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4664, FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 847) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4664) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 217, nays 204, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 601]

YEAS—217

- Aderholt Bishop (NC) Ciscomani
Alford Boebert Cline
Allen Bost Cloud
Amodei Brecheen Clyde
Armstrong Buchanan Cole
Arrington Buck Collins
Babin Bueshon Comer
Bacon Burchett Crane
Baird Burgess Crawford
Balderson Burlison Crenshaw
Barr Calvert Curtis
Bean (FL) Cammack Davidson
Bentz Carey De La Cruz
Bergman Carl DesJarlais
Bice Carter (GA) Diaz-Balart
Biggs Carter (TX) Donalds
Bilirakis Chavez-DeRemer Duarte

- Duncan Joyce (PA) Pence
Dunn (FL) Kean (NJ) Perry
Edwards Kelly (MS) Pfluger
Ellzey Kelly (PA) Posey
Emmer Kiggans (VA) Reschenthaler
Estes Kiley Rodgers (WA)
Ezell Kim (CA) Rogers (AL)
Fallon Kustoff Rogers (KY)
Feenstra LaHood Rose
Ferguson LaLota Rosendale
Finstad LaMalfa Rouzer
Fischbach Lamborn Roy
Fitzgerald Langworthy Rutherford
Fitzpatrick Lata Salazar
Fleischmann LaTurner Santos
Flood Lawler Scalise
Foxy Lee (FL) Schweikert
Franklin, Scott Lesko Scott, Austin
Fry Letlow Self
Fulcher Loudermilk Sessions
Gaetz Lucas Simpson
Gallagher Luetkemeyer Smith (MO)
Garbarino Luna Smith (NE)
Garcia, Mike Luttrell Smith (NJ)
Gimenez Mace Smucker
Gonzales, Tony Malliotakis Spartz
Good (VA) Mann Stauber
Gooden (TX) Massie Steel
Gosar Mast Stefanik
Granger McCarthy Steil
Graves (LA) McCaul Steube
Graves (MO) McClain Strong
Greene (GA) McClintock Strong
Griffith McCormick Tenney
Grothman McHenry Thompson (PA)
Guest Meuser Tiffany
Guthrie Miller (IL) Timmons
Hageman Miller (OH) Turner
Harris Miller (WV) Valadao
Harshbarger Miller-Meeks Van Drew
Hern Mills Van Dyne
Higgins (LA) Molinaro Van Orden
Hill Moolenaar Wagner
Hinson Mooney Walberg
Houchin Moore (AL) Waltz
Hudson Moore (UT) Weber (TX)
Huizenga Moran Wenstrup
Hunt Murphy Westernman
Issa Nehls Williams (NY)
Jackson (TX) Newhouse Williams (TX)
James Norman Wilson (SC)
Johnson (LA) Nunn (IA) Wittman
Johnson (OH) Obernolte Womack
Johnson (SD) Ogles Yakym
Jordan Owens Palmer Zinke
Joyce (OH)

NAYS—204

- Adams Craig Horsford
Aguilar Crockett Houlihan
Allred Crow Hoyer
Auchincloss Cuellar Hoyle (OR)
Balint Davids (KS) Huffman
Barragan Davis (IL) Ivey
Beatty Davis (NC) Jackson (IL)
Bera Dean (PA) Jackson (NC)
Beyer DeGette Jacobs
Bishop (GA) DeLauro Jayapal
Blunt Rochester DelBene Jeffries
Bonamici Deluzio Johnson (GA)
Bowman DeSaulnier Kamlager-Dove
Boyle (PA) Dingell Kaptur
Brown Doggett Kelly (IL)
Brownley Escobar Khanna
Budzinski Eshoo Kildee
Bush Espaillat Kilmer
Caraveo Evans Kim (NJ)
Carbajal Fletcher Krishnamoorthi
Cárdenas Foster Kuster
Carson Foushee Landsman
Carter (LA) Frankel, Lois Larson (CT)
Cartwright Lee (CA)
Casar Gallego Lee (NV)
Case Garamendi Lee (PA)
Casten Garcia (IL) Leger Fernandez
Castor (FL) Garcia (TX) Levin
Castro (TX) Garcia, Robert Lieu
Cherfilus- Golden (ME) Lofgren
McCormick Goldman (NY) Lynch
Chu Gomez Magaziner
Clark (MA) Gonzalez, Manning
Clarke (NY) Vicente Matsui
Clever Gottheimer McBath
Clyburn Green, Al (TX) McClellan
Cohen Grijalva McCollum
Connolly Harder (CA) McGarvey
Correa Hayes McGovern
Costa Higgins (NY) Meeks
Courtney Himes Menendez

Meng	Pressley	Stanton	Harshbarger	Mann	Salazar	Scanlon	Spanberger	Torres (NY)
Mfume	Quigley	Stevens	Hern	Massie	Santos	Schakowsky	Stansbury	Trahan
Moore (WI)	Ramirez	Strickland	Higgins (LA)	Mast	Scalise	Schiff	Stanton	Trone
Morelle	Raskin	Sykes	Hill	McCarthy	Schweikert	Schneider	Stevens	Underwood
Moskowitz	Ross	Takano	Hinson	McCaul	Scott, Austin	Scholten	Strickland	Vargas
Moulton	Ruiz	Thanedar	Houchin	McClain	Self	Schrier	Sykes	Vasquez
Mrvan	Ruppersberger	Thompson (CA)	Hudson	McClintock	Sessions	Scott (VA)	Takano	Veasey
Mullin	Ryan	Thompson (MS)	Huizenga	McCormick	Simpson	Scott, David	Thanedar	Velázquez
Nadler	Salinas	Titus	Hunt	McHenry	Smith (MO)	Sewell	Thompson (CA)	Wasserman
Napolitano	Sánchez	Tlaib	Issa	Meuser	Smith (NE)	Sherman	Thompson (MS)	Schultz
Neal	Sarbanes	Tokuda	Jackson (TX)	Miller (IL)	Smith (NJ)	Sherrill	Titus	Waters
Neguse	Scanlon	Tonko	James	Miller (OH)	Smucker	Tlaib	Slotkin	Watson Coleman
Nickel	Schakowsky	Torres (CA)	Johnson (LA)	Miller (WV)	Spartz	Smith (WA)	Tokuda	Wexton
Norcross	Schiff	Torres (NY)	Johnson (OH)	Miller-Meeks	Staubert	Sorensen	Tonko	Wild
Ocasio-Cortez	Schneider	Trahan	Johnson (SD)	Mills	Steel	Soto	Torres (CA)	Williams (GA)
Omar	Scholten	Trone	Jordan	Molinao	Stefanik	NOT VOTING—12		
Pallone	Schrier	Underwood	Joyce (OH)	Moolenaar	Steil	Banks	Jackson Lee	Phillips
Panetta	Scott (VA)	Vargas	Joyce (PA)	Mooney	Steube	Blumenauer	Keating	Swalwell
Pappas	Scott, David	Vasquez	Kean (NJ)	Moore (AL)	Strong	D'Esposito	Larsen (WA)	Webster (FL)
Pascrell	Sewell	Veasey	Kelly (MS)	Moore (UT)	Tenney	Green (TN)	Pelosi	Wilson (FL)
Payne	Sherman	Velázquez	Kelly (PA)	Moran	Thompson (PA)	ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE		
Peltola	Sherrill	Wasserman	Kiggans (VA)	Murphy	Tiffany	The SPEAKER pro tempore (during		
Perez	Slotkin	Schultz	Kiley	Nehls	Timmons	the vote). There are 2 minutes remain-		
Peters	Smith (WA)	Waters	Kim (CA)	Newhouse	Turner	ing.		
Pettersen	Sorensen	Watson Coleman	Kustoff	Norman	Valadao	□ 1406		
Pingree	Soto	Wexton	LaHood	Numm (IA)	Van Drew	So the resolution was agreed to.		
Pocan	Spanberger	Wild	LaLota	Obernolte	Van Deyne	The result of the vote was announced		
Porter	Stansbury	Williams (GA)	LaMalfa	Ogles	Van Orden	as above recorded.		
			Lamborn	Owens	Wagner	A motion to reconsider was laid on		
			Langworthy	Palmer	Walberg	the table.		
			Latta	Pence	Waltz			
			LaTurner	Perry	Weber (TX)			
			Lawler	Pfluger	Wenstrup			
			Lee (FL)	Posey	Westerman			
			Lesko	Reschenthaler	Williams (NY)			
			Letlow	Rodgers (WA)	Williams (TX)			
			Loudermilk	Rogers (AL)	Wilson (SC)			
			Lucas	Rogers (KY)	Rose			
			Luetkemeyer	Rose	Wittman			
			Luna	Rosendale	Womack			
			Luttrell	Rouzer	Yakym			
			Mace	Roy	Zinke			
			Malliotakis	Rutherford				

NOT VOTING—12

Banks	Jackson Lee	Phillips
Blumenauer	Keating	Swalwell
D'Esposito	Larsen (WA)	Webster (FL)
Green (TN)	Pelosi	Wilson (FL)

□ 1359

Mr. MOSKOWITZ changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. GUTHRIE, AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, and COMER changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEUBE). The question is on the resolution.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 217, noes 204, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 602]

AYES—217

Aderholt	Carl	Ferguson
Alford	Carter (GA)	Pinstad
Allen	Carter (TX)	Fischbach
Amodi	Chavez-DeRemer	Fitzgerald
Armstrong	Ciscomani	Fitzpatrick
Arrington	Cline	Fleischmann
Babin	Cloud	Flood
Bacon	Clyde	Foxx
Baird	Cole	Franklin, Scott
Balderson	Collins	Fry
Barr	Comer	Fulcher
Bean (FL)	Crane	Gaetz
Bentz	Crawford	Gallagher
Bergman	Crenshaw	Garbarino
Bice	Curtis	Garcia, Mike
Biggs	Davidson	Gimenez
Bilirakis	De La Cruz	Gonzales, Tony
Bishop (NC)	DesJarlais	Good (VA)
Boebert	Diaz-Balart	Gooden (TX)
Bost	Donalds	Gosar
Brecheen	Duarte	Granger
Buchanan	Duncan	Graves (LA)
Buck	Dunn (FL)	Graves (MO)
Bucshon	Edwards	Greene (GA)
Burchett	Ellzey	Griffith
Burgess	Emmer	Grothman
Burlison	Estes	Guest
Calvert	Ezell	Guthrie
Cammack	Fallon	Hageman
Carey	Feenstra	Harris

NOES—204

Adams	Dingell	Leger Fernandez
Aguilar	Doggett	Levin
Allred	Escobar	Lieu
Auchincloss	Eshoo	Lofgren
Balint	Español	Lynch
Barragán	Evans	Magaziner
Beatty	Fletcher	Manning
Bera	Poster	Matsui
Beyer	Foushee	McBath
Bishop (GA)	Frankel, Lois	McClellan
Blunt Rochester	Frost	McCollum
Bonamici	Gallego	McGarvey
Bowman	Garamendi	McGovern
Boyle (PA)	Garcia (IL)	Meeks
Brown	Garcia (TX)	Menendez
Brownley	Garcia, Robert	Meng
Budzinski	Golden (ME)	Mfume
Bush	Goldman (NY)	Moore (WI)
Caraveo	Gomez	Morelle
Carbajal	Gonzalez,	Moskowitz
Cárdenas	Vicente	Moulton
Carson	Gottheimer	Mrvan
Carter (LA)	Green, Al (TX)	Mullin
Cartwright	Grijalva	Nadler
Casar	Harder (CA)	Napolitano
Case	Hayes	Neal
Casten	Higgins (NY)	Neguse
Castor (FL)	Himes	Nickel
Castro (TX)	Horsford	Norcross
Cherfilus-	Houlahan	Ocasio-Cortez
McCormick	Hoyer	Omar
Chu	Hoyle (OR)	Pallone
Clark (MA)	Huffman	Panetta
Clarke (NY)	Ivey	Pappas
Cleaver	Jackson (IL)	Pascarell
Clyburn	Jackson (NC)	Payne
Cohen	Jacobs	Peltola
Connolly	Jayapal	Perez
Correa	Jeffries	Peters
Costa	Johnson (GA)	Pettersen
Courtney	Kamlager-Dove	Pingree
Craig	Kaptur	Pocan
Crockett	Kelly (IL)	Porter
Crow	Khanna	Pressley
Cuellar	Kildee	Quigley
Davids (KS)	Kilmer	Ramirez
Davis (IL)	Kim (NJ)	Raskin
Davis (NC)	Krishnamoorthi	Ross
Dean (PA)	Kuster	Ruiz
DeGette	Landsman	Ruppersberger
DeLauro	Larson (CT)	Ryan
DeBene	Lee (CA)	Salinas
Deluzio	Lee (NV)	Sánchez
DeSaulnier	Lee (PA)	Sarbanes

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CURTIS). Pursuant to House Resolution 838 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4820.

Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEUBE) kindly take the chair.

□ 1411

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4820) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, with Mr. STEUBE (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Monday, November 6, 2023, a request for recorded vote on amendment No. 30 printed in Part B of House Report 118-261 offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. BRECHEEN) has been postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in part B of House Report 118-261 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 5 by Ms. ESCOBAR of Texas.

Amendment No. 20 by Mr. PERRY of Pennsylvania.

Amendment No. 25 by Mr. PERRY of Pennsylvania.

Amendment No. 29 by Mr. GROTHMAN of Wisconsin.

Amendment No. 30 by Mr. BRECHEEN of Oklahoma.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MS. ESCOBAR

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 5, printed in part B of House Report 118-261 offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. ESCOBAR), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 212, noes 214, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 603]

AYES—212

- Adams, Aguilar, Allred, Auchincloss, Balint, Barragan, Beatty, Bera, Beyer, Bishop (GA), Blunt Rochester, Bonamici, Bowman, Boyle (PA), Brown, Brownley, Budzinski, Bush, Caraveo, Carbajal, Cardenas, Carson, Carter (LA), Cartwright, Casar, Case, Casten, Castor (FL), Castro (TX), Cherfilus-McCormick, Chu, Clark (MA), Clarke (NY), Cleaver, Clyburn, Cohen, Connolly, Correa, Costa, Courtney, Craig, Crockett, Crow, Cuellar, Davids (KS), Davis (IL), Davis (NC), Dean (PA), DeGette, DeLauro, DelBene, Deluzio, DeSaulnier, Dingell, Doggett, Escobar, Eshoo, Espaillat, Evans, Fitzpatrick, Fletcher, Foster, Foushee, Frankel, Lois, Frost, Gallego, Garamendi, Garcia (IL), Garcia (TX), Garcia, Robert, Golden (ME), Goldman (NY), Gomez, Gonzalez, Vicente, Gonzalez-Colon, Gottheimer, Green, Al (TX), Grijalva, Harder (CA), Hayes, Higgins (NY), Himes, Horsford, Houlihan, Hoyer, Hoyle (OR), Huffman, Ivey, Jackson (IL), Jackson (NC), Jacobs, Jayapal, Jeffries, Johnson (GA), Kamlager-Dove, Kaptur, Kean (NJ), Kelly (IL), Khanna, Kildee, Kilmer, Kim (NJ), Krishnamoorthi, Kuster, LaLota, Landsman, Larson (CT), Lee (CA), Lee (NV), Lee (PA), Leger Fernandez, Levin, Lieu, Lofgren, Lynch, Magaziner, Manning, Matsui, McBath, McClellan, McCollum, McGarvey, McGovern, Meeks, Menendez, Meng, Mfume, Molinaro, Moore (WI), Morelle, Moulton, Mrvan, Mullin, Nadler, Napolitano, Neal, Neguse, Nickel, Norcross, Norton, Ocasio-Cortez, Omar, Pallone, Panetta, Pappas, Pascrell, Payne, Peltola, Perez, Peters, Pettersen, Pingree, Plaskett, Pocan, Porter, Pressley, Quigley, Ramirez, Raskin, Ross, Ruiz, Ruppertsberger, Ryan, Sablan, Salinas, Sanchez, Sarbanes, Scanlon, Schakowsky, Schiff, Schneider, Scholten

- Schrier, Scott (VA), Scott, David, Sewell, Sherman, Sherrill, Slotkin, Smith (WA), Sorensen, Spanberger, Stansbury, Stanton, Stevens, Strickland, Sykes, Takano, Thanedar, Thompson (CA), Thompson (MS), Titus, Tlaib, Tokuda, Tonko, Torres (CA), Torres (NY), Trahan, Trone, Underwood, Van Orden, Vargas, Vasquez, Veasey, Velazquez, Wasserman, Schultz, Waters, Watson Coleman, Wexton, Wild, Williams (GA)

NOES—214

- Aderholt, Alford, Allen, Amodei, Armstrong, Arrington, Babin, Bacon, Baird, Balderson, Barr, Bean (FL), Bentz, Bergman, Bice, Biggs, Bilirakis, Bishop (NC), Boebert, Bost, Brecheen, Buchanan, Buck, Bucshon, Burchett, Burgess, Burlison, Calvert, Cammack, Carey, Carl, Carter (GA), Carter (TX), Chavez-DeRemer, Ciscomani, Cline, Cloud, Clyde, Cole, Collins, Comer, Crane, Crawford, Crenshaw, Curtis, Davidson, De La Cruz, DesJarlais, Lawler, Lee (FL), Lesko, Donalds, Duarte, Duncan, Dunn (FL), Edwards, Ellzey, Emmert, Estes, Ezell, Fallon, Feenstra, Ferguson, Finstad, Fischbach, Fitzgerald, Fleischmann, Flood, Foxx, Franklin, Scott, Fry, Fulcher, Gaetz, Gallagher, Garbarino, Garcia, Mike, Gimenez, Gonzales, Tony, Good (VA), Gooden (TX), Gosar, Granger, Graves (LA), Graves (MO), Green (TN), Greene (GA), Griffith, Grothman, Guest, Guthrie, Hageman, Harris, Harshbarger, Hern, Higgins (LA), Hill, Hinson, Houchin, Houdon, Hudson, Huizenga, Hunt, Issa, Jackson (TX), James, Johnson (OH), Johnson (SD), Jordan, Joyce (OH), Joyce (PA), Kelly (MS), Kelly (PA), Kiggans (VA), Kiley, Kim (CA), Kustoff, LaHood, LaMalfa, Lamborn, Langworthy, Latta, LaTurner, Lawler, Lee (FL), Lesko, Strong, Letlow, Loudermilk, Lucas, Luetkemeyer, Luna, Luttrell, Mace, Malliotakis, Mann, Massie, Mast, McCarthy, McCaul, McClain, McClintock, McCormick, McHenry, Meuser, Miller (IL), Miller (OH), Miller (WV), Miller-Meeks, Mills, Moolenaar, Mooney, Moore (AL), Moore (UT), Moran, Moskowitz, Moylan, Murphy, Nehls, Newhouse, Norman, Nunn (IA), Obernolte, Ogles, Owens, Palmer, Pence, Perry, Pfluger, Posey, Reschenthaler, Rodgers (WA), Rogers (AL), Rogers (KY), Rose, Rosendale, Rouzer, Roy, Rutherford, Salazar, Santos, Scalise, Schweikert, Scott, Austin, Self, Sessions, Simpson, Smith (MO), Smith (NE), Smith (NJ), Smucker, Spartz, Stauber, Steel, Stefanik, Steil, Steube, Strong, Tenney, Thompson (PA), Tiffany, Timmons, Turner, Valadao, Van Drew, Van Dуйne, Wagner, Walberg, Waltz, Weber (TX), Wenstrup, Westerman, Williams (NY), Williams (TX), Wilson (SC), Wittman, Womack, Yakym, Zinke

NOT VOTING—12

- Banks, Blumenauer, D'Esposito, Jackson Lee, Keating, Larsen (WA), Pelosi, Phillips, Radewagen, Swalwell, Webster (FL), Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1413

So the amendment was rejected. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Chair, during rollcall Vote No. 603 on amendment 5 to H.R. 4820, I mistakenly recorded my vote as "no" when I should have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT NO. 20 OFFERED BY MR. PERRY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 20, printed in part B of House Report 118-261 offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 125, noes 297, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 604]

AYES—125

- Aderholt, Allen, Arrington, Babin, Baird, Balderson, Barr, Bean (FL), Bentz, Biggs, Bilirakis, Bishop (NC), Boebert, Brecheen, Buck, Burchett, Burlison, Carbajal, Cardenas, Carson, Carter (GA), Cartwright, Casar, Case, Casten, Castor (FL), Castro (TX), Cherfilus-McCormick, Chu, Clark (MA), Clarke (NY), Cleaver, Clyburn, Cohen, Connolly, Correa, Costa, Courtney, Craig, Crockett, Crow, Cuellar, Davids (KS), Davis (IL), Davis (NC), Dean (PA), DeGette, DeLauro, DelBene, Deluzio, DeSaulnier, Dingell, Doggett, Escobar, Eshoo, Foxx, Franklin, Scott, Fry, Fulcher, Gaetz, Gallagher, Gallagher, Garamendi, Garcia (IL), Garcia (TX), Garcia, Robert, Golden (ME), Goldman (NY), Gomez, Gonzalez, Vicente, Gonzalez-Colon, Gottheimer, Green, Al (TX), Grijalva, Harder (CA), Hayes, Higgins (NY), Himes, Horsford, Houlihan, Hoyer, Hoyle (OR), Huffman, Ivey, Jackson (IL), Jackson (NC), Jacobs, Jayapal, Jeffries, Johnson (GA), Kamlager-Dove, Kaptur, Kean (NJ), Kelly (IL), Khanna, Kildee, Kilmer, Kim (NJ), Krishnamoorthi, Kuster, LaLota, Landsman, Larson (CT), Lee (CA), Lee (NV), Lee (PA), Leger Fernandez, Levin, Lieu, Lofgren, Mooney, Moore (AL), Moran, Norman, Ogles, Owens, Palmer, Perry, Pfluger, Posey, Reschenthaler, Rodgers (WA), Rogers (AL), Rose, Rosendale, Rouzer, Roy, Santos, Scalise, Schweikert, Self, Sessions, Smith (MO), Smucker, Spartz, Stauber, Steel, Stefanik, Steil, Steube, Strong, Tenney, Thompson (PA), Tiffany, Timmons, Turner, Valadao, Van Drew, Van Dуйne, Wagner, Walberg, Waltz, Weber (TX), Wenstrup, Westerman, Williams (NY), Williams (TX), Wilson (SC), Wittman, Womack, Yakym, Zinke

NOES—297

- Aguilar, Alford, Allred, Amodei, Armstrong, Auchincloss, Bacon, Balint, Barragan, Beatty, Bera, Bergman, Beyer, Bice, Bishop (GA), Blunt Rochester, Burgess, Bush, Calvert, Caraveo, Carbajal, Cardenas, Carey, Carson, Buchanan, Bucshon, Budzinski, Blunt Rochester, Bush, Calvert, Caraveo, Carbajal, Cardenas, Carey, Carson

Carter (LA) Huizenga Panetta
 Carter (TX) Ivey Pappas
 Cartwright Jackson (IL) Pascarell
 Casar Jackson (NC) Payne
 Case Jacobs Peltola
 Casten James Pence
 Castor (FL) Jayapal Perez
 Castro (TX) Jeffries Peters
 Chavez-DeRemer Johnson (GA) Pettersen
 Cherfilus-McCormick Johnson (OH) Pingree
 McCormick Joyce (OH) Plaskett
 Chu Joyce (PA) Pocan
 Ciscomani Kamlager-Dove Porter
 Clark (MA) Kaptur Pressley
 Clarke (NY) Kean (NJ) Quigley
 Cleaver Kelly (IL) Ramirez
 Clyburn Kelly (PA) Raskin
 Cohen Khanna Rogers (KY)
 Cole Kiggans (VA) Ross
 Connolly Kildee Ruiz
 Correa Kiley Ruppertsberger
 Costa Kilmer Rutherford
 Courtney Kim (CA) Ryan
 Craig Kim (NJ) Sablan
 Crawford Salazar Salazar
 Crenshaw Kuster Salinas
 Crockett Kustoff Sánchez
 Crow LaHood Sarbanes
 Cuellar LaLota Scanlon
 Davids (KS) Landsman Schakowsky
 Davis (IL) Langworthy Schiff
 Davis (NC) Larson (CT) Schneider
 Dean (PA) LaTurner Scholten
 DeGette Lawler Schrier
 DeLauro Lee (CA) Scott (VA)
 DelBene Lee (FL) Scott, Austin
 Deluzio Lee (NV) Scott, David
 DeSaulnier Lee (PA) Sewell
 Diaz-Balart Leger Fernandez Sherman
 Dingell Letlow Sherrill
 Doggett Levin Simpson
 Duarte Lieu Slotkin
 Escobar Lofgren Smith (NE)
 Eshoo Lucas Smith (NJ)
 Espallat Luetkemeyer Smith (WA)
 Evans Lynch Sorensen
 Ezell Mace Soto
 Feenstra Spanberger
 Fitzpatrick Malliotakis Stansbury
 Fleischmann Mann Stanton
 Fletcher Manning Stefanik
 Flood Matsui Steil
 Foster McBath Stevens
 Foushee McCarthy Strickland
 Frankel, Lois McClellan Sykes
 Frost McCollum Takano
 Gallego McGarvey Thanedar
 Garamendi McGovern Thompson (CA)
 Garbarino Meeks Thompson (MS)
 Garcia (IL) Menendez Thompson (PA)
 Garcia (TX) Meng Titus
 Garcia, Mike Mfume Tlaib
 Garcia, Robert Miller (OH) Tokuda
 Golden (ME) Miller-Meeks Tonko
 Goldman (NY) Molinaro Torres (CA)
 Gomez Moolenaar Torres (NY)
 Gonzales, Tony Moore (UT) Trahan
 Gonzalez, Vicente Moore (WI) Trone
 Morelle Turner
 González-Colón Moskowitz Underwood
 Gottheimer Moulton Valadao
 Granger Moylan Van Drew
 Graves (MO) Mrvan Van Orden
 Green, Al (TX) Mullin Vargas
 Griffith Murphy Vasquez
 Grijalva Nadler Veasey
 Guest Napolitano Velázquez
 Guthrie Neal Wagner
 Harder (CA) Neguse Walberg
 Hayes Nehls Wasserman
 Higgins (NY) Newhouse Schultz
 Hill Nickel Waters
 Himes Norcross Watson Coleman
 Hinson Norton Westerman
 Horsford Nunn (IA) Wexton
 Houlahan Obernolte Wild
 Hoyer Ocasio-Cortez Williams (GA)
 Hoyle (OR) Omar Williams (NY)
 Huffman Pallone Womack

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
 The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
 There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1416

So the amendment was rejected.
 The result of the vote was announced
 as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 25 OFFERED BY MR. PERRY
 The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
 business is the demand for a recorded
 vote on amendment No. 25, printed in
 part B of House Report 118-261 offered
 by the gentleman from Pennsylvania
 (Mr. PERRY), on which further pro-
 ceedings were postponed and on which
 the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
 amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
 ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
 has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.
 The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
 minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
 vice, and there were—ayes 148, noes 277,
 not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 605]

AYES—148

Aderholt Gooden (TX) Moran
 Alford Gosar Murphy
 Allen Graves (LA) Nehls
 Arrington Graves (MO) Norman
 Babin Green (TN) Nunn (IA)
 Balderson Greene (GA) Ogles
 Barr Grothman Owens
 Bean (FL) Guest Palmer
 Bentz Guthrie Pence
 Biggs Hageman Perry
 Bilirakis Harris Pfluger
 Bishop (NC) Harshbarger Posey
 Boebert Hern Reschenthaler
 Bost Higgins (LA) Rodgers (WA)
 Brecheen Hill Rogers (AL)
 Buchanan Hinson Rosendale
 Buck Houchin Rouzer
 Burchett Hudson Roy
 Burgess Huizenga Santos
 Burlison Hunt Scalise
 Cammack Issa Schweikert
 Carl Jackson (TX) Self
 Cline Johnson (OH) Sessions
 Cloud Johnson (SD) Smith (MO)
 Clyde Jordan Smith (NE)
 Comer Joyce (PA) Smucker
 Crane Kelly (MS) Spartz
 Crenshaw Kelly (PA) Stautz
 Curtis LaMalfa Stauber
 Davidson Lamborn Steel
 DesJarlais Latta Stefanik
 Donalds Lesko Steil
 Duarte Loudermilk Steube
 Duncan Luetkemeyer Strong
 Emmer Luna Tenney
 Estes Luttrell Tiffany
 Ezell Mann Timmons
 Fallon Massie Van Drew
 Ferguson Mast Van Dune
 Feenstra McClain Walberg
 Fergusson McClintock Walter
 Finstad McCormick Weber (TX)
 Fischbach McHenry Wenstrup
 Fitzgerald McHenry Westerman
 Foxx Meuser Williams (TX)
 Franklin, Scott Miller (IL) Wilson (SC)
 Fry Miller (WV) Wittman
 Fulcher Miller-Meeks Mills
 Gaetz Mills Mooney
 Gallagher Mooney Yakym
 Good (VA) Moore (AL) Zinke

Bishop (GA) Granger Obernolte
 Blunt Rochester Green, Al (TX) Ocasio-Cortez
 Bonamici Griffith Omar
 Bowman Grijalva Pallone
 Boyle (PA) Harder (CA) Panetta
 Brown Hayes Pappas
 Brownley Higgins (NY) Pascarell
 Bucshon Himes Payne
 Budzinski Horsford Peltola
 Bush Houlahan Perez
 Calvert Hoyer Peters
 Caraveo Hoyle (OR) Pettersen
 Carbajal Huffman Pingree
 Cárdenas Ivey Plaskett
 Carey Jackson (IL) Pocan
 Carson Jackson (NC) Porter
 Carter (GA) Jacobs Pressley
 Carter (LA) James Quigley
 Carter (TX) Jayapal Ramirez
 Cartwright Jeffries Raskin
 Casar Johnson (GA) Rogers (KY)
 Case Joyce (OH) Rose
 Casten Kamlager-Dove Ross
 Castor (FL) Kaptur Ruiz
 Castro (TX) Kean (NJ) Ruppertsberger
 Chavez-DeRemer Kelly (IL) Rutherford
 Cherfilus-Kiggans (VA) Ryan
 McCormick Kildee Sablan
 Chu Kilmer Salazar
 Ciscomani Kim (CA) Salinas
 Clark (MA) Kim (NJ) Sánchez
 Clarke (NY) Cleaver Sarbanes
 Cleaver Krishnamoorthi Scanlon
 Clyburn Kuster Schakowsky
 Cohen Kustoff Schiff
 Cole Kustoff Schneider
 Connolly LaHood Scholten
 Correa LaLota Schrier
 Costa Landsman Scott (VA)
 Courtney Langworthy Scott, Austin
 Craig Larson (CT) Scott, David
 Crawford LaTurner Sewell
 Crockett Lawler Sherman
 Crow Lee (CA) Sherrill
 Cuellar Lee (FL) Simpson
 Davids (KS) Lee (NV) Slotkin
 Davis (IL) Lee (PA) Smith (NJ)
 Davis (NC) Leger Fernandez Smith (WA)
 Dean (PA) Letlow Sorensen
 DeGette Levin Soto
 DeLauro Lofgren Spanberger
 DelBene Lucas Stansbury
 Deluzio Lynch Stanton
 DeSaulnier Mace Stevens
 Diaz-Balart Magaziner Strickland
 Dingell Malliotakis Sykes
 Doggett Manning Takano
 Dunn (FL) Matsui Thanedar
 Edwards McBath Thompson (CA)
 Ellzey McCarthy Thompson (MS)
 McCaul Thompson (PA)
 Escobar McClellan Titus
 Eshoo McCollum Tlaib
 Espallat McGarvey Tokuda
 Evans McGovern Tonko
 Fitzpatrick Meeks Torres (CA)
 Fleischmann Menendez Torres (NY)
 Fletcher Meng Trahan
 Flood Mfume Trone
 Foster Miller (OH) Turner
 Foushee Molinaro Underwood
 Frankel, Lois Molinaro Valadao
 Frost Moolenaar Van Orden
 Gallego Moore (UT) Vargas
 Garamendi Moore (WI) Morelle
 Garbarino Morelle Vasquez
 Garcia (IL) Moskowitz Veasey
 Garcia (TX) Moulton Velázquez
 Garcia, Mike Moylan Wagner
 Garcia, Robert Mrvan Wasserman
 Gimenez Mullin Schultz
 Golden (ME) Nadler Waters
 Goldman (NY) Napolitano Watson Coleman
 Gomez Neal Wexton
 Gonzales, Tony Neguse Wild
 Gonzalez, Vicente Newhouse Williams (GA)
 González-Colón Nickel Williams (NY)
 Gottheimer Norton Womack

NOT VOTING—16

Adams Keating Radewagen
 Banks LaMalfa Swalwell
 Blumenauer Larsen (WA) Webster (FL)
 D'Esposito McClain Wilson (FL)
 Graves (LA) Pelosi
 Jackson Lee Phillips

NOES—277

Adams Auchincloss Beatty
 Aguilar Bacon Bera
 Allred Baird Bergman
 Amodei Balint Beyers
 Armstrong Barragán Bice

NOT VOTING—13

Banks Keating Swalwell
 Blumenauer Larsen (WA) Webster (FL)
 Collins Pelosi Wilson (FL)
 D'Esposito Phillips
 Jackson Lee Radewagen

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1419

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. Collins. Mr. Chair, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 605.

AMENDMENT NO. 29 OFFERED BY MR. GROTHMAN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 29, printed in part B of House Report 118-261 offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 213, noes 210, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 606]

AYES—213

Aderholt Ellzey Kiggans (VA)
Alford Emmer Kiley
Allen Estes Kim (CA)
Amodei Ezell Kustoff
Armstrong Fallon LaHood
Arrington Feenstra LaLota
Babin Ferguson LaMalfa
Bacon Finstad Lamborn
Baird Fischbach Langworthy
Balderson Fitzgerald Latta
Barr Fleischmann LaTurner
Bean (FL) Flood Lawler
Bentz Foxx Lee (FL)
Bergman Franklin, Scott Lesko
Bice Fry Letlow
Biggs Fulcher Loudermilk
Bilirakis Gaetz Lucas
Bishop (NC) Gallagher Luetkemeyer
Boebert Garbarino Luna
Bost Garcia, Mike Luttrell
Brecheen Gimenez Mace
Buchanan Gonzales, Tony Malliotakis
Buck Good (VA) Mann
Bucshon Gooden (TX) Massie
Burchett Gosar Mast
Burgess Granger McCarthy
Burlison Graves (LA) McCaul
Calvert Graves (MO) McClain
Cammack Green (TN) McClintock
Carey Greene (GA) McCormick
Carl Grothman McHenry
Carter (GA) Guest Meuser
Carter (TX) Guthrie Miller (IL)
Ciscomani Hageman Miller (OH)
Cline Harris Miller (WV)
Cloud Harshbarger Miller-Meeks
Clyde Hern Mills
Cole Higgins (LA) Molinaro
Collins Hill Moolenaar
Comer Hinson Mooney
Crane Houchin Moore (AL)
Crawford Hudson Moore (UT)
Crenshaw Huizenga Moran
Curtis Hunt Moylan
Davidson Issa Murphy
De La Cruz James Nehls
DesJarlais Johnson (OH) Newhouse
Diaz-Balart Jordan Norman
Donalds Joyce (OH) Nunn (IA)
Duarte Joyce (PA) Obernolte
Duncan Kean (NJ) Ogles
Dunn (FL) Kelly (MS) Owens
Edwards Kelly (PA) Palmer

Pence Self
Perry Sessions
Pfluger Simpson
Posey Smith (MO)
Reschenthaler Smith (NE)
Rodgers (WA) Smith (NJ)
Rogers (AL) Smucker
Rogers (KY) Spartz
Rose Stauber
Rosendale Steel
Rouzer Stefanik
Roy Steil
Rutherford Steube
Salazar Strong
Santos Tenney
Scalise Thompson (PA)
Schweikert Tiffany
Scott, Austin Timmons

NOES—210

Adams Garcia, Robert
Aguilar Golden (ME)
Alfred Goldman (NY)
Auchincloss Gonzalez,
Balint Vicente
Barragan Gonzalez-Colon
Beatty Gottheimer
Bera Green, Al (TX)
Beyer Griffith
Bishop (GA) Grijalva
Blunt Rochester Harder (CA)
Bonamici Hayes
Bowman Higgins (NY)
Boyle (PA) Himes
Brown Horsford
Brownley Houlihan
Budzinski Hoyer
Bush Hoyle (OR)
Caraveo Huffman
Carbajal Ivey
Cardenas Jackson (IL)
Carson Jackson (NC)
Carter (LA) Jacobs
Cartwright Jayapal
Casar Jeffries
Case Johnson (GA)
Casten Kamlager-Dove
Castor (FL) Kaptur
Castro (TX) Kelly (IL)
Chavez-DeRemer Khanna
Cherfilus-Kildee
McCormick Kilmer
Chu Kim (NJ)
Clark (MA) Krishnamoorthi
Clarke (NY) Kuster
Cleaver Landsman
Clyburn Larson (CT)
Cohen Lee (CA)
Connolly Lee (NV)
Correa Lee (PA)
Costa Leger Fernandez
Courtney Levin
Craig Lieu
Crockett Lofgren
Crow Lynch
Cuellar Magaziner
Davids (KS) Manning
Davis (IL) Matsui
Davis (NC) McBeth
Dean (PA) McClellan
DeGette McCollum
DeLauro McGarvey
DeBene McGovern
Deluzio Meeks
DeSaulnier Menendez
Dingell Meng
Doggett Mfume
Escobar Moore (WI)
Eshoo Morelle
Espaillat Moskowitz
Evans Moulton
Fitzpatrick Mrvan
Fletcher Mullin
Foster Nadler
Foushee Napolitano
Frankel, Lois Neal
Frost Negue
Gallego Nickel
Garamendi Norcross
Garcia (IL) Norton
Garcia (TX) Ocasio-Cortez

NOT VOTING—15

Banks Jackson Lee
Blumenauer Johnson (SD)
D'Esposito Keating
Gomez Larsen (WA)
Jackson (TX) Pelosi

Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyen
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Peltola
Perez
Peters
Petterson
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salinas
Sanchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velazquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1422

So the amendment was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. JACKSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, had I been present, I would have noted "aye" on rollcall No. 606.

Stated against:

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Chair, I was not recorded on rollcall vote No. 606. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 606.

AMENDMENT NO. 30 OFFERED BY MR. BRECHEEN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 30, printed in part B of House Report 118-261 offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. BRECHEEN), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 174, noes 252, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 607]

AYES—174

Aderholt Estes LaHood
Alford Ezell LaMalfa
Allen Fallon Lamborn
Amodei Feenstra Latta
Armstrong Ferguson Lesko
Arrington Finstad Loudermilk
Babin Fischbach Lucas
Baird Fitzgerald Luetkemeyer
Balderson Fleischmann Luna
Barr Flood Luttrell
Bean (FL) Foxx Mace
Bentz Franklin, Scott Malliotakis
Bergman Fry Mann
Bice Fulcher Massie
Biggs Gaetz Mast
Bilirakis Gallagher McCaul
Bishop (NC) Good (VA) McClain
Boebert Gooden (TX) McClintock
Bost Gosar McCormick
Brecheen Graves (LA) Miller (IL)
Buck Graves (MO) Miller (OH)
Bucshon Green (TN) Miller (WV)
Burchett Greene (GA) Miller-Meeks
Burgess Griffith Mills
Burlison Grothman Moolenaar
Cammack Guest Mooney
Carl Guthrie Moore (AL)
Carter (GA) Hageman Moore (UT)
Cline Harris Moran
Cloud Harshbarger Moylan
Clyde Hern Murphy
Cole Higgins (LA) Nehls
Collins Hill Norman
Comer Hinson Obernolte
Crane Houchin Ogles
Crawford Hudson Owens
Crenshaw Huizenga Palmer
Curtis Hunt Pence
Davidson Issa Perry
De La Cruz Jackson (TX) Pfluger
DesJarlais Johnson (OH) Posey
Donalds Johnson (SD) Reschenthaler
Duarte Jordan Rodgers (WA)
Duncan Joyce (PA) Rogers (AL)
Dunn (FL) Kelly (MS) Rose
Edwards Kelly (PA) Rosendale
Emmer Kustoff Rouzer

Roy
Santos
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smucker
Spartz

Stauber
Stefanik
Stell
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Tiffany
Timmons
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden

Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

NOT VOTING—12

Banks
Blumenauer
D'Esposito
Jackson Lee
Keating
Larsen (WA)
Pelosi
Phillips
Radewagen
Swalwell
Webster (FL)
Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. GIMENEZ) (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1425

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STEUBE) having assumed the chair, Mr. GIMENEZ, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4820) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer the resolution that was previously noticed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 845

Whereas Israel has existed on its lands for millennia and the United States played a critical role in returning Israel to those lands in 1948 immediately following the Holocaust in recognition of its right to exist and as an indelible signal of our solidarity with the Jewish people;

Whereas Israel is a critical ally to the American people and to our strategic national security interests in the Middle East;

Whereas the people of Israel—including American citizens—were brutally attacked on October 7, 2023, by Hamas;

Whereas Representative Rashida Tlaib, within 24 hours of the October 7 barbaric attack on Jewish citizens of the State of Israel, representing the deadliest day for Jews since the Holocaust, defended the brutal rapes, murders, be-headings, and kidnapping—including of Americans—by Hamas as justified “resistance” to the “apartheid state”;

Whereas Representative Tlaib’s October 8 statement claimed that Hamas’ October 7 attack on the Jewish people was partly attributable to United States security aid provided to Israel, which ignores the fact that the Iron Dome, a co-developed air defense system, saved lives that day by intercepting rockets launched from the Gaza Strip against Israeli civilian targets;

Whereas, on October 18, 2023, Representative Tlaib continued to knowingly spread the false narrative that Israel intentionally bombed the Al-Ahli Arab Hospital on October 17 after United States intelligence, Israeli intelligence, and President Biden assessed with high confidence that Israel did not cause the explosion;

Whereas, on November 3, 2023, Representative Tlaib published on social media a video containing the phrase “from the river to the sea”, which is widely recognized as a genocidal call to violence to destroy the state of Israel and its people to replace it with a Palestinian state extending from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea;

Whereas Representative Tlaib doubled down on this call to violence by falsely describing “from the river to the sea” as “an aspirational call for freedom, human rights, and peaceful coexistence” despite it clearly entailing Israel’s destruction and denial of its fundamental right to exist; and

Whereas Representative Tlaib has repeatedly displayed conduct entirely unbecoming of a Member of the House of Representatives by calling for the destruction of the state of Israel and dangerously promoting false narratives regarding a brutal, large-scale terrorist attack against civilian targets inside the sovereign territory of a major non-NATO ally while hundreds of Israeli and American hostages remain in terrorist captivity: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Representative Rashida Tlaib be censured.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution qualifies.

□ 1430

MOTION TO TABLE

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. Clark of Massachusetts moves to lay the resolution on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

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

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 208, nays 213, answered “present” 1, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 608]

YEAS—208

Adams	Castro (TX)	Escobar
Aguilar	Cherfilus-	Eshoo
Allred	McCormick	Espallat
Auchincloss	Chu	Evans
Balint	Clark (MA)	Fletcher
Barragan	Clarke (NY)	Foster
Beatty	Cleaver	Foushee
Bera	Clyburn	Frankel, Lois
Beyer	Cohen	Frost
Bishop (GA)	Connolly	Gallego
Blunt Rochester	Correa	Garamendi
Bonamici	Costa	Garcia (IL)
Bowman	Courtney	Garcia (TX)
Boyle (PA)	Craig	Garcia, Mike
Brown	Crockett	Garcia, Robert
Brownley	Crow	Golden (ME)
Buck	Cuellar	Goldman (NY)
Budzinski	Davids (KS)	Gomez
Bush	Davis (IL)	Gonzalez,
Caraveo	Davis (NC)	Vicente
Carbajal	Dean (PA)	Gottheimer
Cárdenas	DeGette	Green, Al (TX)
Carson	DeLauro	Grijalva
Carter (LA)	DelBene	Harder (CA)
Cartwright	Deluzio	Hayes
Casar	DeSaulnier	Higgins (NY)
Case	Dingell	Himes
Casten	Doggett	Horsford
Castor (FL)	Duarte	Houlahan

Hoyer	Mfume	Schrier
Hoyle (OR)	Moore (WI)	Scott (VA)
Huffman	Morelle	Scott, David
Ivey	Moskowitz	Sewell
Jackson (IL)	Moulton	Sherman
Jackson (NC)	Mrvan	Sherrill
Jacobs	Mullin	Slotkin
Jayapal	Nadler	Smith (WA)
Jeffries	Napolitano	Sorensen
Johnson (GA)	Neal	Soto
Kamllager-Dove	Neguse	Spanberger
Kaptur	Nickel	Stansbury
Kelly (IL)	Norcross	Stanton
Khanna	Ocasio-Cortez	Stevens
Kildee	Omar	Strickland
Kilmer	Pallone	Sykes
Kim (NJ)	Panetta	Takano
Krishnamoorthi	Pappas	Thanedar
Kuster	Pascrell	Thompson (CA)
Landsman	Payne	Thompson (MS)
Larson (CT)	Peltola	Perez
Lee (CA)	Perez	Tlaib
Lee (NV)	Peters	Tokuda
Lee (PA)	Pettersen	Tonko
Leger Fernandez	Pingree	Torres (CA)
Levin	Pocan	Torres (NY)
Lieu	Porter	Trahan
Lofgren	Pressley	Trone
Lynch	Quigley	Underwood
Magaziner	Ramirez	Vargas
Manning	Raskin	Vasquez
Massie	Ross	Veasey
Matsui	Ruiz	Velázquez
McBath	Ruppersberger	Wasserman
McClellan	Ryan	Schultz
McClintock	Salinas	Waters
McCollum	Sánchez	Watson Coleman
McGarvey	Sarbanes	Wexton
McGovern	Scanlon	Williams (GA)
Meeks	Schakowsky	Zinke
Menendez	Schiff	
Meng	Scholten	

NAYS—213

Aderholt	Ezell	Kiley
Alford	Fallon	Kim (CA)
Allen	Feenstra	Kustoff
Amodi	Ferguson	LaHood
Armstrong	Finstad	LaLota
Arrington	Fischbach	LaMalfa
Babin	Fitzgerald	Lamborn
Bacon	Fitzpatrick	Langworthy
Baird	Fleischmann	Latta
Balderson	Flood	LaTurner
Barr	Foxx	Lawler
Bean (FL)	Franklin, Scott	Lee (FL)
Bentz	Fry	Lesko
Bergman	Fulcher	Letlow
Bice	Gaetz	Loudermilk
Biggs	Gallagher	Lucas
Billirakis	Garbarino	Luetkemeyer
Bishop (NC)	Gimenez	Luna
Boebert	Gonzales, Tony	Luttrell
Bost	Good (VA)	Mace
Brecheen	Gooden (TX)	Malliotakis
Buchanan	Gosar	Mann
Bucshon	Granger	Mast
Burchett	Graves (LA)	McCarthy
Burgess	Graves (MO)	McCaul
Burlison	Green (TN)	McClain
Calvert	Greene (GA)	McCormick
Cammack	Griffith	McHenry
Carey	Grothman	Meuser
Carl	Guest	Miller (IL)
Carter (GA)	Guthrie	Miller (OH)
Carter (TX)	Hageman	Miller (WV)
Chavez-DeRemer	Harris	Miller-Meeeks
Ciscomani	Harshbarger	Mills
Cline	Hern	Molinaro
Cloud	Higgins (LA)	Moolenaar
Clyde	Hill	Mooney
Cole	Hinson	Moore (AL)
Collins	Houchin	Moore (UT)
Comer	Hudson	Moran
Crane	Huizenga	Murphy
Crawford	Hunt	Nehls
Crenshaw	Issa	Newhouse
Curtis	Jackson (TX)	Norman
Davidson	James	Nunn (IA)
De La Cruz	Johnson (LA)	Obernolte
DesJarlais	Johnson (OH)	Ogles
Diaz-Balart	Johnson (SD)	Owens
Donalds	Jordan	Palmer
Duncan	Joyce (OH)	Pence
Dunn (FL)	Joyce (PA)	Perry
Edwards	Kean (NJ)	Pfleger
Ellzey	Kelly (MS)	Posey
Emmer	Kelly (PA)	Reschenthaler
Estes	Giggans (VA)	Rodgers (WA)

Rogers (AL)	Smith (MO)	Valadao
Rogers (KY)	Smith (NE)	Van Drew
Rose	Smith (NJ)	Van Duyen
Rosendale	Smucker	Van Orden
Rouzer	Spartz	Wagner
Roy	Stauber	Walberg
Rutherford	Steel	Waltz
Salazar	Stefanik	Weber (TX)
Santos	Steil	Wenstrup
Scalise	Steube	Westerman
Schneider	Strong	Williams (NY)
Schweikert	Tenney	Williams (TX)
Scott, Austin	Thompson (PA)	Wilson (SC)
Self	Tiffany	Wittman
Sessions	Timmons	Womack
Simpson	Turner	Yakym

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Wild

NOT VOTING—11

Banks	Keating	Swalwell
Blumenauer	Larsen (WA)	Webster (FL)
D'Esposito	Pelosi	Wilson (FL)
Jackson Lee	Phillips	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1437

So the motion to table was rejected. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1445

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS). Pursuant to clause 2 of rule IX, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. MCCORMICK) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, Representative TLAIB has repeatedly made atrocious statements against our ally Israel and in support of Hamas, a terrorist group responsible for the largest massacre of Jews since the Holocaust.

Represent Tlaib has levied unbelievable falsehoods about our greatest ally, Israel, and the attack on October 7. Recently, she even falsely blamed them for bombing the Al Ahli Arab hospital, but all of our current intelligence shows that Israel was not responsible.

As stated in my resolution on November 3, Representative TLAIB said: "From the river to the sea is an aspirational call for freedom, human rights, and peaceful coexistence, not death, destruction, or hate. My work and advocacy is always centered in justice and dignity for all people no matter faith or ethnicity."

Mr. Speaker, let me break down the saying, "From the river to the sea." The river is the Jordan River, and the sea is the Mediterranean Sea. This is a call for the complete destruction of Israel. It is disgusting when it is used in this context that was meant.

Representative TLAIB boycotted Israeli President Herzog's address to Congress, releasing a joint statement with Representative BUSH that said: "Bestowing President Herzog with the rare honor of a joint address to Congress while the Israeli apartheid government continues to enable and di-

rectly support racism and brutal settler attacks is a slap in the face to victims, survivors, and their loved ones.

... This kind of hatred against our ally Israel is unacceptable. Israel has a right to exist. For thousands of years, the Jewish people resided in that land and, after being displaced for centuries, returned in 1948 after the Holocaust.

Mr. Speaker, we have seen the effects of the reprehensible rhetoric of Representative TLAIB across the Nation. At schools and colleges around the country, Jewish students have been forced to be on alert as their anti-Semitic peers have engaged in disgusting demonstrations, chanting anti-Semitic slogans.

At The Cooper Union, a private college in New York, Jewish students were forced to hide from pro-Hamas protesters in a library where they feared for their safety.

At George Washington University, just about a half mile from this building, students broadcast "Glory to our martyrs," and "Free Palestine from the river to the sea," on the side of a campus building.

Further, yesterday, in Ventura County, California, Paul Kessler, a Jewish man protesting for Israel, was killed in an altercation with pro-Palestinian protesters.

These anti-Semitic incidents are happening right now in America in 2023. Quite frankly, in my entire lifetime, I have never seen anything like it.

The same Nation that defeated Nazism in World War II must now defeat an internal rot promoting the same senseless violence and hatred of Jewish people.

It is a sad fact, but this type of anti-Semitic hate is being promoted by a small group of Members in this body—chiefly, Representative TLAIB. We must hold her accountable.

This war in Israel is affecting everyone, whether it is innocent Palestinians at risk because of Hamas' actions; or our fellow Jewish Americans, who now have to worry each day about the possibility of an anti-Semitic attack; or Sergeant Elisheva Rose Ida Lubin, a young Jewish woman who was a member of the Israeli Border Police and grew up in Dunwoody, Georgia, and was killed by a Palestinian assailant.

For the safety and security of our Nation, we must continue to support Israel, a nation fighting for democracy, decency, and Western values.

Representative TLAIB has undermined U.S. interests with her statements and must be censured.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I have images of three politicians in my office: Abraham Lincoln, Robert F. Kennedy, and Samuel H. Bellman, who was the first Jewish person ever elected to the Minnesota Legislature, a great champion of civil rights and civil liberties in the Constitution and of the creation of the

State of Israel, the Jewish democratic state in 1948. He was my grandfather.

He was elected at a time of terrible anti-Semitism, not unlike today. Minneapolis was actually called the anti-Semitism capital of America, and my grandpa told me a story I will never forget.

The Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party and Republican Caucuses both had their annual retreats at a country club that did not allow Jews or Blacks to enter. My grandfather complained privately to the speaker about the fact that he wouldn't be able to go to his own retreat. The speaker apologized but said that it was a tradition.

So my grandfather, the only Jewish person in the chamber, spoke on the floor about anti-Semitism. He was booed and jeered at, and members left as he tried to speak.

When the minority leader asked me to manage our time today, I thought about my grandfather and how he must have felt on that day. I rise here not in spite of the fact that I am a Jewish American who supports the Constitution and the Jewish democratic state and hates all the anti-Semitic tyrants and terrorists of the world, from Putin in Russia and Mohammed bin Salman in Saudi Arabia to Hezbollah in Hamas. I am here because of these things and because of everything that I believe in and stand for.

At this moment when democracy is under siege all over the world, America must stand tall for the Constitution of the United States. This resolution is about one thing and one thing only: the punishment of speech.

We have the chance to show the world what the American Constitution means and how we hold fast to our core principles even when we are drawn away from them by our passions and our righteous anger.

The Constitution is the supreme law of the land, and the very heart of it is our First Amendment, which protects every citizen's freedom of speech and says Congress shall make no law abridging it.

The freedom to speak includes the freedom to disagree, the right to think radically differently from the majority about important things, or else it is no freedom at all. It is easy to defend freedom of speech for people when you agree with them. The test for each Member today is whether you can defend freedom of speech for people when you most fundamentally and vehemently disagree with them.

The First Amendment is like an apple, and everybody wants to take just one little bite out of it—leftwing speech, rightwing speech, sexist speech, feminist speech, homophobic speech, pro-LGBTQ speech, anti-war speech, pro-war speech, religious speech, sacrilegious speech. Everybody wants a bite out of the apple.

At the end of the day, after everybody has taken his or her bite, do you know what is left? Nothing. There is nothing left.

If you want to save the apple, you have to learn to tolerate not just the speech you love the most but the speech you hate the most.

Now, like the First Amendment, the Speech or Debate Clause embodies this central value in the proceedings of this body. It states that Members of Congress "shall in all cases, except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other place."

In the two-and-a-half-century history of this great Chamber, Members have been overwhelmingly censured for their actions, not for their speech—actions like participating in the violent assault against Charles Sumner of Massachusetts; assaulting Representative Grinnell, of Iowa, with a cane; selling military academy appointments; taking bribes; engaging in mail fraud and payroll fraud; improper spending of campaign funds; embezzling congressional money; engaging in sexual misconduct with a House page.

Do you see the difference? It is not what they said. It is what they did.

I can find only three categories of cases where speech is the sum and substance of the charge, and all are exceptions that have been ratified by the Supreme Court:

One, violent threats against other Members of this body, which the Court has found, as recently as April, are not protected by the First Amendment.

Two, fighting words: the use of unparliamentary or aggressively insulting language on the House floor that constitutes a direct affront to another Member. The Supreme Court has said that fighting words are not protected.

Three, speech advocating or promoting treason, secession, or insurrection, all of them outside of the First Amendment because of numerous provisions in our Constitution condemning and opposing insurrection.

That is it: violent threats against other Members, fighting words on the floor, speech inciting insurrection.

The resolution offered against the gentlewoman from Michigan is all about censuring her for her political speech and literally nothing else. No actions, no conduct, is being alleged or punished. The entire motion is about her speech and how much we hate it and how wrong we think it is, and all of that is fine for all of us to express individually on the floor, in the media, on social media.

I have said to Ms. TLAI myself that the phrase "from the river to sea" is abhorrent to me, even with her published explanation of what she means by it, which is very different from what Hamas says about it and how Hamas uses it, but I would never think of punishing her or disciplining her because we disagree about that.

The resolution proposes to condemn her for quoting this objectionable

phrase in her video, a video which is indisputably protected speech under the First Amendment.

Unlike the gentleman from New York, Mr. SANTOS, whose proposed expulsion by members of the majority was rejected by a commanding bipartisan majority last week because he has not been convicted of either the criminal or the ethics charges outstanding against him, Ms. TLAI has been criminally charged with nothing. She has been civilly sued for nothing. She has no ethics charges outstanding before the Ethics Committee in any way.

It is easy to see why. She cannot face criminal punishment or civil liability for her speech because, in the United States of America, we don't punish people for their political ideas, no matter how wrongheaded or offensive we think they are. The majority might think they are, or it might not, but in any event, it doesn't make any difference.

She won reelection with 71 percent of the vote in Michigan's 12th District, and if anyone is going to punish her for her political ideas or performance, it must be the people of her own district who sent her here to represent them.

Mr. Speaker, the disciplinary process should never be used to punish the political speech or viewpoints of a Member of this Chamber just because the majority disagrees.

The punishment of political viewpoints will mean that Members will be censured just for being in the minority rather than in the majority, and that will come to stifle our dialogue and haunt all of our work.

For example, the good Speaker of the House, who is my friend from the Judiciary Committee, has taken positions in the past arguing that sex between consenting gay adults should be a crime, that the Supreme Court was wrong to strike down sodomy laws in *Lawrence v. Texas* and wrong to give gay people the right to marry in *Obergefell*, a right that he said is "the dark harbinger of chaos and sexual anarchy that could doom even the strongest republic."

The vast majority of Americans reject these positions as extreme in public opinion polls and believe all citizens should have the freedom to pursue their own love lives and to marry.

If the House majority changes hands, should we actually censure the former Speaker of the House for his constitutional apostasy and thought crimes against the rights of millions of Americans? I sure hope not because the gentleman from Louisiana is absolutely entitled to his political and religious views, no matter how far outside the constitutional and American mainstream they are.

Under the First Amendment, extremism is in the eye of the beholder, but how will we resist the temptation to punish him in the future if we set a precedent today that Members can be censured and canceled simply for their

political heresies in the eyes of the majority controlling the House?

If we say the gentlewoman can be punished because her views of history are wrong, as I heard my friend say, can we then punish Members of this body who refuse to vote to take down in our Halls the statues of Members of Congress from the 19th century who joined the Confederacy and committed treason against the Union, people like John Breckinridge, a former Vice President and U.S. Senator who was expelled from the Senate after he defected to the Confederacy? Should we use the disciplinary process to impose historical orthodoxy?

If anything, there is a stronger constitutional case for punishing the 120 Members of the House who voted against taking down statues of Confederate traitors because multiple provisions of the Constitution explicitly forbid and punish participation in insurrection. Do Members who voted that way want to risk being censured in the future by establishing that divergent minority views on history are a legitimate matter of institutional discipline?

What about the Members who defended conspiracy theorist Alex Jones and stated that Sandy Hook and Parkland mass murderers of dozens of schoolchildren were staged by Hollywood to generate support for gun safety? That is not even a matter of opinion but adjudicated positive fact, and still, the Constitution protects your right to be wrong about facts unless you are deliberately defrauding or cheating someone out of something like money or campaign contributions.

□ 1500

What about all of those Members who have followed the former President in advancing the big lie that he actually won the 2020 election? Should we convert the 60 Federal and State court decisions rejecting claims of election fraud and corruption into discipline and punishment of Members who still cling to that view?

What about the 11 Members of this body who lost the 405–11 vote in 2019 recognizing that the mass killing of Armenians by Ottoman Turks during World War I was a genocide? Does their denial of the genocidal character of the deaths of more than 1 million Armenians qualify them for collective punishment today, institutional punishment?

Can we convert differing interpretations of history into the basis for disciplinary action?

Well, perhaps you say political dissent should be uniquely punishable when it comes to foreign policy. Of course, the First Amendment doesn't distinguish between speech having domestic or foreign policy content. All of it is protected. If not, every Member of this body who has voted against aid to Ukraine and praises Vladimir Putin, as the former President did for his "genius" and his "savvy," or says Putin is

not our enemy, as a number of Members have, could be censured for it by this body.

This resolution not only degrades our Constitution but cheapens the meaning of discipline in this body for people who actually commit wrongful actions like bribery, fraud, violent assault, and so on.

When people are punished for their political ideas and expression, they will wear it as a badge of honor. They will fundraise on it. Millions of dollars will flow to people who are punished that way, and they will join the public in mocking the new speech censors of Congress.

A secure constitutional republic, which actively protects the freedom of dissenting speech to allow for serious debate and growth as society, shows its strength, not its weakness.

As Thomas Jefferson, whose beautiful statue is right outside of this room, put it: "If there be any among us who would wish to dissolve this Union or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated, where reason is left free to combat it."

Now is a moment when we will get to see who in the House of Representatives believes in the freedom of speech, even the speech they hate, versus those who want to impose a new political straitjacket of cancel culture on America and Congress.

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

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

Fine speech. You talk about setting precedents. I think there is a precedent. You guys must have searched really high and far and long to find the people who voted against censuring PAUL GOSAR or MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE. There is a precedent. You are right.

When you talk about freedom of speech and who protects that freedom of speech, you are talking to a marine, and you are about to talk to a Navy SEAL, people who would give their lives to defend the freedom of speech. I understand that probably as well as anybody.

Let me be clear. This is not about a First Amendment issue. RASHIDA TLAIB has the right to spew anti-Semitic vitriol and even call for the destruction of the Jewish state, but the House of Representatives also has the right to make it clear that her hate speech does not reflect the opinion of the Chamber. That is what this resolution is about.

When you talk about "from the river to the sea," we talked about this with the Parliamentarian, and we talked about it with legal counsel. We talked about precedent. We got the Intel Committee to make sure the facts are straight. We did our homework on whether there is a precedent on this.

If this is not worthy of censure, what is? When you can call for the annihila-

tion of a country and its people, if that is not worthy of censure, what is?

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. VAN ORDEN).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. VAN ORDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my colleague from Georgia's privileged resolution to censure the Congresswoman from Minnesota.

Before I do so, I remind my dear friend from Maryland that the Founding Fathers did not envision Twitter, but the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal decided that genocide, in fact, is a felony.

One month ago today, October 7, 2023, savages from the terrorist organization, Hamas, invaded Israel from the Gaza Strip and intentionally targeted Jewish civilians, men, women, children, and infants, and then slaughtered them.

Jews were being killed at a level not seen since the Holocaust, and worldwide anti-Semitism is at an all-time high. We have seen anti-Semitic and pro-terrorist rallies at major universities across America. This last weekend, here in our Nation's Capital, we saw over 200,000 people rallying in support of the terrorist organization, Hamas, that committed these atrocities in Israel. They defaced our national monuments and the White House.

Most disturbingly, in this House, the House that freed men from the scourge that is slavery and gave women suffrage, we have a Member who not only supports this organization, Hamas, that slaughtered these Jews but has actively called for the eradication of the Jews as a people by promoting the slogan "from the river to the sea" on social media. She represents this as an aspirational phrase, and she is correct. It is aspirational for those who call for the destruction of the Jewish people.

When I retired from the SEAL teams in 2014, I vowed that I would defend the Jewish people if any horrors like those that took place on October 7, 2023, were to occur. Following the murder of the innocents that took place on October 7, I fulfilled that promise by visiting Israel.

I visited with war-wounded soldiers in medical facilities and consulted with military and various governmental officials. I grieved with the families who had lost their loved ones to this savagery. I visited the kibbutzim where infants were butchered by beasts, including one who was removed from its pregnant mother's stomach as she watched in horror before she herself was executed.

I bore witness to these horrors that can barely be described so that no one can ever tell me that these events did not take place. Hamas is responsible for them and is enabled by those who parrot their slogans.

Another massacre site I visited was the Supernova music festival, where

over 200 children were butchered. Their lives were ruthlessly extinguished after many were raped, tortured, dismembered, and then burnt.

As I was walking through the field strewn with the detritus of this war crime, I noticed some cups, simple festival cups. I asked the Israeli minister I was with if I could take some home to the United States so that I would have a tangible object that could represent the lives of those beautiful children from around the world who were killed. I brought back enough of these cups to give to many of my colleagues, including the one I stand here today to censure.

She and many other Members of this House need to understand that these are human beings. They were not slogans or a flag or a chant. They were children who will never be able to dance again, never be able to love again. Most tragically, they will never be able to look into the eyes of their own children they will never be able to bear.

I ask you today, Mr. Speaker, if you had the chance to stop the Holocaust, would you?

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

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. VAN ORDEN. Mr. Speaker, I call upon my fellow colleagues from both parties to say yes, we would stop the Holocaust. We will not stay silent as the 21st century holocaust unfolds before our very eyes. We will not.

I cast my vote today to censure, to affirm our commitment to justice and in the defense of the Israeli people.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB).

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I am the only Palestinian American serving in Congress. My perspective is needed here now more than ever.

I will not be silenced, and I will not let you distort my words. Folks forget I am from the city of Detroit, the most beautiful, Blackest city in the country, where I learned to speak truth to power, even if my voice shakes. Trying to bully or censure me won't work because this movement for a cease-fire is much bigger than one person. It is growing every single day.

There are millions of people across our country who oppose Netanyahu's extremism and are done watching our government support collective punishment and the use of white phosphorus bombs that melt flesh to the bone.

They are done watching our government, Mr. Speaker, supporting cutting off food, water, electricity, and medical care to millions of people with nowhere to go.

Like me, Mr. Speaker, they don't believe the answer to war crimes is more war crimes.

The refusal of Congress and the administration to acknowledge Palestinian lives is chipping away at my

soul. Over 10,000 Palestinians have been killed. The majority were children.

Let me be clear: My criticism has always been of the Israeli Government and Netanyahu's actions.

It is important to separate people and governments, Mr. Speaker. No government is beyond criticism. The idea that criticizing the Government of Israel is anti-Semitic sets a very dangerous precedent, and it is being used to silence diverse voices speaking up for human rights across our Nation.

Do you realize what it is like, Mr. Speaker, for the people outside of the Chamber right now listening in agony to their own government dehumanizing them, to hear the President of the United States we helped elect dispute death tolls as we see video after video of parents and dead children under rubble?

Mr. Speaker, do you know what it is like to feel rising hate crimes, to know how Islamophobia and anti-Semitism make us all less safe, and to worry that your own child might suffer the horrors that 6-year-old Wadea did in Illinois?

I can't believe I have to say this, but Palestinian people are not disposable. We are human beings just like anyone else. My sity, my grandmother, like all Palestinians, just wants to live her life with the freedom and human dignity we all deserve.

Speaking up to save lives, Mr. Speaker, no matter faith, no matter ethnicity, should not be controversial in this Chamber. The cries of Palestinian and Israeli children sound no different to me. What I do not understand is why the cries of Palestinians sound different to you-all.

We cannot lose our shared humanity, Mr. Speaker. I hear the voices of advocates in Israel, in Palestine, across America, and around the world for peace. I am inspired by the courageous survivors in Israel who have lost loved ones yet are calling for a cease-fire and the end to violence. I am grateful to the people in the streets for the peace movement, with countless Jewish Americans across the country standing up and lovingly saying: "Not in our name."

We will continue to call for a cease-fire, Mr. Speaker, for the immediate delivery of critical humanitarian aid to Gaza, for the release of all hostages and those arbitrarily detained, and for every American to come home. We will continue to work for real, lasting peace that upholds human rights and the dignity of all people and centers peaceful coexistence between Israelis and Palestinians, censures no one, and ensures that no person, no child, has to suffer or live in fear of violence.

Seventy-one percent of Michigan Democrats support a cease-fire. You can try to censure me, but you can't silence their voices.

I urge my colleagues to join with the majority of Americans and support a cease-fire now to save as many lives as possible. President Biden must listen

to and represent all of us, not just some of us.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the President to have the courage to call for a cease-fire and the end of killings.

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

If this was about calling for a cease-fire, we would not have these proceedings.

I was wrong, by the way, when I said that it must have taken a long time to find somebody who hasn't voted for censorship from the other side of the aisle. You didn't find it. The gentleman from the other side of the aisle actually did vote for censorship on a First Amendment right. I find it rather funny. We just researched it. Unless my sources are wrong, the vast majority of the other side of the aisle actually voted for censorship based on a First Amendment right.

I also wanted to say that my heart goes out to the Palestinian people—it truly does—especially those people who were bombed in the hospital, which my colleague knows wasn't from the Israelis.

□ 1515

Yet the statement is contrary to that, even though our intel was very clear, as was our President, very clear. That is what this debate is about.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for the time.

With respect to the gentleman from Maryland, I understand the perspective with respect to free speech, and I certainly wish to always stand aside the protection of free speech in this country, but this goes well beyond that.

We are not talking about restraining the gentlewoman from Michigan's ability to speak as an American citizen. We are not talking about punishing her and putting her in jail.

What we are talking about is whether a Member of the House of Representatives, a Member of this body representing this Nation, is justified in putting forward a defense of the actions of Hamas terrorists that murdered innocent Israeli citizens and are holding United States citizens and Israelis hostage. In her own language, she was defending on October 8—a mere 24 hours into the brutal and barbaric attacks in which babies were beheaded, babies were placed into ovens, literally. Moms were raped in a house while their babies were put in an oven. This is a documented account, video evidence, and this is dismissed as resistance to an apartheid state.

My problem is that the gentlewoman is also referring to Joe Biden supporting the genocide of the Palestinian people. The gentlewoman has put forward that by virtue of the United States of America funding, in solidarity the people of Israel in defense of their right to exist, that by virtue of our position as Americans standing in

front of that flag in this Chamber representing 330 million Americans, that by funding and supporting Israel, we are somehow perpetuating the call for violence that we saw unfold right before our eyes on October 7 in the most brutal and heinous acts that some of us have ever seen.

I do not doubt the gentlewoman's sincerity of her concern for her home people and concerns about the attacks on the people of Gaza.

I had some people who called into question that I would put out my public support for my former colleague, JUSTIN AMASH, who lost cousins in a church, receiving missile fire into a building next to a church.

I genuinely pray for the people of Israel, the people of Gaza, the people throughout the world that are now dealing with all of this.

The gentlewoman cannot, as a Member of Congress, be standing up and telling the world that what we saw unfold in attacking Israel is justified. We can't.

Free speech matters. I have grave concern right now about where this institution is going with respect to censures. I voted against the censure last week because I thought it had drafting problems and I thought it had significant concerns it raised.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the work that was done by my friend from Georgia, he put forward a resolution that is worthy of support. I support the resolution and believe that we should pass it.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY).

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this censure resolution that is blatantly Islamophobic, anti-democratic, and an utter waste of time.

This resolution is as dishonest as it is unproductive. Any Member who denies that Congresswoman TLAIB has opposed the killing of civilians—Israeli, Palestinian, and American alike—is willfully ignoring the truth.

Representative TLAIB was elected by voters in Michigan to do exactly what she does best: advocate for a better, safer, more just world. She leads with love, speaks truth to power, and seeks justice even when her life and that of her family and her staff are threatened.

As a daughter, mother, sister, friend, advocate, and effective, duly-elected, three-term, first-ever Palestinian-American Member of Congress, she has been a much-needed voice in an institution that has too often failed to listen.

Today, Republicans are again attacking a Democratic colleague just because they don't like what she has to say. It is another shameful but predictable ploy of distraction from the real traffickers of hate who are obsessed with policing progressive women of color.

Mr. Speaker, I oppose this offensive resolution for every little girl from Michigan to the Middle East who sees herself when they see the leadership of

Representative RASHIDA TLAIB, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BERGMAN), a Marine Corps general.

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am reminded of Proverbs 18:21, which says: "Words kill, words give life; they're either poison or fruit—you choose."

I take no joy in standing here today to censure a fellow Michigan Representative, but Congresswoman TLAIB's words and actions are abhorrent and beneath her office.

Representative TLAIB has tripled-down on her anti-Semitic and anti-Israel rhetoric, recently posting a video with protesters chanting, "from the river to the sea," with a follow-up comment explaining that that phrase is a peaceful aphorism about human rights.

However, that quote has long been a rallying cry for supporters of Hamas and other terrorists hell-bent on destroying Israel. "From the river to the sea" refers to the area, of course, between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea, which is the State of Israel.

Jewish Americans are being targeted in their schools and on our Nation's streets. Just yesterday, a California man supporting Israel was murdered during competing pro-Israel, pro-Palestinian rallies.

Words matter and words have real-world implications. Congresswoman TLAIB's continued assault on the only Jewish state in the world, Israel, is reprehensible and this body should come together to support this censure resolution to say to Representative TLAIB: Enough.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL).

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this resolution.

Congresswoman RASHIDA TLAIB is an important member of our Democratic Caucus and our Michigan delegation. Her voice matters. She is the only Palestinian American in Congress, and this is a representative body. Her perspective reflects many that she represents, especially when it is not twisted.

Congresswoman TLAIB is entitled to the same constitutionally protected freedom of speech and expression that every other American and every other Member of this body has. This resolution is an attack on that fundamental right.

I spent all weekend in Michigan this last weekend talking to all the communities about the meaning of this phrase. There are very strong feelings on all sides. It is very clear that people interpret words in different ways. Personally, I choose not to use a phrase that is offensive to some and that many perceive as a threat, but I also take seriously living in a country that does not restrict, forbid, or censure free speech.

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. VAN DREW).

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, soulless, disgusting, sickening, reprehensible, and repulsive—these are not my words but the words of my Democratic colleagues when asked about the decision of 15 Members who refused to condemn Hamas' brutal terror attacks on innocent Israelis.

Some of those 15 didn't stop there. Several of these Members have gone on to use their massive platforms to accuse Israel of apartheid, genocide, and war crimes. This rhetoric by Members of Congress is not only careless, it is dangerous.

American cities and the cities around the world have been flooded with anti-Israeli protests. Protestors scream for an intifada. They demand a cleansing of Jews from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea, the destruction of Israel, and the destruction of the United States of America.

They ripped down the pictures of Jewish children and Jewish babies being held hostage in Gaza. It is reprehensible. It is unacceptable.

Hamas is a terrorist organization that does not care about the Palestinian people. Their goal is to wipe Israel from the face of the Earth. Babies were burned alive. Babies were beheaded. Women were raped, beaten, displayed, and then murdered. Children, mothers, grandmothers, fathers, grandfathers, they were all killed.

Anyone who supports this or refuses to condemn it has no place in the United States Congress. I don't like censure—I hate censure—but we have to draw a line in the sand somewhere. We do not entertain hate in this Congress. We confront it, and we must do it with absolute conviction.

This is not a freedom of speech issue. This is an issue of the Congress of the United States having the right to say this is wrong.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote for this.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), the ranking member of the Rules Committee.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, we should reject this resolution for a few simple reasons: first is protecting this institution. I don't agree with a lot of what people say around here. I think a lot of what my Republican friends say is offensive and even racist, but I don't go around introducing censure resolutions.

If we are going to start censoring anybody who says something we don't like, all we will do from now on is censure each other all day.

The second reason is freedom of speech. My Republican colleagues go on and on about cancel culture, and here they are today trying to cancel someone.

I don't want any lectures from people who are trying to create a 1984-style

thought police. I don't know what is wrong with them, Mr. Speaker. If this is not the high point of Republican hypocrisy, I don't know what is.

Mr. Speaker, I say to my Republican colleagues that they are unleashing something very bad here. They are setting an awful precedent for this institution. This is a very slippery slope.

I strongly urge a "no" vote on this resolution to protect this institution, to protect freedom of speech, and to reject this majority's cynical attempts to divide and distract America.

Mr. Speaker, I would say that if my Republican friends don't like listening to people they disagree with, they should get a new job.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. MILLER), a marine.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today at what I think is a very serious moment for our country and for the world.

Hate and anti-Semitism are on the rise. Our strongest ally and great friend, Israel, is under siege at the hands of brutal terrorists. As a member of the United States Marines, I know when a Member of the House of Representatives is echoing a line that is a clear call to murder Jews and push Israel off the map—"from the river to the sea."

To be clear, "from the river to the sea," as someone who is Jewish, means to exterminate my people. Never again.

Mr. Speaker, the ADL recently reported that anti-Semitic incidents rose by roughly 400 percent in the 2 weeks following Hamas' evil attack on Israel, which began 1 month ago today.

There is no question that these incidents are a direct result of the hate-filled lies and anti-Semitic rhetoric perpetuated by Members of this body—"from the river to the sea."

What exactly does that mean, "from the river to the sea Palestine will be free." I am happy to educate all of you. It means the extermination of the Jewish people.

I understand that my colleague, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB), thinks that this is some kind of aspirational message. It is a joke.

Mr. Speaker, I do think that this is an aspirational message. But it is not an aspiration of peaceful coexistence. It is an aspiration to the erasure of the State of Israel and its people, the Jewish people who call it home and who have been refugees since the very beginning of time.

□ 1530

It is an aspiration to the genocide of Jews.

Mr. Speaker, I believe strongly that Members of this body should be able to speak their minds freely, but I also think there should be consequences for those who would use their platforms to perpetuate garbage that puts any

American at risk especially because of their religion.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that actions have consequences, and I believe that after a long string of anti-Semitic remarks and hate-filled rhetoric, censure is an appropriate consequence for the gentlewoman from Michigan.

Never again, damn it, means never again.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT).

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I come before you today in support of my colleague Congresswoman RASHIDA TLAIB.

All Members of Congress are entitled to freedom of speech. We also recognize that words matter and that they have the power to uplift or to harm others.

While I have joined the statement rejecting certain harmful phraseology that has been used, I believe Congresswoman TLAIB's statement that she did not intend to wish harm to the Jewish community by her words.

Congresswoman TLAIB has all since clarified that she was intending to make an aspirational call for freedom, human rights, and peaceful coexistence, not death, destruction, or hate.

The ability to have free speech but to be willing to discuss and to change and clarify is not just mature but democratic. No Member should express harm to others, and Congresswoman TLAIB has been willing to listen, clarify, and express compassion.

Yet on the other side of the aisle, we have seen repeatedly Republican Members make disparaging comments that have threatened our fellow colleagues and their families.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 10 seconds to the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands.

Ms. PLASKETT. We have had members of the Republican Conference make floor speeches about the great replacement theory that is suggestive of white nationalism.

As a Black woman, I am offended.

Will you censure the co-chair of your Conference, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman's time has expired.

Ms. PLASKETT. We need to uplift. We need to allow free speech.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands is no longer recognized.

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

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON).

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Congressman Rich McCormick's resolution of censure.

Enemies of civilization are gruesomely bold and clear on their murderous intentions. A heinously revealing declaration of their barbaric intentions by the Iranian puppet Hamas is detailed in the Hamas Covenant of Au-

gust 18, 1988. In the midst of insane provisions is article 7: "The Day of Judgment will not come about until Muslims fight the Jews and kill them. Then, the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will cry out: 'O Muslim, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him.'"

They are very clear. What they are talking about is death to Israel and then death to America.

The New York Post is correct in warning last week that we in America are subject to another 9/11 attack being imminent by such people.

The goal of Hamas puppets of Iran is to murder the Jews worldwide. It is fake news about caring for the Palestinian people. This is not about territory. Suffering by the Hamas-oppressed people of Gaza is solely Hamas dictated.

We know the duplicitous wording of "from the river to the sea" is nothing more than a call of mass murder to Jewish people and will then lead to mass murder in America.

Hamas, Houthis, and also Hezbollah are puppets of Iran with their intent, and we are actually in a war we did not choose between dictators with rule of gun attacking democracies with rule of law. This began with the war criminal Putin's invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, and led to the Hamas invasion of Israel on Putin's birthday, October 7.

Over 30 missile attacks have already seriously injured American troops who are serving in this war.

Bold and clear are the dictators with Putin's treatise of July 2021 that Ukraine does not exist; that the Chinese Communist Party that threatens the 24 million people of Taiwan, they don't exist; and Iran chants in English, "death to Israel, death to America."

It is sad to hear how the Iranian propaganda is being promoted by our media and colleges.

As the grateful father of four sons who have served in Iraq, Egypt, and Afghanistan, I appreciate the Israeli and Ukrainian troops for their courage.

Democracies will prevail by building peace through strength.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL).

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this resolution.

Congresswoman RASHIDA TLAIB is one of only two Muslim-American women elected to this body, and the only Palestinian-American in Congress. She has fought tirelessly and successfully to get clean drinking water for her constituents and to ensure that people have housing and environmental justice.

If we truly want Congress to be a diverse body that represents the diversity of views across this country, then we have to be willing to stand up for those diverse views to be expressed. We don't have to agree with them, but we do have to protect the right to the freedom of speech which this body is absolutely required to do.

Our country and our world are in crisis. People are suffering everywhere. Historic and present traumas for Jews, Muslims, Arabs, South Asians, Sikhs, and so many others are playing themselves out, and we as the elected Representatives of the people should be working together to protect the rights of every American to say what they believe and ensure that we preserve our democracy.

Vote “no” on this terrible resolution.

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

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER).

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, in 1893, Katharine Lee Bates wrote “America the Beautiful.” In it she wrote: “God shed His grace on thee and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.”

As the Bible says in Psalm 72:8: He shall have dominion from sea to sea and from the river unto the ends of the Earth.

That is aspirational.

Chanting “from the river to the sea” is not. Chanting “from the river to the sea” is calling for the eradication of Israel. I would hardly define that as aspirational.

My colleague Representative RASHIDA TLAIB has parroted the talking points and the message of Hamas, a terrorist organization whose sworn mission is the destruction of Israel and the eradication of the Jewish people.

Israel is our strongest ally in the Middle East, a beacon of hope, peace, and liberty in the region. It is the only multicultural, multiethnic, and multi-religious democracy. It is not an apartheid state. The oppressor of the Palestinian people is Hamas and the Palestinian Authority.

Mr. Speaker, if you want Palestinians to be free, then reject Hamas, reject the Palestinian Authority, and demand that Hamas surrender.

Calling for a cease-fire that they won’t abide to is outrageous. They need to immediately surrender and return the hostages to their families.

My colleague repeated a vile and disgusting lie that Israel bombed a hospital knowing full well that was factually inaccurate and knowing full well that this administration, the Biden administration, advised her it was inaccurate, gave her a private briefing, and still she continued to repeat this vile and disgusting lie.

Why?

It was intended to undermine. It was intended to turn the world against Israel.

Why?

It is because when she chants “from the river to the sea,” she believes it. Mr. Speaker, she believes Israel should be eradicated because otherwise you would never, ever repeat that vile, vile statement.

It is not a lie.

That is why we are here. It is not a lie, and that is why we are here.

Paul Kessler was killed for holding an Israeli flag in the United States of America. We are losing respect for the sanctity of life, the rule of law, and the important role of faith.

We must combat anti-Semitism, and it starts with this censure.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Ms. BUSH).

Ms. BUSH. St. Louis and I rise today in opposition to this censure resolution and also in opposition to the reckless manner that people in this House speak when they don’t realize or don’t care that they put targets on the backs of actual people, most of whom are Black and Brown, because of a lack of care and the lack of understanding and a lack of seeing the humanity of folks who look like RASHIDA TLAIB.

It is outrageous that my colleagues are blatantly, blatantly attempting to silence the only Palestinian-American Representative right here.

It is outrageous, but it is not surprising. Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, it is not surprising because this place is where 1,700 Members of Congress, this elected body, enslaved Black people. It is not surprising, because they thought it was right.

It is not surprising because this is a place where Members continue to claim that the insurrection on the Capitol just appeared to look like a normal tourist visit.

It is not surprising because this is the place where our Black and Brown staff members repeatedly speak of experiencing racism, sexism, Islamophobia, get pushed off of elevators, xenophobia and more right here in this workplace. This is the place.

Let me say this: She mourns for the 1,400 Israelis who lost their lives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman’s time has expired.

Ms. BUSH. She mourns for the 10,000, and she will not stop.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman’s time has expired.

Ms. BUSH. No more lies. Cease-fire now. She takes the death threats that you all send her, Mr. Speaker—The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Missouri is no longer recognized.

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

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FALLON).

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I was sitting here not planning to speak at all, then I heard words from the other side of the aisle. They were flowery, they were eloquent, they had passion, they were articulate, they were powerful, and even moving probably to some.

Nevertheless, were they true?

I heard about protecting speech, the First Amendment, and our beloved Constitution.

Who is not for protecting speech, our beloved Constitution, and the First Amendment?

So does the gentleman from Maryland and our friends across the aisle really believe that?

Then when I heard about slippery slope and setting a precedent, on February 4, 2021, MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE was removed from her committees for things that she said before she was a Member of Congress.

On November 17, 2021, PAUL GOSAR was censured for a cartoon that his staff posted. A tasteless cartoon though it be, it was speech.

So we are protecting speech, are we?

It is speech that we disagree with, calling the deliberate killing of innocent civilians resistance, claiming a bombing of a Gaza hospital was done by the Israelis that killed hundreds of people when we knew that was not true, and yet Ms. TLAIB doubled and tripled down on that. That was false, and that was a lie. And then repeating and celebrating a genocidal chant “from the river to the sea.” That is not a cartoon, and that is not saying some things, Mr. Speaker, that you said before you were a Member of Congress.

Then we were accused of, oh, it is Islamophobic, or it was pointed out that she was a woman of color or she was the only Palestinian.

What does any of that matter?

This is about words and actions, and we hold everyone to the same standard. We are not trying to jail her. We are not trying to expel her. We are not levying a civil fine. We are not even talking about removing her from committees.

We are simply firmly and formally disagreeing with her and chastising her for her words and her actions.

What she did was not leadership. It was demagoguery of the worst kind, and it was beneath the dignity of this office, her office, and the alleged commitment to peace she claims.

□ 1545

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOWMAN).

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this resolution.

First and foremost, can we please stop misrepresenting Representative TLAIB’s words? She does not want to kill Jews. She is not in support of Hamas. She is speaking as someone who is the only Palestinian American in U.S. history to serve in this body.

Without her voice, we would lack even more empathy for the people of Palestine. We would not have someone with direct personal experience speaking against the siege that is happening now in Gaza.

This body needs empathy and compassion for all people, not just people who look like the majority of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. Maybe because of your lack of diversity, you lack the cognitive and emotional ability to recognize diverse opinions when they speak truth to power. You absolutely need to open up your mind to other people and other experiences, especially when they are Muslim, when they are women, and when they are people of color.

You had a Member of your party call my colleague a terrorist and didn't censure her, but we are having this conversation now about your interpretation of words.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia has 1½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Maryland has 5 minutes remaining.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON).

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, this censure measure is a sham.

When someone who is an American, a Muslim, a woman, and a Palestinian dares to speak out for her people, she is told to be quiet. She is told to stop talking about Palestinian brothers and sisters in the same breath as Jewish brothers and sisters.

My sister RASHIDA is a child of the Midwest, representing the best of Midwestern sensibilities. She also exemplifies a rich tradition of the Islamic faith in the Midwest. She is a bold leader. She is a fair leader. She is a compassionate leader. Most importantly, she is an American.

Standing up for one oppressed people does not negate the oppression of another.

We should be working together to end this terrible suffering, eliminate these sham censures, and get back to the work of the people. That is why they elected us.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ).

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, words hold power. They are intentional representations of our values and our beliefs. Our democracy is at its strongest when we protect the right to dissent, to resist, and to speak truth to power.

However, over the past few weeks, this body has wrongfully and dangerously conflated dissent with hate speech and has willfully characterized acts of resistance as acts of bigotry. Bigotry and hateful speech are real, tangible threats to our shared humanity and our multiracial democracy, and we must address them.

As someone who has heard Members of this body who are not being brought up for censure casually use their platforms to carelessly promote violent, racist, anti-Semitic, Islamophobic, xenophobic, and anti-immigrant language and ideals, I am clear that this resolution is another ill-intentioned attempt to persecute dissenting voices who refuse to stay silent and whose perspective challenges this body and the dominant narrative.

We must resist the urge to scapegoat and vilify those who disagree with us,

and I unequivocally stand with my friend, RASHIDA TLAIB. I will be voting against the resolution, and I encourage my friends to do your job.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. OMAR).

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, it is glaring hypocrisy when you have Republicans on the other side of the aisle trying to create definitions and say RASHIDA wants to annihilate people when MAX MILLER himself went on TV and said we are turning Gaza into a parking lot and we want to annihilate Palestinians. Nobody condemned him on that side of the aisle.

What is true here is that every single one of them has not acknowledged the fact that Palestinians are dying in the tens of thousands but will continue to say it is us who are not acknowledging humanity.

RASHIDA will stand strong, and the Palestinian movement will continue for liberation until every single Palestinian has the right to live in liberty.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Colorado (Mr. BUCK).

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, on October 7, Hamas terrorists paraglided into a music festival and began an unprovoked spree of violence. Babies were beheaded, young girls raped, hundreds kidnapped, and many murdered in vile ways.

To compare a modern democracy with a repressive terrorist state is wrong, but it is also wrong for Congress to take this action at a time when we have serious issues that we face. To take an action and take down the words, to strike the words, to censure a fellow Member, no matter how incorrect we believe she may be, is wrong.

We lower ourselves when we try to take action against someone else for their words. We all go back to our districts, and thank goodness social media hasn't caught every one of us with everything that we say back in our districts because we would all be standing here.

This is a wrong time to do this. It is the wrong action to take. Let's pass a resolution condemning this kind of language, condemning anti-Semitism on college campuses and elsewhere, but it is absolutely wrong to vote for this motion.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I don't think that my colleagues have caught us in any kind of contradiction when they raised the case of Representative GOSAR, who posted a video on social media depicting himself killing our colleague Representative ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ and also attacking President Biden. This was a true threat. These were fighting words. This is something that is totally within our First Amendment tradition.

Mr. Speaker, we live in a time of terror and war, great polarization and trauma across the world. We must grapple the rule of law to our souls with hoops of steel at this moment. In a time of all kinds of storms all over the world, the rule of law, the Constitution, is our shore, and now is a moment to hug the shore.

Let's defend the freedom of speech for today, for tomorrow, and going forward in the Congress of the United States.

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

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert this article from 11 Alive News, titled: "Metro Atlanta woman killed in Jerusalem: reports," dated November 6, 2023.

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

There was no objection.

[From 11alive.com, Nov. 6, 2023]

METRO ATLANTA WOMAN KILLED IN
JERUSALEM: REPORTS
(By 11Alive Staff)

JERUSALEM, ISRAEL—A metro Atlanta woman was killed Monday morning in a stabbing attack in Jerusalem, news outlets reported.

According to the Atlanta Jewish Times, Elisheva Rose Ida Lubin, 20, grew up in Dunwoody. Gov. Brian Kemp commented on the tragedy and shared the Atlanta Jewish Times' article on social media.

"Marty, the girls, and I are heartbroken by the tragic news of Rose Lubin's death," the governor said.

Kemp said he would keep her family in his thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Lubin was a member of the Israel Border Police, the Wall Street Journal shared in a live updates story about the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict. She lived in Kibbutz Sa'ad in southern Israel. The WSJ also mentioned that the area was one of the places attacked on Oct. 7.

It's been nearly a month since officials said Hamas attacked Israel in an "unprecedented" move. Thousands of lives have been lost.

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I know there is a lot of passion today. I heard a lot of screaming. I heard a lot of accusations, you could say, on both sides.

I don't really care what race, religion, or gender orientation you are. Where I come from in the Marine Corps, we are all shades of green, and we all bleed red. That is the truth. I just care about the person who has my back.

When I was student body president at Morehouse School of Medicine, I was elected by my peers—60 percent females, 80 percent Black, 95 percent liberal. Why? I was elected because I love people. I love people of all sorts. This isn't about who you are. It is about what you represent, what this body represents. That is what this debate is about.

If this is not worthy of censure, I don't know what it is. Representative TLAIB has stoked anti-Semitism in this Nation and undermined our national security.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this resolution to show the world, especially our adversaries, that the United States stands behind our allies and will not back down to terrorists.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the resolution.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on adoption of the resolution.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Deirdre Kelly, one of his secretaries.

□ 1600

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 838 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4820.

Will the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. STEEL) kindly take the chair.

□ 1600

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4820) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, with Mrs. STEEL (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, amendment No. 30, printed in part B of House Report 118-261, offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. BRECHEEN) had been disposed of.

AMENDMENT NO. 31 OFFERED BY MR. STRONG

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 31 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. STRONG. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 84, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,000,000)(reduced by \$1,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. STRONG. Madam Chair, I offer an amendment to H.R. 4820, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies Fiscal Year 2024 appropriations bill.

My amendment is simple. It expresses Congress' support for public housing authorities to conduct drug testing as a condition of receiving benefits.

My colleagues across the aisle will argue that the purpose of this amendment is to punish. I want to be clear: The purpose of this amendment is to protect. It is to protect taxpayer-funded resources and ensure that they are available for those who truly need them and are prepared to make positive contributions to society.

Drug testing would put drug abusers on notice and provide a clear incentive to get off of drugs and to work toward self-sufficiency.

Shouldn't that be something we all support?

We must have protections in place and tools to enforce them which discourage lifelong dependency and ensure these programs are used as they are intended, as a temporary safety net for our most vulnerable and needy, not a way of life for generations.

I am under no illusion that drug testing alone would solve all the problems of abuse and dependency that plague our welfare system. However, I do believe that any tool that helps to accomplish this goal should be fully leveraged and fully supported by Congress.

Drugs are absolutely ravaging our country. It can be seen in every community. In 2020, over 37 million Americans 12 years and older—think about it, 12 years and older—were illegal drug users.

As a first responder, I have seen the devastation and impact of drug abuse on individuals, their families, and our communities. We have a real drug problem on our hands in this country, and it is not getting any better with this administration's border policies which allow massive quantities of illicit drugs, including fentanyl, to pour into our country.

Not only would drug testing ensure the responsible use of taxpayer-funded benefits, it would also provide a valuable opportunity to identify drug users and connect them with existing resources to get the help that they need.

Voting against this amendment ignores the obligation we have to the American people to be responsible stewards of their hard-earned taxpayer money.

Voting for this amendment sends a clear message to each of our constituents: Protecting Federal resources for those who wish to improve their lives and break free from the cycle of dependency is a priority of Congress.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chairwoman, I rise as the designee of the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), and I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chairman, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK), the distinguished Democrat whip and former member of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Madam Chair, we are 10 days from a GOP shutdown, and instead of finding a bipartisan way forward, instead of working with us to lower costs for families at home, instead of honoring the budget deal that we already agreed to, Republicans have turned around and become a pro-lead poisoning caucus.

Really. Read the bill. They have written a housing and transportation budget that defunds lead removal in low-income housing, lead removal in the homes of 46,000 children.

That is not all. This bill cuts affordable housing construction by two-thirds. It guts transit funding, leaving parents with longer, more dangerous, less reliable commutes.

News flash. Nobody's gas prices were ever lowered by banning Pride flags, but the open discrimination against the LGBTQ+ Americans in this bill will hurt communities in every single one of our districts.

This bill is more of the same from the MAGA Republican majority: Unserious, heartless extremism.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to put children over politics and vote "no" on this bill.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chairwoman, I yield to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Ms. SHERRILL).

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Chair, yesterday President Biden announced significant new funding for passenger rail projects across New Jersey and the Northeast region, first and foremost for the Gateway Program that is the Nation's most critical infrastructure project.

It is a critical win for New Jersey families, and it comes as a result of funding through the bipartisan infrastructure law to get these important projects completed.

By making this investment in Gateway, we will prevent a shutdown of the Hudson River tunnel that could cost the United States economy \$16 billion over 4 years and reduce property values by \$22 billion in New Jersey alone. In fact, every dollar we invest in Gateway will create almost \$4 of benefits for the residents of our region, whether through lower travel costs, faster travel times, improved safety, or reduced highway congestion.

Unfortunately, the Republican majority's appropriations bill is a severe threat to the bipartisan work we have done to revitalize America's infrastructure, especially for passenger rail. The bill guts the main funding source for rail projects—the Capital Investment Grants program—by 85 percent and cuts Amtrak's Northeast Corridor funding by 92 percent. Not only that, but Republican amendments now propose cutting all Capital Investment Grants and Amtrak National Network funding.

These provisions are unacceptable and completely out of touch with the needs of the American people. They put all of our work on Gateway at risk and could eliminate over \$19 billion in economic activity for New Jerseyans and cost tens of thousands of good-paying jobs.

House Republicans' extreme agenda will make it harder for families to get to work or to their kids' soccer games. It will increase their travel costs and will worsen pollution and congestion in New Jersey.

Last Congress, I was proud to work across the aisle to enact historic legislation to revitalize rail in the Northeast region and more broadly to invest in New Jersey's infrastructure. Today, I urge my colleagues to not forsake all that work and to instead reach across the aisle and finish Gateway, strengthen Amtrak and the Northeast Corridor, and improve travel access and reliability for all of our constituents.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

AMENDMENT NO. 32 OFFERED BY MR. GROTHMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 32 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 84, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Chair, this amendment would increase and decrease the Section 8 housing program to call for a U.S. Government Accountability Office study on: first, the marital demographics of HUD-administered housing program beneficiaries;

Second, the existence and effects of any marriage penalties for means-tested housing benefits administered by HUD—in here, we are getting not only the Section 8 but also the 42 credits and that sort of housing— Third, any recommendations and policy solutions for reducing marriage penalties within the HUD-administered programs.

In the last 80 years in this country, we have had what I believe are means-

tested programs. The practical effect is to discourage marriage and, in particular, discourage men from getting involved in their children's families.

I remember touring a low-income housing project about 5 years ago, and the woman who was administering it, who was a crackerjack girl, really tremendous job, but she pointed out one of her major goals is to make sure she had no men in any of the housing units.

I can believe that a lot of those men, since they weren't husbands, were maybe causing trouble, maybe doing drugs. It brought home the fact that right now an effect, and sometimes goal, of low-income housing projects is to keep men away from their families. This is, of course, only one.

I am highlighting the housing programs because we are dealing with HUD right now. It is, of course, true of all sorts of other income-transfer programs as well. Food stamps, medical programs, and Pell grants all come with their marriage penalties.

We want to focus on this. We want to see if this is a program that largely benefits people who are not married, largely benefits families without men in them. We know that there was a powerful group in this country, whose prescribed purpose, they said, was to get rid of the Western-prescribed nuclear family. We know under Marxism, one of the goals is to get rid of the family.

The purpose here is we want to have hard statistics, a GAO study, on the degree to which we are penalizing families with both parents there.

Madam Chair, we have all sorts of statistics here. My only comment is that, A, it is a little bit more difficult for a child, a little bit more of a tough row to hoe in life if they don't have a man at home.

I think one of the problems we have in some of our inner cities today that not only affects the children, but it affects the parents, because I think for a lot of people the most important thing they do in their life and their motivation for life is getting involved in their children's families, and right now the low-income housing program as well as other income-transfer programs are designed to deny men a role in their children's lives.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

□ 1615

AMENDMENT NO. 34 OFFERED BY MR. DAVIDSON

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 34 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 110, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$505,000,000)".

Page 203, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$505,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Madam Chair, this amendment will decrease funding for the Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS by \$505 million and move it to the spending reduction account.

AIDS is a horrific disease. We have lots of horrific diseases in our country, but we don't have programs for everybody that gets a disease. We don't have programs specifically for people that get cancer, for example.

We have programs for AIDS because when AIDS was first spreading, people didn't understand it. They thought it would spread like a contagion, that you could get it just because you lived in the same housing development as someone else. Now that we properly understand AIDS, we don't have the same kind of denial of access to housing for people.

We do have need-based housing, and there are people with AIDS who have needs, and some of them currently are even being housed under this program.

The reality is they would still have access to housing if they are qualified for need-based assistance just like every other American. It doesn't eliminate the safety net but eliminates the special, favored treatment.

Why is that important? Well, look. We have to cut something. Ronald Reagan famously recognized that the closest thing to eternal life we will see on this Earth is a government program. There is always a new program, but there is never a time to get rid of an old program.

This program just continues on without real authorization. It just keeps getting appropriated. It is time. It is time to take it away.

It is time to curb our spending. This HUD program spends almost \$3 billion more than it used to spend in discretionary spending.

We are going to have to turn something off. We have over \$33 trillion in debt, and in the next 18 months, we are supposed to add another \$3 trillion. Are we supposed to take spending seriously once we get to \$50 trillion? At some point, people recognize that if something can't continue, it will eventually stop.

It is not compassionate to bankrupt America. We put these programs out there, and we say they are so compassionate, but they are not because they are leading our country toward a crash site. This is going to end in financial ruin.

This is the same kind of point we tried to make when they said, let's close the economy and print money. We are spending more money than anyone will even lend us. The Federal Reserve became the lender of last resort,

and their balance sheet grew by \$5 trillion.

We knew that was going to cause inflation. That is why I created the Sound Money Caucus in July of 2020. They said it wouldn't cause inflation. We said it would. They said it wouldn't hit consumers. We said it would.

They finally acknowledged, well, maybe it will be transitory. That is the phase we are in. How transitory is it?

All this goes back to policy decisions. You might be able to print money, but you can't guarantee that it will keep buying the same amount of stuff. We do have to turn something off. I think this is a tragic situation when anyone has a disease, but we need to turn this program off.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chairwoman, this program saves lives. HOPWA provides long-term housing assistance, permanent support of housing, homelessness prevention, and support of services to one of the most vulnerable populations—low-income people with HIV.

Housing is the greatest unmet need for people living with HIV, and HOPWA is the only Federal funding dedicated to directly addressing this need.

Multiple studies have shown the lack of stable housing is the most significant factor limiting the use of antiretroviral medications regardless of insurance, substitutes, and other factors. Housing interventions improve stability and access to care. Let's be clear. If passed, this amendment will harm people's access to life-saving treatment.

Let's get down to it. It is not lost upon me that among all the programs in this bill that support people with chronic diseases and other disabilities, this is the only one that has been singled out.

This is a disease that can affect anyone, but HIV disproportionately affects racial and ethnic minorities, the LGBTQI+ community, young people, and people who inject drugs.

It seems to me in an effort to deny resources to LGBTQI+ people in this country, this amendment will worsen health inequalities, exacerbate the opiate epidemic, and otherwise do irreparable damage to our Nation's public health.

It is difficult to overstate the cruelty of this amendment and the damage it would do to public health and to one of our most vulnerable populations.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote "no", and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Madam Chair, the amendment doesn't stop people who have genuine needs as defined by our current needs-based program from receiving assistance.

It maintains the same level of compassion it has for all Americans. It

doesn't treat them with any special distinction. In fact, it restores equality instead of denying it.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chairwoman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise today in opposition to this amendment to eliminate funding for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, or HOPWA program.

This amendment would cut off housing support for tens of thousands of people living with HIV. In doing so, we take ourselves back to the 1980s—when the government ignored the needs of those living with HIV and the urgency of the HIV epidemic.

For more than three decades, HOPWA has provided critical support for low-income people living with HIV. HOPWA is a bipartisan program that serves over 75,000 people, providing housing assistance including rental assistance, transitional housing, and permanent housing.

Stable housing is essential for helping people living with HIV to achieve better health outcomes. Linking individuals living with HIV to stable, supportive housing is directly linked to decreased viral load, an 80 percent reduction in mortality from AIDS, and a 57 percent reduction in hospitalizations.

To destabilize housing for 55,000 households and over 75,000 people would create a public health disaster. Cutting funding to HOPWA would cost far more money in increased healthcare costs than investing in this critical program at the outset.

This amendment would significantly impede our Nation's efforts both to support those living with HIV and to end the HIV epidemic.

With Veterans Day on Saturday, I also want to inform my colleagues that 10 percent of HOPWA recipients are veterans.

I strongly oppose this amendment. I urge my colleagues to join me in calling for continued funding for HOPWA, just as this body has done since 1992.

If the gentleman is truly interested in cutting the deficit, he might consider supporting repeal of President Trump's tax cuts of 2018 where 83 percent of the benefits went to the top 1 percent of the people and which increased the deficit by several trillion dollars.

In summary, I urge the defeat of this amendment for health reasons and for fiscal reasons.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chairwoman, I am prepared to close.

Madam Chairwoman, research conducted in my home city of Chicago showed that homeless individuals living with HIV had significantly im-

proved health outcomes and transmission risk when provided with HOPWA assistance, and substantial cost savings were achieved by reducing healthcare costs for this population.

For people with HIV, housing is healthcare. That stability is healthcare. It means the difference often between life and death.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no", and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Madam Chairwoman, our colleague just makes the point. If Chicago needs a program, Chicago could operate a program. If the State of Illinois needs a program, Illinois could operate a program. If the State of New York needs a program, the State could operate a program. The Federal Government does not need to operate this program.

It disproportionately goes to high-density populations in urban areas. It doesn't affect rural America. Frankly, it federalizes a problem that is much more localized.

It is time to let something finally expire and say this need has largely been met. The health conditions are much more survivable than they were when this program was launched.

I urge my colleagues to take this opportunity to finally trim something that is no longer needed. It restores equality in our social safety net rather than continuing to distort it. Please support my amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 36 OFFERED BY MS. BLUNT
ROCHESTER

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 36 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 111, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$100,000,000) (reduced by \$100,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment, amendment No. 36. This

amendment highlights the importance of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing, otherwise known as the PRO Housing grant program and land-use reform policies, which were shortsightedly omitted entirely from this partisan bill that we are reconsidering tonight, H.R. 4820.

This grant program, funded for the first time in fiscal year 2023, is based on broadly supported bipartisan bills, including my Housing Supply and Affordability Act and the Yes in My Backyard Act.

The program incentivizes reform of local land-use policies that hinder the expansion of an affordable housing supply.

Our Nation is facing an affordable housing crisis. We have a shortage of as many as 7 million affordable homes.

This drastic underproduction hurts American families. It hurts communities, businesses, and costs the economy about \$2 trillion per year in lower productivity and wages.

The lack of affordable housing also increases the strain on the labor market with about 9.6 million job openings in the U.S.

From food service to cybersecurity, employers in nearly every industry are struggling to find and retain workers. The bottom line is to take a job, you need to be able to afford to live near that job.

I hear about this problem in almost every meeting that I attend up and down my State. It is a problem that impacts people in Delaware, from our beaches to the cities to the rural communities, and I know it is impacting Americans across this country.

I urge my colleagues to think about the human impact of the lack of affordable housing; extreme stress, homelessness, increased workforce shortages, and poorer health outcomes. It is clear that housing is foundational to our well-being.

Strict land-use policies create artificial restrictions that drive up costs and delay production. In many cases, they are horrific vestiges from the past, where discriminatory redlining broke up communities and prevented all Americans from having access to the American Dream.

□ 1630

Unfortunately, the bill that we are voting on today will squander another opportunity to right those wrongs of the past.

We know the bill in its current form has no chance of becoming law. The lack of meaningful housing reform and support, like the PRO Housing program and land reform policies, are examples of the many fatal flaws with this bill.

The adoption of my amendment will at least signal to the Senate and our appropriations leaders that we need to include the PRO Housing program and land use policy reforms in a final appropriations bill.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Chair, we are going to use \$100 million, to use the Senate's number, to influence what should be a local decisionmaking process on zoning for affordable housing.

We all support affordable housing. That is not really the issue. The issue is who is going to make the zoning decisions within each and every location and jurisdiction throughout this country. We don't believe that it should be the Federal Government imposing its will on local government in those zoning decisions. That should be up to the locals.

Madam Chair, I urge all of my colleagues to vote "no," and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER), a member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. KILMER. Madam Chair, I rise in support of my friend's amendment.

According to Up For Growth's recent 2023 report, we have underproduced housing by millions of missing homes across our country. That reality pushes homeownership out of reach for too many Americans, and we have to fix that.

While there is no silver bullet solution to this problem, several studies have indicated that restrictive zoning laws remain among the largest barriers preventing construction of additional housing supply, and that drives up prices.

As a result, Representative FLOOD and I introduced a bill called the Yes in My Backyard Act. Our bill is designed to eliminate some of these discriminatory land use policies and remove some of those barriers that prevent new housing construction across our country.

That bill is consistent with this amendment. My friend and colleague from Delaware and I have championed funding through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing grant program. This isn't about forcing any community to do anything. It is about trying to encourage communities to make decisions that allow for more housing construction.

Madam Chair, I am disappointed that this year's bill cuts funding for that program because that hurts our ability to solve this crisis.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Chair, let me reiterate that Washington bureaucrats ought not be getting into the zoning business of local jurisdictions across the United States with \$100 million to influence folks to make decisions that may not be in the best interests of those in the community.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Chair, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY), the distinguished ranking member of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, I rise in support of my colleague's amendment.

In FY23, we provided funding for a new grant program in the community development fund to support communities that are taking active steps to remove barriers to the construction of new housing.

This is just one piece of the puzzle to help address the affordable housing crisis that American families are facing. This shortage is especially harmful to seniors and people with disabilities, who make up nearly half of the lowest income renters.

Madam Chair, I encourage my colleagues to support and vote for this amendment.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Chair, I encourage all of my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Delaware will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 37 OFFERED BY MR. GROTHMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 37 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 111, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,650,000,000)".

Page 111, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,650,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Chair, let's look at the big picture here for a second.

In the year that just wrapped up, the year ending September 30, the Federal Government was borrowing 22 percent of every dollar it spent. That should shock and scare people to death.

We reached a neat agreement that I maybe think the Republicans should be

paying a little more attention to on the debt limit increase. In that debt limit increase, there is going to be a mild cut in spending, discretionary spending. Even if we stick to that amendment, we will go from borrowing 22 percent of everything we spend in fiscal year 2023 up to 23 percent, another percentage increase in the next year.

In other words, we have a pretty scary situation going on here. I think as we approach all these bills, our goal should always be to spend a little less money. It is kind of frustrating when you hear people wanting to spend more money.

Madam Chair, perusing this bill, there seems to be one area that is obviously not the Federal Government's business, which is that of the Community Development Block Grant program. I cannot imagine why it would be the Federal Government's business to get involved in housing or any other sort of construction on a local level.

We are broke, broke, broke out of our mind, and getting more broke every minute. Actually, some of our States are running surpluses. I know Wisconsin right now has a tremendous amount of money, so I thought we could look at the Community Block Grant Program. President Trump, or at least his finance director, tried to get rid of it altogether. Because I am so easygoing, I thought we would introduce an amendment just to reduce it by half, which would save \$1.65 billion in the next fiscal year.

I think one would be hard-pressed to say that these programs have been effective. Like every program that is paid for on a Federal level but administered on the local level, they have all sorts of rules involved that make things unnecessary, costly, and take a longer period of time. Insofar as it is a good program, the States and locals will be able to do it.

I have a list here of things that I don't think we were anticipating when this program began: \$500,000 to expand Niagara County brewing; \$276,000 to fund a skateboard park in North Adams, Massachusetts; \$500,000 in corporate subsidies to persuade Procter & Gamble's Natura acquisition to move to Fremont, California, probably from some other city around this country.

In any event, I think this is a small effort at spending a little bit less money and weaning the local governments off the Federal Government. If they want to do their own stuff, they can.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chairwoman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment and its attack on the resources of Democratic and Republican mayors, Governors, and county officials who rely

on this to close the gap in funding for housing and infrastructure needs in their communities.

CDBG investments reach every corner of every district. In Wisconsin, the cut to the State would be from \$27 million to \$13 million; in Chicago, it would be from \$75 million to \$37 million; and Sheboygan—yes, Sheboygan—would go from \$865,000 to \$432,000.

These investments reach every corner of every district. These funds remain one of the most important resources for State and local governments to rehab affordable housing, upgrade essential infrastructure, promote business redevelopment in distressed areas, and provide services such as job training.

In fact, in fiscal year 2022, the largest share of CDBG program funding was for projects that support rehabbing single-family housing, critical water and sewer improvements, and street improvements.

In Chicago, programs supported by CDBG include lead poisoning prevention, homeownership counseling, and home accessibility repairs for seniors and people with disabilities.

The program also provides high impact, high return on investments for taxpayers, with over \$2.4 billion leveraged across CDBG projects in 2021. From 2005 to 2022, CDBG facilitated the creation and retention of 521,000 jobs, contributed to infrastructure benefiting approximately 609 million individuals, assisted over 980 million constituents through public services, and met the housing needs of nearly 1.8 million households.

This amendment is representative of a larger problem with the Republican appropriation proposals—cutting spending, but only on the backs of low-income and middle-class Americans, and divesting in programs that support job creation and curb the housing affordability crisis, all while making it easier for billionaires and corporations to cheat on their taxes.

Madam Chair, I urge a “no” vote, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Chair, I love my colleagues, but the States right now—at least Wisconsin big time—are running a surplus. If the State of Wisconsin feels they need more government involvement in building things, they are perfectly capable of appropriating their funds on their own. If the individual cities want to subsidize one part of town, they are perfectly capable of doing that on their own. There will be less paperwork, and it will be done quicker and at lower costs without Federal Government involvement.

Again, I emphasize that we are borrowing over 22 percent of what we spend as it is. Our goal shouldn't be to look for more things for the Federal Government to do. Our goal should be to go through each and every one of these appropriations bills to look for less before the value of the dollar completely collapses.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD).

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Chair, the CDBG program is one of the few opportunities that the Federal Government has where we actually take taxpayer dollars and send them back to the State and local governments to use the way they see fit.

That is the reason I rise in opposition to this amendment. This will cut \$13 million just from the State of Florida and a little over \$4 million just from my district alone.

Madam Chair, having been in local government as a sheriff for 12 years, I can say that CDBG was a tremendous opportunity to help public safety in the way that our community needed assistance. It wasn't a mandate down from bureaucrats in Washington, D.C. It was an opportunity to take tax dollars, return them to the taxpayer, and allow their elected representatives to decide how best to use that money.

For that reason, I am opposed to the gentleman's amendment, and I ask all my colleagues to vote “no.”

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1645

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin will be postponed.

The Chair understands amendment No. 40 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 43 OFFERED BY MS. HAGEMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 43 printed in part B of House Report 118–261.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

On page 177, after section 244, insert the following:

SEC. 245. No funds made available under this title may be used by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for remote work performed by an employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development at an alternative worksite within a 50 mile radius of an office of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Chair, I rise in favor of my amendment No. 43, which would prohibit HUD remote work agreements when the employee is working within 50 miles of a HUD office.

Madam Chair, HUD's handbook defines remote work as an arrangement where the employee is not required to report to an agency worksite on a regular or recurring basis. It then defines two forms of remote work, one being near HUD office, which is within 50 miles of a HUD office, to work remotely.

As an example, it cites an employee who would normally be based in HUD's Robert C. Weaver headquarters in Washington, D.C., who is allowed to work from their home in Arlington, Virginia.

Now, Madam Chair, they are not even trying to hide it anymore. The agencies are baking into their policies unseen benefits and perks for bureaucrats who quite frankly aren't entitled to them and for which the taxpaying public is paying, yet we are not receiving an adequate return on our investment.

Thousands of congressional staffers commute to the Capitol building every morning from the surrounding neighborhoods, whether they live in Arlington, Alexandria, or cities in Maryland. Why can't the agency employees do the same?

Pre-COVID, the oversight of Federal agencies was slim, as was the accountability that the American people are entitled to. Today, it is even harder to monitor the efficacy, the efficiency, and the legal compliance of many agency employees because we don't even know where they are. Are they at home doing laundry when they should be processing applications? Are they picking their children up from school during work hours? Are they taking a 2-hour lunch because there is no oversight? We don't know.

I believe that if you are being paid by the American people, you should work for the American people. My amendment is designed to bring some semblance of accountability back to HUD.

Madam Chair, I encourage my colleagues to support my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, the remote work agreements addressed in this amendment, where they exist, have been thoughtfully negotiated by OMB, labor unions, and management and have been in place under Republican and Democratic administrations.

To impede on that process with a provision would be yet another Republican overreach that fails to take into consideration any special accommodation employees may need related to remote work.

This prohibition, which fails to address circumstances under which remote work arrangements may be beneficial to the taxpayer or a necessary accommodation for an employee, is not a serious approach to policymaking.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote "no," and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Chair, HUD's remote work policy shows that its employees are not showing up to work at the Robert C. Weaver building but are instead spending their days in the homes, coffee shops, and other locations across the greater D.C. area. My amendment addresses that situation and requires the employees to show up at their job.

Bureaucracy already moves way too slowly, even when the employees are working in the same building, down the hall from one another, and with access to all of the work accoutrements that are necessary for them to do their jobs.

HUD's policy means that today we are not even sure if they are working in the same State. That is unacceptable.

The basic principles of oversight and accountability require that employees go to work. Basic principles of avoiding further waste, fraud, and abuse means not leaving Federal agency buildings barren.

COVID is over. It is time to return to work. The Republican majority has made clear that we believe government employees should be working at their places of employment. My amendment furthers that policy.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 44 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

The Chair understands amendment No. 45 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 46 OFFERED BY MR. SCHWEIKERT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 46 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Chair, as the designee of the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. BUCK), I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. The total amount of appropriations made available by this Act is hereby reduced by \$18,443,000,000.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Chair, as a traditional courtesy, I am offering this for Mr. BUCK, who has been very kind to us.

This is an amendment I think we have all seen versions of. It is structurally very simple. It moves the appropriation amount back to the 2019 fiscal year.

You all know the reasons. We have all had this discussion and debate here. It is before the pandemic plus-ups, reaching back to a year where the economy was good and the mechanics were good. Apparently the agency seemed to be able to do its work. Here we are a couple fiscal years later, but we keep plugging back in the plus-ups that were supposed to be the pandemic emergency. This actually rolls it back to 2019.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Chair, this amendment makes drastic, indiscriminate cuts from programs in transportation and housing without any regard for the merits of the programs contained in the bill or the people and communities involved across America that would benefit from these programs and rely on them to keep air traffic moving and roofs over their heads.

I want to be clear up front about what this bill would mean. It would result in mass evictions. It would decimate funding for Amtrak operations and rail safety, and it would bring air traffic to a halt. Hundreds of thousands of families would be evicted upon losing rental assistance. The hiring of air traffic controllers would halt, towers would be forced to shut down, and air travel would become at best unsafe and at worst impossible. Funding for Amtrak would be decimated even further than it already is in the base bill, significantly reducing operations.

The amendment trivializes the Appropriations Committee's process and disregards the consideration of Member requests that committee members put into writing bills.

It will result in unimaginable draconian cuts to the very programs Republicans claim to support in their districts to their constituents and which provide critical, basic housing and safety needs. This includes: the FAA's air traffic control operations; Amtrak's operation and maintenance; the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement Program, which supports rail safety; housing assistance programs for the elderly and people with disabilities; housing rental assistance vouchers for which cuts would result in mass evictions across the country; all programs that support Tribal housing and infrastructure needs; the Continuation of Care program, which

supports hundreds of thousands of homeless veterans, domestic violence survivors, and youth; the popular Community Development Block Grant program; Community Project Funding, which Republicans and Democrats alike requested to address transportation and housing challenges; and critical investments in port infrastructure.

This amendment would even cut the small amount of defense spending included in the T-HUD bill for critical maritime security programs.

It would not encourage DOT or HUD to do more with less. Simply put, it would force our constituents to do less with less. This is particularly galling, because the bill rescinds enforcement money that will ensure wealthy individuals and corporations pay their taxes, which actually increases the deficit due to lost revenue.

Is it really more important to give the wealthy a tax break rather than provide housing, roads, bridges, trains, and safety services from which all citizens benefit?

Mr. Chair, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Chair, I appreciate the appropriations process. I have some sense of how difficult it has been for both sides.

This is the 2019 fiscal budget. Was that really, really that difficult, that draconian?

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

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 47 OFFERED BY MR. SCHWEIKERT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 47 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. Each amount appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act that is not required to be appropriated or made available by a provision of law is hereby reduced by 57 percent.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Chair, this is one of those amendments I just felt I needed to make a point here. It is a brutal amendment, but we did some calculations.

Fifty-seven percent of this appropriation within this piece of this budget goes to entities that have their own taxing authority.

Why do we care about that?

Do you realize every dime we are appropriating here, every dime we get to vote on, lives on borrowed money? We borrow every dime of defense and every dime of discretionary if you look at the 2023 budget. It looks like we are going to do the same thing in the 2024 that we are working on right now. We borrowed \$300 billion to \$400 billion of functionally what is Medicare.

I know that no one really wants to go near this because it is radioactive and uncomfortable, but it is math. This is from a couple hours ago, Bloomberg’s headline, Bloomberg Analytics. It is behind the payroll, so if you have a Bloomberg terminal, go look it up, “U.S. Debt Interest Bill Rockets Past a Cool \$1 Trillion a Year.” They are estimating that our interest bill for this fiscal year, total gross interest, is \$1 trillion.

□ 1700

Stop and think about that. That means Social Security is the number one spend, interest just became number two, Medicare just became number three, and defense is now number four. These are numbers we were not supposed to hit for a decade. It is here.

Sometimes I feel like an absolute idiot because I come behind this microphone—and I have done this for years—and we walk through numbers like this. People just stare at you and say, well, that is not interesting, that is math. The math will always win.

Our amendment here is tough, but it makes a point. Is it moral, is it ethical, is it rational to borrow money and give it to entities that have their own taxing authority?

Trust me, I have been the treasurer of the fourth most populous county in the United States. I know how hard it is to be the tax collector. I was the tax collector in Maricopa County. It makes you really popular when that is your title.

Understand what we are doing here. We are going to borrow money to send it to entities that ultimately do have the ability to raise the receipts and revenues.

The last comment I will make on this for my brothers and sisters on the left, how often do they scream at us: We should raise revenues. Okay. Guess what? Talk to your locals. Let them raise the revenues.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I could roll the tape of what I just said last time to respond because these are indiscriminate cuts, but that is not particularly helpful.

If we are here to make a point, let’s make this point. If this is all about reducing the debt, let’s not kid ourselves that we are going to accomplish this beating the hell out of nondefense discretionary. Let’s go back to the Simpson-Bowles discussion and the debt commission that took place back then.

The conclusions they came up with on a bipartisan basis was that anything to be serious had to be big, had to be balanced, and had to be bipartisan. But balanced meant cutting across all the lines.

Now, what we have learned, if you spend any time in this House, is that there are sacred cows. If we are talking to our left and our right, what I would say to my friends on the right is that you got your sacred cows, too. Right now they are mooing everywhere because you are not touching them, and therefore, you are not serious about dealing with the debt.

If you are, let’s remember Simpson-Bowles did come over here one time under the late Mr. LaTourette and our friend, Mr. Cooper. Under Cooper-LaTourette, which was some feigned attempt to do this on a big, balanced, bipartisan basis with no sacred cows, it got 36 votes.

If we are serious about this, let’s talk about the commission and let’s talk about all things. You can agree or disagree, but don’t try to con the American people that we are serious about this, pounding on housing and transportation. It won’t get the job done, and it will do a lot of damage.

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

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire how much time I have remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Arizona has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Chairman, I actually give the ranking member kudos for being intellectually honest. That is actually part of my point. The numbers now are brutally uglier than even Simpson-Bowles.

It is one of the things we don’t like to say because it doesn’t look good on a campaign brochure, but functionally every dime of future debt from today into the future is actually demographics. It is healthcare. In 9 years, do we backfill Social Security?

It is intellectually honest to say: We are borrowing every dime we get to vote on as Members of Congress. I keep wanting to say that over and over and over. Every dime of military, every dime of nondefense discretionary is now borrowed, plus, probably my math is about \$4 billion to \$5 billion of mandatory. Now we will live on borrowed money.

Until that starts to hit our intellectual lexicon of what we say and how we think, it makes it very hard to try to

make the argument that if we don't step up and do this, the bond market is going to do it for us.

Remember, we borrowed 8.4 percent of GDP last year. To my brothers and sisters who say the solution is often to raise taxes on the wealthy, the best model says that we can only get about 1½ percent of GDP by maximizing every tax on \$400,000 and up.

Mr. Chairman, 1½ percent isn't anywhere close when you just borrowed 8.4 percent.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD).

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Chairman, I just have to say that across the board 57 percent—and it does look like we are going above the 2023 numbers, but actually we had to start off with a cut of about \$8 billion to fill a hole that was caused by last year's Democratic budget gimmicks and the disasters of the Biden economic plan.

We reduced wasteful spending funding across 19 different DOT and HUD grant programs. We have right-sized spending for transportation infrastructure. We have prioritized two things in this bill: transportation safety and housing assistance for vulnerable Americans. That is where the focus lies.

We have cut significantly from the 2023 numbers. Cutting this bill through indiscriminate across-the-board cuts really abdicates our responsibility to make sure that we are protecting the priorities of this Nation in transportation safety and housing for America's most vulnerable.

Mr. Chairman, I urge a "no" on this amendment.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 48 OFFERED BY MR. BURLISON

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 48 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the grant program under section 151(f) of title 23, United States Code.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BURLISON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment, which would prohibit funds from going to the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Program. This grant program was created in 2021 in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to strategically deploy electric vehicle charging stations around the country.

The reason that I filed this amendment is simple. It is not the role of the Federal Government to subsidize the electric vehicle charging industry.

After spending billions of taxpayer dollars and bribing the affluent to buy electric vehicles, it turns out only one-third of the population wants to even buy one or aspires to buy one, and two-thirds are not even considering purchasing one. The two-thirds who are not considering it don't want to be forced to pay for the others.

Maybe you like electric vehicles. In fact, I actually do, personally. I test-drove a Tesla and loved it, but it would be immoral for me to force my neighbors and compel them through the force of government to subsidize my new electric vehicle.

In essence, we are robbing Peter to pay Paul. The fact is, this program will cost taxpayers \$2.5 billion dollars, which will all be debt, for something that most Americans cannot afford and are unable to appreciate.

It is not the government's job to pick winners and losers in the energy market. That is the role of consumers and businesses operating in a free market.

Here we are, once again, using tax dollars to subsidize and force a product on people where there is little demand. If the direct cost to taxpayers doesn't bother you, the indirect costs, including the higher energy prices, the cost of making the electricity grid more reliable, and increased dependence on China are arguably worse.

When the government subsidizes the EV infrastructure, it does so by raising energy prices for everyone. The installation of new charging stations also makes our electricity grid less reliable, further putting Americans at risk to having blackouts, brownouts, or other reliability issues.

Finally, maybe worst of all, it is not just that Americans are being priced out of affordable, reliable energy; it is not just that we are rigging the market against our own constituents, but we are also selling them out to the Chinese Communist Party.

These electric charging stations and electric car batteries require a massive amount of resources from China, which controls the world's critical minerals supply chain.

America was energy independent just 3 short years ago, but through the government electric vehicle scam we have

allowed Communist China to establish an EV monopoly all while Americans get poorer. It is time that we stop forcing Americans to foot the bill for other people and instead focus on making our energy system more reliable and affordable.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, this grant program will provide critical resources toward making community charging stations for electric vehicles available and accessible. Oh, by the way, it will make EVs more popular.

By increasing EV charging stations in communities across the country, we are modernizing our infrastructure, working toward our emission reduction goals, and creating good jobs in the process.

Ensuring that charging stations are visible and accessible in our communities addresses concerns many drivers have when considering making the switch to electric.

By prioritizing funding to projects in rural communities and low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, this program will help blue and red States.

We have heard from State departments of transportation and private partners, like gas stations, who want this funding to build their customer base to bring consumers into their convenience shops. This is a Federal investment in partnership with industry.

Additionally, this Charging and Fueling Infrastructure program is an authorized program, funded through the Highway Trust Fund. Authorizers, on a bipartisan basis, have authorized funding to be used for these purposes.

This funding is wanted and is another important step in the Nation's efforts to battle climate change, meet emission reductions goals, and meet the automobile industry where they are at.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly oppose this amendment. I urge my colleagues to vote "no," and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Chairman, we didn't have to subsidize or have grant programs to create the very robust infrastructure of fuel stations that exist across this country. It happened on its own through the free market. That is all I am suggesting.

The average price of an electric vehicle now is around \$66,000, and the median income is less than that. It is \$59,000 a year. So when the government subsidizes an electric vehicle infrastructure, it is not free money. It is not free. It is taxpayer money. Because of the situation we are in, this is all debt.

It is not just a one-time cost, as well. These subsidies are a continuous drain on the public funds that could be used for real hard infrastructure that all Americans can use, things like roads and bridges.

The average family is priced out entirely from purchasing an EV in the market but is still paying for it on the back end with higher energy costs, higher taxes, and a less reliable grid.

Ultimately, it is the poorest people in this country who are hit the hardest when the Federal Government redistributes tax dollars to subsidize the EVs for those who can't afford it.

□ 1715

This is basically a reverse Robin Hood. I repeat, it is a reverse Robin Hood. Instead of taking from the rich and giving to the poor, we are taking from the poor, and we are giving it to the rich. We are making them pay taxes on someone else's luxury item while telling them to stop using cheap, reliable energy that they need to survive.

The Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant Program is just another classic example of the government picking winners and losers. If Americans want a product, then the market will reflect that without our need to artificially increase the demand.

Mr. Chairman, I urge support for this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BURLISON).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 49 OFFERED BY MRS. CAMMACK

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 49 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____ . None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to finalize any rule or regulation that meets the definition of section 804(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of my amendment which would restrict funds at the Department of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies from being used to finalize any rule or regulation that would have an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more.

Under the Biden administration, regulatory agencies are out of control. We know this. We have seen hundreds of billions of dollars in regulatory costs fall on the shoulders of average Americans without any input from elected Representatives in Congress, indeed, those Americans' elected Representatives.

Agencies that fall under the Department of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development create unreasonable hurdles for American citizens in pursuit of a radical climate change initiative and the so-called sustainable housing development programs.

My amendment seeks to restore congressional oversight over these regulations by requiring that any major rule proposed by these agencies be approved by Congress before they take effect. If Congress chooses to approve them, then so be it. At least the American people's voice will have been heard rather than that of an unelected, nameless, and faceless bureaucrat in a basement somewhere in Washington.

By including my amendment in this bill, we restore Congress' Article I authority by bringing significant regulatory decisions back to the body that is closest to the will and the voice of the people.

We will no longer allow unelected bureaucrats to impose these regulatory costs that are so costly and that are done behind closed doors but rather commit ourselves to more open and transparent governance.

We have already seen the Biden administration's impractical rule to slash greenhouse gas emissions over the next decade inevitably leading to higher vehicle prices for consumers with very little impact on greenhouse gas emissions. This rule is especially burdensome for rural States and districts such as mine where the infrastructure to shift to electrification is not even close to being operable let alone economical.

We have also seen the recent Department of Housing and Urban Development affirmatively furthering a fair housing rule which imposes a burden on small municipalities and public housing authorities and other entities by requiring them to develop equity plans every 5 years.

These plans are extensive and expensive endeavors that require housing authorities to submit numerous details of progress and modifications to HUD. The rule effectively drowns these entities in paperwork while doing nothing to further their missions of providing safe and secure housing for hard-working American families.

Heck, Mr. Chair, we have such a backlog of maintenance through HUD that that is where we should be talking about our moneys going toward rather than another additional burden on the American people.

Lastly, we have seen the Federal Housing finance agency announce that it is hiking loan-level pricing adjustment fees on home buyers with high credit scores and redistributing them to funds for borrowers with low credit scores, essentially penalizing people who have made tough decisions, sacrificed, and worked very hard.

This rule penalizes financially responsible borrowers with additional fees that subsidize housing payments

for borrowers with bad credit. These additional fees can be significant according to a report by the Heritage Foundation and found that if a young homeowner in their thirties were able to invest their additional mortgage expenses at 8 percent annual returns, which is pretty average, that investment could grow by nearly \$31,000 upon retirement. That is not miniscule.

Once again, this rule was created outside the purview of duly elected Representatives.

All in all, my amendment is simple. It restores the people's voice in these significant Federal agency decisions that impact their daily lives. It is time that we restore Article I authority and give the American people the transparent and accountable government that they deserve.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, the amendment prohibits the administration or any administration from finalizing any rule or regulation that has a significant impact on the economy. This is just another example of bad policy riders aimed at tying any administration's hands when carrying out the duly enacted laws by a Congress.

It will stop the Department of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development from finalizing rules that keep Americans safe on the roads, in the skies, or in their homes.

This amendment has little to do with an appropriations bill, and it has less to do with supporting American infrastructure, advancing transportation safety, and addressing our housing shortage.

Mr. Chairman, I must respectfully oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from the great State of Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD).

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I am very supportive of this amendment. The gentlewoman has been leading on this topic for quite a while through the REINS Act. I have to tell you, Mr. Chairman, I think this is one of the two areas that most threaten our democracy right now, and that is rulemaking in executive orders that absolutely go around our Article I authority here in this body.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment. I would love to see it in every bill that we pass in appropriations.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Chairman, I thank my colleague from Florida for his remarks.

Mr. Chairman, this is simple. It is about accountability and transparency, and the language of this amendment

was passed in a bipartisan manner earlier this year. This is a no-brainer.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 50 OFFERED BY MR. FRY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 50 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. FRY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce any Federal law, rule, or regulation that would require an individual to wear a mask on public transportation conveyances and at transportation hubs.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. FRY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. FRY. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would prohibit mask mandates on any form of public transit and at transportation hubs.

The COVID-19 pandemic robbed Americans of far too many individual liberties. For 15 months, Americans were required by Federal law to wear masks on all forms of public transportation across the country, on planes, trains, buses, you name it, Mr. Chairman.

Americans were also required to wear a mask while going through security and waiting at the airport, navigating a train station, or waiting at a bus stop.

The government forced Americans to cover up.

The kicker is that multiple studies have shown that wearing masks had an adverse effect on people. Wearing a mask does not actually have a statistically significant effect on preventing the spread of COVID-19. In fact, States without mask mandates, like my home State of South Carolina, had lower death rates from COVID-19 than States with mask mandates.

We also have seen, unfortunately, catastrophic impacts that these mandates have on our children, worsening their communication and social skills and delaying their cognitive development while increasing their vulnerability and decreasing confidence.

My amendment does not prohibit any individual from wearing a mask on public transportation should they choose to do so.

This amendment would safeguard the freedom of all Americans to make important decisions for themselves, in-

cluding whether or not to wear that mask.

This amendment would put an end to Government overreach and protect the freedoms that Americans have. Our Constitution expressly protects those certain rights and liberties for individuals from government interference. We must defend and protect the principles our Nation was founded on and put a stop to extreme executive overreach mandates. This is what this amendment is all about.

Mr. Chairman, also, this amendment previously passed the Senate I think 1 week ago on a bipartisan basis, so I encourage Members of the other side to support this.

We cannot allow policies and practices used during the pandemic to continue for future generations endlessly. Americans are uniquely independent and self-reliant. We as Congress should empower the individual and not government. We should not put a nationwide mandate on the American people again. Mask mandates only give more power to the Federal Government and to the bureaucrats who run this town.

Let's get back to the basics. We the People demand it. I am committed to standing up to this administration's infringement on any individual liberties and working for the American people. Let's ensure that Government overreach comes to an end. Individual freedoms must be protected. It is as simple as that.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I would suggest that this legislation comes from that same denial caucus that if you don't like history then change it or ignore it; if you don't like facts and you don't like science, then you ignore it.

You do that at great risk, Mr. Chairman.

We have had epidemics and we have had pandemics in our past, and we will have them again. If we are not prepared, then we risk people's lives.

This amendment would prohibit the Department of Transportation and its agencies and public transportation operators from complying with any Federal law or regulation that requires an individual to wear a mask on public transportation or transportation hubs such as airports or any other circumstances.

Let's be clear: There is currently no Federal mask requirement in place for users or employees of public transportation, yet this amendment would leave the Federal Government ill-equipped to implement evidence-based policies that protect the health and safety of the public and of essential workers in the event we are faced with another public health emergency such

as a dangerous new COVID-19 variant or another even more deadly pandemic.

In the event of a public health emergency where evidence shows that the use of face masks can prevent transmission and deaths, we must be able to respond quickly and allow agencies like DOT and CDC to provide guidance and measures that protect healthcare workers, caregivers, grocery store employees, retail workers, and so many other Americans who rely on public transportation for essential travel.

This sweeping amendment is unnecessary and puts us all at risk. New variants are an expected part of the evolution of viruses and can be and will be more aggressive, transmittable, or cause even more severe disease than the original strain. We saw that in the great influenza of over 100 years ago.

Our Nation's public health officials need to have options available to them to protect our communities.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote "no," and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FRY. Mr. Chairman, I am not sure what evidence-based things that my colleague on the other side was talking about.

Was it the zero masks that were initially prescribed by Dr. Fauci?

Was it one mask?

Was it two?

Was it no mask while vaccinated?

South Carolina never imposed a statewide mask mandate, and I think Congress could learn a thing or two from my home State.

Let's empower individuals to make that informed choice for themselves instead of bogging them down with these burdensome regulations.

This amendment would simply prevent mask mandates from occurring on airplanes, airports, trains, metros, subways, buses, train stations, and more.

We know Americans have been frustrated by this and by the ever-changing guidance coming from this Federal Government. I am proud to stand here today on behalf of these frustrated American citizens who do not want a mask mandate in the future.

Again, Mr. Chairman, this passed in a bipartisan manner in the Senate. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, this form of denial is the same sort of denial that didn't believe in vaccinations when it deals with COVID and when the vast majority of those in ICU units were unvaccinated, risking other people and putting other people's health at risk.

For this and so many other reasons, I encourage my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1730

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. FRY).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment No. 51 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 52 OFFERED BY MR. GOODEN OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 52 printed in part B of House Report 118–261.

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 203, after line 2, insert the following:
SEC. 435. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to take an enforcement action under section 578.6(a)(3) of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, with respect to a center high-mounted stop lamp.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOODEN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise today to urge passage of my amendment regarding certain enforcement actions with regard to center high-mounted stop lamps.

I know my colleagues probably don't know what that is, but we refer to those commonly as center brake lights. This amendment is intended to prevent the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration from advancing on its misguided effort to overregulate and further confuse the collision avoidance industry that manufactures pulsating brake lights.

These devices, with over 4 million operating effectively today, have a demonstrated track record of improving safety. Studies have shown a reduction in rear-end collisions in excess of 30 percent with the vehicles that have utilized this technology.

These safety devices are simple, aftermarket products installed by dealerships when a vehicle is purchased. They allow the top brake light on a vehicle to pulse rapidly, which provides a heightened visual alert to trailing drivers who may be distracted and don't notice that the vehicle in front of them is braking.

This reduces the likelihood of rear-end collisions and creates a safer environment on our roads, especially in stop-and-go traffic.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment to safeguard drivers across the Nation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, this amendment would disrupt the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's ability to enforce rules and regulations when vehicles are not in compliance with current Federal law.

For my colleague concerned about vendors who have been selling pulsating brake lights, it is my understanding

that the issue is now in litigation. We should not be impeding on or presupposing the outcome of the matter that has been referred to the courts.

My colleagues may disagree with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's longstanding interpretation that high-mounted brake lights must be steady burning, not pulsing, but this is not an appropriations issue.

If my colleague feels strongly that NHTSA should be considering new regulations related to the potential benefits of these lights, they should work together through regular order, which would be through the appropriate authorizing committees.

This amendment, as written, would not just address the pulsing light issue. It would impact the NHTSA's ability to conduct compliance investigations involving all high-mounted stop lamps and prevent them from gathering information related to compliance test failures.

In 2021, there were over 1.7 million rear-end crashes involving light vehicles, which resulted in almost 3,000 deaths and over 475,000 injuries. This amendment adds an unreasonable restriction on NHTSA's ability to conduct research and improve public safety on the Nation's roads. We cannot tie their hands to carry out their safety mission.

Mr. Chair, I urge a "no" vote on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I suspected I would hear what I just heard, but I would like to correct a few things.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is not doing their job. Congress passed a law ordering them to conduct a study in 2019. They said they would, and they haven't done it yet. Not only have they not conducted a study, but they just recently reengaged on this issue this past summer. They failed to engage with me.

I have sent several letters asking them to do the job that Congress instructed them to do, but they have managed to order those manufacturers of this pulsating brake light to turn over all of their client lists because they wanted to then go after the dealers that have installed these lights and force them to turn over their client lists, and I think that is wrong.

This amendment is intended to force action by NHTSA to step back. If they are not going to do their job, then at least don't get in the way of something that works.

The studies have shown a reduction in rear-end collisions by over 30 percent with vehicles that have these brake lights. I will also point to something that is really shocking to me, frankly, and that is that 10 to 15 States, including Maryland, Texas, California, Utah, and Tennessee, have expressly agreed with the industry's analysis that these are actually helpful to the safety of Americans on the road.

Any time Texas and California agree on something, I am inclined to think it might actually be a good thing.

The other thing I will point out is something that I think many of those watching this debate are afraid to mention, and that is the fact that we have these manufacturers that have these deals that they worked out with these auto dealers, and they make these parts. They talk with these auto dealers and say they can sell this and make this amount of profit. They got all this worked out.

When it comes to this pulsing brake light, it is not a manufacturer-provided part. This is something a private company—and now there are four, five, or six. They all compete against each other. This industry makes these lights and has now dealt with the auto dealers outside of the manufacturers. As a consequence, the manufacturers don't like it.

I am not going to accuse the manufacturers of dealing with NHTSA, but I will say it is very bizarre to me that NHTSA is not going forward with the study that this Congress, in 2019, asked them to do.

It is very bizarre to me that NHTSA, instead of conducting a study, instead of working with members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, like myself, are asking for client lists of this industry. That is just really weird to me, especially when the device that is so controversial is approved by Texas, California, and, frankly, some liberal States that all think this is really great.

Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues from across the aisle to recognize this is not a partisan issue. This is bipartisan. This is a good amendment, and I hope that we will all vote for it tonight when Americans have gone to bed and we are back here on the House floor voting late tonight. I hope my colleagues from across the aisle will join me in supporting this amendment.

Mr. Chair, I yield my remaining time to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman from Texas for offering this amendment.

Let's be clear: The only entity that has not done its job is NHTSA.

They were directed by Congress to do a study to establish standards and failed to do that. Rather than them being punished, they are now taking it out on manufacturers and dealers.

As Mr. GOODEN said, this is not a safety issue. States have already studied this. We should not be coming in and imposing penalties and restrictions on manufacturers and dealers whenever it is NHTSA that has failed to do its job.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of this amendment.

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOODEN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 53 OFFERED BY MR. GRAVES OF LOUISIANA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 53 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to promulgate new rules that the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget finds has resulted in or is likely to result in—

(1) an annual effect on the economy of \$100,000,000 or more;

(2) a major increase in costs or prices for consumers, individual industries, Federal, State, or local government agencies, or geographic regions; or

(3) significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or the ability of United States-based enterprises to compete with foreign-based enterprises in domestic and export markets.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Chair, my amendment simply comes in and establishes a threshold by which Congress must be involved in actually approving costs that are imposed upon our constituents.

Mr. Chairman, we all represent somewhere in excess of 700,000 people, and whenever we have unelected bureaucrats carrying out regulations that may impose costs on our constituents, we should have a say in that.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment simply says that any regulation that has a cost in excess of \$100 million must be approved by the Congress. That is what representation looks like.

Mr. Chairman, we shouldn't be allowing unelected bureaucrats who are sitting in dark cubicles in Washington, D.C., and who don't have a clear understanding of what it is like across America, making these decisions.

This is our job. If we support these regulations, if they provide a positive cost-to-benefit, put us on record supporting it.

To put things in perspective, Mr. Chair, in the first 2 years of the Biden administration, these very bureaucrats wrote regulations costing Americans \$200 billion. These are hidden taxes, Mr. Chair, that the families we are representing have to pay.

In comparison, during the Trump administration, they actually withdrew regulations costing the American household \$11,000 per household. They withdrew or reduced the costs, yet under this administration, we are watching as thousands and thousands

of additional dollars are being heaped upon these same households.

Let me say it again. That is a hidden tax. If folks want to vote for a tax, put them on the record doing it. If they want to break the backs of American families, put them on the record doing it. Unelected bureaucrats should not be making these decisions.

Mr. Chairman, I urge support of this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, this is very similar to a recent amendment discussed by the gentlewoman from Florida, and for the reasons stated as to that amendment, we oppose this amendment, as well.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Chairman, I want to put a face on it. The National Association of Manufacturers says that the average business has \$10,000 in regulatory compliance costs per employee. If it is a manufacturer, it is actually double, or \$20,000.

To put a face on it, Mr. Chairman, the National Association of Home Builders has estimated, in a May 2021 study, that the average home costs \$93,000 more—almost \$94,000 more—for the average single-family home as a result of complying with regulations. As a result of this administration's policies on energy, the supply chain, and labor, they estimate that there is an additional \$36,000 to \$38,000 cost on top of that \$94,000.

Mr. Chair, I can't say it enough: We can't afford this administration. Whether it is the energy policy, the regulatory policy, their inflation as a result of \$10 trillion in excess spending that they have imposed over the last few years, we simply can't afford it. American families can't afford it.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 54 OFFERED BY MS. GREENE OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 54 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. The salary of Pete Buttigieg, Secretary of Transportation, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE) and a Mem-

ber opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, my amendment uses the Holman rule to reduce the salary of Secretary Pete Buttigieg to \$1.

Pete Buttigieg has failed to serve the American people as the Secretary of Transportation. He has been busy calling roads racist, enforcing equity action plans, and implementing climate change initiatives rather than strengthening our Nation's transportation and infrastructure systems and responding to emergencies like the train derailment in East Palestine.

□ 1745

He stated there is racism physically built into some of our highways. "Every transportation decision is inherently, in many ways, a decision about equity."

I would argue, people driving on dirt roads every single day in rural America may feel that way, but our Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg, doesn't care about Americans in rural America. He is more interested in declaring that roads are built on skin color and racism.

He also stated, "Ensuring equity and accessibility for every member of the traveling public is one of the Department of Transportation's highest priorities."

Again, I will point to rural America.

In the same month he was sworn in, his Department introduced racial policies and barriers to opportunities as a consideration for awarding discretionary grants, as if that is how funds should be awarded.

In June 2022, he launched a \$1 billion pilot program aimed at helping reconnect cities and neighborhoods racially segregated or divided by road projects. Under this program, over \$100 million was awarded to tear down and rebuild a freeway in Detroit because it was considered racially divisive. Taxpayer dollars are being used to cover 80 percent of the project's funds.

He has also intentionally tried to deceive the American people, as shown when a video surfaced of him faking a bike ride to a White House Cabinet meeting. The video showed Secretary Buttigieg driving to the White House but stopping in just enough time for his security detail to unload his bike from the back of the gas-guzzling SUV. He then rode his bike for the cameras to the White House as if he had been riding it all along. What a hypocrite. What a liar.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, we now enter the theater of the absurd.

Again, for the second day in a row, let's have two White people talk about

racial equality in the United States because we know so much about it from having, oh, so much experience, but here we are.

The reality of the situation is, this isn't serious, but it is the new normal. If we don't like people, we will pay them \$1. If we disagree with them, we will cut their salary. At some point in time, we have to recognize the fact that we are going to disagree. We are probably going to, for most of the rest of our lives, live in a divided government, so when we disagree with the administration or the administration disagrees with us, is the notion, well, we just won't pay them anymore because it will make a good sound bite or theoretically help us raise money because it sells well at home. However, it doesn't do anything for our constituents.

The reality is, public servants who are doing their jobs and carrying out the policy of the administration they serve should be commended, not demonized. Our government is dependent on being able to attract the best talent to bring their skills to public service.

Despite what has been said, the fact of the matter is, some of the best and brightest out there sacrifice to go back to public service or stay with it when they could do much better in the private sector. Who is going to be willing to do that if their names are dragged in the political mud because someone disagrees with them?

The Secretary is a dedicated public servant. This is not how we solve policy differences. We shouldn't make this personal. We can disagree without being disagreeable. I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, how much time do I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Georgia has 2 minutes and 15 seconds remaining.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, deserving a taxpayer-funded paycheck is about job performance, not about personalities or identity politics. Let's all recall that Pete Buttigieg was formerly a mayor and was well known as "Pothole Pete" for not repairing all the potholes in the roads in the town that he served. I assure you; this is about defunding his paycheck to \$1, which I think is \$1 too high for a Secretary of Transportation who is failing the American people when it comes to transportation.

While implementing his tyrannical climate agenda through his office and preaching for the government to curb carbon emissions, Pete Buttigieg has reportedly taken at least 18 taxpayer-funded flights on private jets managed by the FAA.

One of these flights was taken to receive an award from a Canadian gay rights organization for advancing LGBTQ rights. American taxpayers don't want to pay for Pete Buttigieg to get awards for the way people have sex.

That is not what the Secretary of Transportation should be doing.

These fraudulent actions of Secretary Buttigieg illustrate that he is not to be trusted in leading our Department of Transportation. While Secretary Buttigieg was taking taxpayer-funded, carbon-emitting private jets to receive LGBTQ awards, he failed to serve the Americans in East Palestine who were devastated by the train derailment and chemical spill earlier this year.

In response to why he hadn't visited the community, he stated that he would visit when the time is right. It turns out, the time was only right after President Trump visited, brought thousands of bottles of water, and pressured Secretary Buttigieg into visiting and maybe doing his job. It took our Secretary of Transportation almost 3 weeks to visit after this unbelievable toxic catastrophe.

Furthermore, under his watch as Secretary, the FAA was forced to order a ground stop for all air traffic in the U.S. due to a system outage. This was the first time in history the NOTAM system has ever failed, and it was the first time since 9/11.

Mr. Chair, my time has expired, and I urge my colleagues to vote for my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Gee, Mr. Chairman, I thought you were just pounding the gavel to break the monotony, but I appreciate that.

I have to be honest, Mr. Chairman, I am not sure whether this argument is worthy of the dignity of this House, that people who take the highest level of government function, Cabinet-level positions—and again you can disagree with them, Mr. Chairman, all you want, but to make this so personal and to take their orientation to task because you personally don't like the other people or their orientation, when it is absolutely none of your business, where has the Republican Party gone?

How has it gone from a party that said: We are going to let people live their lives; we are not going to intrude on them at all; we are going to let them live personally, and the worst thing government can do is inflict their own beliefs upon them?

That is exactly what the toxic atmosphere of language like we just heard is all about. It is not what we are as a country. Part of that personal freedom extends to everyone, even if they happen to be Secretary of Transportation.

Mr. Chair, I apologize to the Secretary and all the public servants who have to go through this disgraceful kind of treatment.

Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment. It is not worthy of this body. I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment No. 55 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 56 OFFERED BY MS. GREENE OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 56 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the Climate Change Center of the Department of Transportation.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, my amendment prohibits funding for the Climate Change Center at the Department of Transportation. This Center has recently been reinstated and expanded under the Biden administration to meet the DOT's goals in responding to the climate crisis.

The Climate Change Center creates comprehensive and multimodal approaches to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gases and to improve the resilience of the transportation system to climate change impacts. This Center announces and promotes woke grant programs that gives U.S. taxpayers' hard-earned dollars to woke universities and nonprofits to research the decarbonization of the transportation sector and to address adverse environmental impacts created by the transportation system.

Never forget, the goal of the Democrats is to take away every single gas and diesel engine, every single combustion engine, and force Americans to drive electric vehicles if they can afford them. While they claim they care about the climate and the environment, they do not care about toxic batteries and where they will be disposed, but they want to use unlimited taxpayer funds to address a climate crisis that does not exist because the climate has always changed. It is not something new.

This Center also works with DOT agencies to implement climate change criteria for grant programs, to devise climate training programs and to facilitate climate change education campaigns for its 50,000 employees across the Department.

For example, the Center is working with the Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to deliver climate information and support to transportation planners and stakeholders to enhance the safety, effectiveness, equity, and resilience of the U.S. transportation infrastructure. These climate educational training programs are for the

USDOT employees to develop a standard of language for use in performance plans for staff engaged in climate change activities.

The entire Center is a complete abuse of U.S. taxpayer dollars and should be defunded immediately.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, my friends across the aisle can turn a blind eye to the wildfires, smoke-covered skies, life-threatening heat waves and extreme weather we now face nearly every day somewhere in this Nation.

We have seen the impacts of climate change in real time, and yet this amendment would hamstring our ability to meaningfully address the accelerating threat of climate change. Ignoring climate change in our approach to the transportation sector would be particularly egregious and irresponsible. It is, quite frankly, not an option.

Our transportation infrastructure is responsible for more greenhouse emissions than any other sector of our economy. This means that our approach to transportation investment can and must be one of the biggest parts of the solution.

Climate change also makes our roads, bridges, railways, and public transit more vulnerable to damage from extreme weather. We have to recognize our climate reality in order to make our infrastructure more resilient and less costly. Instead of rebuilding the same old infrastructure after disaster, we should be investing in climate-conscious, cost-effective solutions that ensure we build back stronger in order to equip our infrastructure to withstand the test of time and future disasters.

This is a matter of practicality, risk mitigation, and human safety. It also presents a tremendous opportunity to boost our economy by investing in new technologies and creating new jobs.

The Department's Climate Change Center is the agency's hub for research, policy analysis, partnerships, and action on climate change. I suppose some of my Republican colleagues are targeting it because they don't believe climate change is real and, unfortunately, we cannot have a productive debate when one side chooses to ignore scientific evidence and consensus.

Mr. Chairman, it is the functional equivalent of standing in the middle of an expressway, closing one's eyes, and saying there are no trucks. Trucks are coming. This is disheartening and puts our future at great risk.

I wholeheartedly support the Department of Transportation's efforts to create comprehensive approaches to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gases and improve the resilience of the transportation system. I believe the

American people support the cost savings, clean air, new jobs, and healthy environmental future that will come with working to achieve our climate goals.

Mr. Chair, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1800

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, the DOT Climate Change Center is nothing more than an extension of the Green New Deal and just another waste of hard-earned taxpayer money to enforce the Green New Deal, forcing Americans to be transitioned over to electric vehicles, which they do not want.

I thought this was the land of freedom. I thought this was the land where Americans can pick and choose what they would like to buy and what they do not want to buy.

The Green New Deal and the Democrats' willingness to use the government to force Americans against their will to transition over to electric vehicles is nothing more than tyranny.

Here is an example of what comes out of this Climate Change Center—the Biden-Harris administration making \$100 million available to improve EV charger reliability. That was announced on September 13, 2023.

Here is a perfect example about how the Climate Change Center is being used to force Americans to drive electric vehicles, which is their goal the entire time.

The Federal Government's role is not to change how people spend their dollars and what they choose to buy for transportation.

The Federal Government's role, especially when it comes to the Department of Transportation, should be making sure that our roads are drivable and that our bridges are in good condition.

By the way, electric vehicles are heavy. That would put an undue burden on our bridges and on our roads. This is what they should be focused on, not the lie that, all of a sudden, climate change is real.

We have had tornadoes since the beginning of time. We have had earthquakes since the beginning of time. We have had hurricanes since the beginning of time.

This is not a new change in weather patterns. It is not a climate crisis. It is just called weather, and it has to do with seasons.

Another thing. The Biden administration has no right to lie to the American people and make the American people fund their lies.

Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Georgia has 30 seconds remaining.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, stating the obvious, that the Department of Transportation's only purpose is to make sure that our roads and our rail systems are safe. The underlying bill, as proposed, dramatically reduces all the funds that do that and makes our rail systems and our highway systems far less safe.

To say that in the middle of a discussion on an amendment that has nothing to do with that is ridiculous, and it is a further reason I ask my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

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

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, again, my amendment prohibits funds from being used for the Department of Transportation Climate Change Center because it is a complete waste of taxpayer money.

We are over \$33 trillion in debt, Mr. Chair. The American people cannot afford their money to be wasted and spent on lies.

We need the Federal Government to spend the Americans' hard-earned taxpayer dollars on good roads, good bridges, and good infrastructure.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 57 OFFERED BY MS. HAGEMAN

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. MOYLAN). It is now in order to consider amendment No. 57 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program established under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of my amendment No. 57 to H.R. 4820, which would prevent DOT from carrying out the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program.

The Biden administration's stated goal for this latest government boondoggle is to utilize taxpayer funding to strategically deploy electric vehicle charging stations across America.

Not only is such an endeavor not the Federal Government's responsibility, but this program also doesn't work, won't work, and will end up wasting massive amounts of Federal money.

You need no further evidence than Secretary Granholm's recent experience of trying to take an electric vehicle out for a spin, a trip that ended in disaster and confirmed that EVs are overpriced, unreliable, and infeasible without massive Federal subsidies.

Mr. Chairman, the Biden administration through this policy and others that were buried in the so-called Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is attempting to use taxpayer money to implement the Green New Deal, a pie-in-the-sky idea that is not only destined to fail but will waste massive amounts of money and further impoverish American citizens.

The Biden administration is pursuing such boondoggles despite the fact that we are already facing out-of-control inflation, increasing energy costs, and bone-crushing grocery bills, all because of Bidenomics, all because this administration is economically illiterate and obsessed with furthering the agenda of the U.N. and the World Economic Forum.

My fellow Wyoming citizens and Americans as a whole are more concerned with the prospects of heating their homes, putting food on the table, and taking care of their families.

Yet, what is the Biden administration focused on? Banning the internal combustion engine and forcing everyone into electric vehicles that won't work effectively in the vast majority of the country.

My amendment is designed to stop the Biden administration from continuing its wasteful and profligate spending on projects that do not provide a benefit to the American public.

Mr. Chair, I urge my fellow Members to support this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL).

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Chair, I rise with a great deal of respect for my colleague but in opposition to this amendment, which seeks to cut funding from the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program.

Here is the reality. The world is moving to alternative transportation. It is not all going to be electric vehicles. It could be hydrogen. It will be others.

Right now, electric vehicles are the future of transportation in this country and in the world, and we are competing in a global marketplace.

As we continue to invest in this EV transition, it is critical that we get the charging infrastructure right. We must do everything within our power to keep America competitive, to make it easier for consumers to make this transition, and that is what this program does.

It plays a vital role in expanding our charging infrastructure, alleviating fears, and creating an interconnected

network that everybody has access to, not just those that have access to expensive chargers.

The National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program provides funding to States to deploy EV charging infrastructure and establishes networks that make them more accessible.

Let's work together to expand EV charging accessibility and invest in American-made EV chargers. We must support and advance through development the production and distribution and the infrastructure nationwide.

To meet these goals, we have to get serious. We have to roll up our sleeves and get to work. Defunding these programs is not how we should be legislating.

To ensure that we have a competitive future and that we are competing in a global marketplace with other countries and their manufacturers, I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Rather than supporting our domestic energy production and investing in much-needed roadway infrastructure projects, the Biden administration has opted to continue skewing the definition of infrastructure to pursue its electric vehicle and renewable energy subsidy programs.

The Biden administration, in other words, continues to do the bidding of the Chinese Communist Party and the richest among us who can afford electric vehicles while leaving everyday Americans behind.

Let me be clear. This technology that DOT is pursuing and implementing has a track record chock full of failure, particularly within my State as the freezing temperatures wreak havoc on batteries while also severely limiting the range of these vehicles.

We have story after story of electric vehicles being limited to less than 100 miles in range as they are driven over our high mountain passes in freezing temperatures.

This effort to force everyone into electric vehicles is not only wrong-headed and not within the purview of DOT but downright dangerous.

It is also important to note that under this program, State recipients are expected to construct vehicle charging stations within 50 miles of each other on major highways.

This requirement alone is not feasible when confronted with the reality of Wyoming's vast rural terrain and wide-open spaces.

There are 80,000 vehicles a day that drive across I-80 in Wyoming. I-80 is the most important commercial transportation link from the East to the West Coast, and in Wyoming it varies in elevation from 4,000 feet to 8,000 feet. Electric passenger cars and electric 18-wheelers are simply not feasible in Wyoming.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Chair, let me be clear. This is yet another attempt by the Biden administration to force us to transition to an electric future, whatever that may mean.

It can only do so if it uses our money to artificially prop up the electric vehicle industry that could otherwise never survive in a free market system, at least not in its current space.

Mr. Chairman, it is past time for this administration to halt its wasteful allocation of billions of hard-earned taxpayer money on the infrastructure that is destined to fail.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 58 OFFERED BY MS. HAGEMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 58 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for remote work arrangements within the Department of Transportation.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in favor of my amendment No. 58, which would prohibit the Department of Transportation from funding remote work agreements.

The DOT defines its telework agreements where an employee performs work away from the typical office location and is not expected to report to the agency official work site on a frequent, regular, or recurring basis.

Mr. Chairman, as I have stood in this Chamber and said before on numerous occasions, it is time for our Federal Government employees to return to work.

Under the panic related to COVID-19, we watched as our Federal agency buildings occupancy dwindled to almost nothing. What was the consequence? A substantial reduction in

the timely provision of Federal services to the citizens of this country.

It should not come as a surprise to anyone that when our Federal employees don't show up for work, the work of the Federal Government doesn't get done.

Now, some may say that is okay, but what it means in practice is that our tax refunds are not timely processed, our passport office effectively shuts down, creating enormous backlogs for this important service, and our veterans suffer.

I have now filed several of these let's make our government employees return to work amendments to other appropriations bills. This is a priority of the Republican Members of the 118th Congress and a priority of mine.

I know how hard our miners, farmers, ranchers, waitresses, nurses, construction contractors, home builders, grocery store clerks, and others in the private sector work.

They didn't have the luxury of working from home, COVID or no COVID. They have powered our economy over the last couple of years, and we owe them a debt of gratitude. We also should have enough respect for them to demand that the people who earn a paycheck because of their tax dollars actually show up for work.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, again, this is a very similar amendment to what has been considered before. Those agreements addressed in this amendment, where they exist, have been negotiated by OMB, labor unions, and management and have been in place under Republican and Democratic administrations.

Again, this kind of sweeping prohibition, which fails to consider or address circumstances under which remote work arrangements may be beneficial to the taxpayer or a necessary accommodation for an employee, is not a serious approach to policymaking.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote "no," and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1815

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Chair, in pursuing the policy of requiring our Federal employees to work in our Federal offices, I have always been cognizant of the outlier situations whereby someone will need to work remotely. I am not opposed to such flexibility, although that flexibility has now become the rule.

I have left untouched the ad hoc telework programs for these various agencies because we never know when an emergency or unexpected situation will arise. Such an unexpected situation, however, should not become the

norm, and our employees should be required to report to work.

We still have not yet assessed the damage the Federal Government's remote work policy has had on constituent services, congressional oversight, and Federal waste in terms of the unused office buildings and agency officials unaccounted for because they are not being monitored in their official work sites.

Even the GAO admits there is not enough information to assess the long-term impacts of remote work policies, including whether it promotes a productive work environment.

Mr. Chairman, the policy of this Republican majority has consistently been that COVID is over and Federal workers must come to work, and this amendment aims to deliver on that promise.

Unelected agency officials already believe they are unaccountable to Congress and the American people. Remote work further undermines our ability to oversee their activities and to promote providing the very best services that the Federal Government can provide to our citizens.

Mr. Chair, I urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 59 OFFERED BY MR. MASSIE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 59 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to conduct a competitive analysis of mergers.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MASSIE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my amendment, which states: None of the funds made available by this act may be used to conduct a competitive analysis when evaluating mergers.

Beginning January 1, 1989, Congress vested primary authority to review airline mergers with the U.S. Department of Justice. Since that time, the Department of Transportation has deferred to DOJ to determine whether a merger between U.S. airlines should be challenged on competition grounds.

The Department of Transportation's general counsel under President Obama described the DOT's role in airline mergers as follows: "With respect to

DOT's competition and public interest review authorities, DOT's practice has been to use its expertise with respect to the airline industry to provide the Department's views and otherwise assist the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) in DOJ's analysis of airline mergers or acquisitions."

The Department of Justice recently challenged an airline merger. This amendment doesn't have anything to do with that court case. In fact, it is well within DOJ's rights and authority to challenge mergers, but what concerns me is that the DOT's Secretary, Pete Buttigieg, expressed publicly that his Department has "generally not gotten involved in these merger cases, but that is changing today."

Between 2009 and 2016, under the Obama administration, there were nine successful airline mergers. In fact, in over 30 years, the DOT has not prevented the transfer of operating certificates for any airline merger. This begs the question: Why now?

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, let me begin by saying that the sponsor of this amendment, I believe, is on the T&I Committee, which has jurisdiction over aviation and rail. This is an amendment which would be better off being moved forward as an authorizing proposal rather than going forward as an appropriations amendment.

This amendment makes it plain as day that the Republicans are happy to put the interests of big corporations ahead of protecting the American people from corporate greed that increases costs, reduces quality of service, and limits options. Specifically, it prohibits any funds for conducting a competitive analysis of mergers, which raises concerning implications for both airlines and rail.

The Department of Transportation is required by law to certify to Congress that an approved airline merger is in the public interest and provide an analysis of the effects of the merger on competition in the domestic airline industry. Congress itself has set forth in law a list of factors that are considered in the public interest, which includes several related to competition.

Yet, this amendment would prohibit the Department of Transportation from complying with that requirement and from even conducting an analysis or considering factors Congress has specifically identified as important, shirking all responsibility to the public interest.

At the same time, this broad amendment would implicate all T-HUD agencies, also impacting competition in the rail industry and our understanding of competition in the housing market.

The Surface Transportation Board has authority over railroad corporate

mergers and acquisitions and similarly may approve such mergers only when it finds them to be in the public interest. This requires evidence that the proposed merger will affirmatively enhance competition, efficiency, and quality of service.

This amendment ties the hands of the agency with exclusive merger jurisdiction involving railroads, even as the number of Class 1 railroads has fallen from 40 to 6 since 1980.

Further, the Department of Housing and Urban Development would be prevented from conducting any competition-related analyses to inform our understanding of rental markets, even as Americans face rising rents and corporate landlords are caught price-fixing.

Competition is critical to protecting consumers from corporate greed and fostering a flourishing market economy, something we should all fight for.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to reject this misguided amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA), my friend across the aisle, the ranking member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Administrative State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of Mr. MASSIE's amendment, which prohibits the Department of Transportation from expediting funds to conduct competitive analyses of mergers.

In 1989, Congress transferred authority to review airline mergers to the Department of Justice. Mr. Chair, 35 years of DOT policy is clear. DOJ has the lead role in reviewing proposed airline mergers, given its statutory authority to enforce the antitrust laws. This is consistent with Congress' determination that the deregulated airline industry should generally be subject to the same application of antitrust laws as other unregulated industries.

I must say that as ranking member of the Administrative State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust Subcommittee, I am committed to protecting consumers, competition, and innovation. Before the DOT moves ahead with this new, unprecedented approach, we must take time to evaluate the merits of this policy. This amendment will grant us time to do just that.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire as to how much time I have remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Kentucky has 1½ minutes remaining.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD), my colleague.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chair, I rise in support of this amendment. Let me reiterate the point that was just made that this is such a break from the norm in the evaluation of these antitrust analyses going forward. DOJ has had that responsibility.

I particularly thank the gentleman for really staying on top of this. This is clearly an overreach by the Biden administration, and I thank the gentleman for that.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I am not sure how to phrase this, but I would ask the sponsor of this amendment, through the Chair, a question.

I believe he referred to the Secretary of Transportation's name. I wasn't sure I heard that correctly. If the Chair could ask that the sponsor repeat what he referred to the Secretary of Transportation. Acoustics aren't always great here, so I want to make sure I got it right.

The Acting CHAIR. Does the gentleman yield?

Mr. QUIGLEY. Yes, well, I would reserve the balance of my time, and I would ask the question through the Chair.

The Acting CHAIR. Does the gentleman reserve?

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I am prepared to close, but I would still like to make sure I heard what I thought I heard.

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

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized and has the right to close.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I assume that the answer is that the sponsor doesn't want to repeat what he may have said. I just didn't hear it.

At this point, I am prepared to close, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chair, as a member of the Transportation Committee, I had the honor to question Secretary Buttigieg on whether he had this authority and what metrics he would use to exercise this authority.

It was obvious that they don't have any experience in the DOT to review these mergers because they haven't done it. It is for that reason that I urge adoption of this amendment. We don't need redundancy among the Departments. We need an all-of-government approach, and that is what this amendment seeks to do.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of this bipartisan amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MASSIE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by

the gentleman from Kentucky will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 60 OFFERED BY MR. MASSIE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 60 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement section 24220 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (49 U.S.C. 30111 note).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MASSIE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of my amendment, which states: "None of the funds made available by this act may be used to implement section 24220 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act."

My amendment is simple. It will defund the Federal mandate that requires all new vehicles after 2026 be equipped with a kill switch that can disable a vehicle if the vehicle has monitored the driver's performance and the vehicle determines that the driver is not performing well.

It is so incredible that I have to offer this amendment. It almost sounds like the domain of science fiction, dystopian science fiction, that the Federal Government would put a kill switch in vehicles that would be the judge, the jury, and the executioner on such a fundamental right as the right to travel freely, but here we are.

It is Federal law that this is mandated, and so I am offering this amendment to defund this mandate.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the ranking member of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

□ 1830

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

Let me be clear. The act that the gentleman is trying to defund does not require auto manufacturers to install kill switches. It does not do that.

Passive drunk driving technology is a vital tool in safeguarding our loved ones and other innocent people on our roads. This new technology offers a lifeline of hope to not only save lives

but to prevent the lifelong emotional toll and gargantuan costs these accidents inflict on families.

Deadly drunk driving accidents can echo across generations, but we can seize this opportunity to stop such tragedies.

Between 2019 and 2021, Florida saw a 31 percent increase in drunk driving crashes. In Mr. MASSIE's home State of Kentucky, 190 people were killed in drunk driving crashes in 2021 alone. That was a 26 percent increase.

When we saw these grim statistics, we acted in a bipartisan fashion in Congress. How often do we see that? Both Republicans and Democrats supported the HALT Act to require auto manufacturers to make this passive technology standard in new vehicles.

The sponsor of this misguided amendment will tell you that he worries about privacy concerns. We heard the same inane calls with seat belt requirements.

You don't have a right to engage in potentially fatal behavior that we know poses a major health threat to public safety.

Passive drunk driving technology is pro-police. This anti-drunk driving technology lightens the load on police officers, allowing them to focus on more pressing safety concerns.

The importance of this technology goes far beyond statistics. It is about saving lives, preventing heartbreak, and making our roads safer. It is a passionate call to action to prevent alcohol-impaired driving from shattering the lives of those we hold dear.

This amendment, I understand, was dubbed the kill switch amendment, and it does not require a kill switch. It simply requires passive technology to help us prevent drunk driving.

In the name of the 406 people who were killed by a drunk driver in my own State of Florida last year alone, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment. Let's take steps to reduce deaths due to drunk driving, not increase them.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chair, drunk driving is a serious problem. That is why 31 States already have a law to implement interlock ignition technology where if you have been convicted of a DUI that you have to pass this test in order to operate your vehicle. This Federal law that I seek to defund goes far beyond that, and I regret that I have to spend some of my time reading the law to the other side of the aisle, but I will do that.

This law that was passed in a 1,000-page bill 2 years ago requires that automobiles can passively monitor the performance of a driver—not the blood alcohol content, but the performance of a driver of a motor vehicle—to accurately identify whether that driver may be impaired—not drunk; it says impaired—and prevent or limit motor vehicle operation. That is a kill switch.

Now, the question is how much time do you have once your dashboard tells you that it doesn't approve of your

driving? What if you are a single mother and you're out in bad weather and you're trying to avoid some obstacles, ice perhaps, and you have swerved three times and your dashboard says swerve one more time and you are going to be put over to the side of the road, that you will have 100 yards to park this vehicle in the middle of nowhere with your children in the back seat?

This isn't some fantastical scenario. This is what will happen if this is implemented. This is the law. I have read it to you here.

Now, you maybe should have read it 2 years ago when you all voted for it on that side of the aisle, but it was in a bill that was 1,039 pages long. I can understand how you don't know what the law has in it, but I have read it to you.

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

The Acting CHAIR. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chair, more than 10,000 people die every year from drunk driving crashes. Drunk drivers are seven times more likely to be involved in a fatal crash than a sober person.

You would think that the Republicans would want to do something about it. Democrats have done something about it and said that NHTSA now will have drunk driver prevention technology.

This technology has the potential of saving thousands of lives, and I don't see that you are agreeing that we should be saving those lives. I would say we should all vote against the drunk driver protection act.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to how much time I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Kentucky has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chair, we actually don't know how this technology is going to work. They don't know over at the DOT either, because we have sent a letter to them, that they haven't responded to yet, asking them: Will this have cameras inside the car? Will it monitor your eyes to see if you are focused on the road? Will it have cameras on the outside of the car?

How will it know what your performance is relative to the road that you are driving on, if it doesn't, in fact, know which road you are driving on? Will it need to know where you are when you are driving? If so, who has access to this data? Who has access to those cameras?

Will the Fourth Amendment be followed? Will you require a warrant for your insurance company to access this data? Will you require a warrant for the government to access this data? Once your car has been disabled and now you are on the side of the road

with your children in it, for reasons you don't understand, how long until the police show up? What if you truly are disabled and you are over to the side of the road, does anybody show up?

How long do you have to get out of the vehicle? Who decides when your vehicle kill switch is disabled and you get to drive again? Who is going to adjudicate that on the side of the road? What if it is rush-hour traffic? What if you know you have already got points against you, according to your dashboard, and it has monitored your performance and now somebody's pet is in the road? Do you swerve to miss it and get your car disabled?

What if there is an emergency vehicle approaching from behind you and you know the right thing is to swerve off the road and let that vehicle pass? What if after you have done that three times and now your car says do it one more time and we are going to leave you on the side of the road?

This is in the law. This will become law in 2026, every vehicle manufactured after that. It is not about drunk driving. If it were, it would just be about blood alcohol content.

This law has far more than that in it. It violates the Fourth Amendment. It violates so many amendments. It violates things that are so fundamental to our rights that they are not even in the Constitution, like the right to travel.

Mr. Chair, I urge support of this amendment. It will defund the law that was passed 2 years ago that the other side of the aisle doesn't even know exists.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL).

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

This amendment seeks to prohibit funding for the implementation of a bill known as the Honoring the Abbas Family Legacy to Terminate (HALT) Drunk Driving Act. I wrote it. I am the sponsor.

The HALT Drunk Driving Act honors the Abbas family from Michigan who were tragically killed in a car accident by a drunk driver. It requires NHTSA to do a rulemaking to create rules for impaired driving prevention technology in new vehicles to stop these tragedies from continuing to occur.

Thirty-seven alcohol-impaired driving deaths happen every day, equivalent to a death every 39 minutes. Studies show that the HALT Act would save over 10,000 lives annually. Our constituents agree. We need to stop drunk driving by making impairment prevention technology standard in new vehicles. If the technology exists to prevent drunk driving, why wouldn't we consider it?

Let me close by saying this amendment and the sponsor mischaracterized what the HALT Act is. It does not mandate kill switches or allow data collection that invades vehicle occupants' privacy. I protect data privacy

in vehicles probably more than the sponsor of this does. That is ridiculous. It doesn't monitor how you drive.

This amendment is an insult to every American who has been hurt or lost loved ones to drunk driving, including the Abbas family. Let's honor the memory of those affected by drunk driving.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to how much time I have remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois has 30 seconds remaining.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, let me close by saying this. I gave the gentleman from Kentucky an opportunity to clarify his pronunciation of Secretary Buttigieg's name. I have the belief that he purposely mispronounced it to disrespect him. If he wants to correct that by correctly pronouncing it, I would yield the time to him.

As they say, it speaks for itself.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MASSIE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kentucky will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 61 OFFERED BY MR. MCCORMICK

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No 61 printed in part B of House Report 118–261.

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Chair, I rise to offer my amendment No. 61 to H.R. 4820, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2024.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement, enforce, or otherwise carry out the following:

(1) Executive Order 14037 (relating to strengthening American leadership in clean cars and trucks).

(2) Executive Order 14057 (relating to catalyzing clean energy industries and jobs through federal sustainability).

(3) Executive Order 14096 (relating to revitalizing our Nation's commitment to environmental justice for all).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. MCCORMICK) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Chair, my amendment would prohibit funds from this act from implementing President Biden's burdensome and misguided Executive Orders 14037, 14057, and 14096.

Executive Orders 14037 and 14057 set the following goals for the Biden administration's out-of-touch energy policy regulations: 100 percent of the electricity of the U.S. to be carbon pollution free by 2030 on a net annual basis; 100 percent of vehicles purchased by the government to be zero emissions by 2035; and that 50 percent of all new passenger cars and light trucks in the United States be electric vehicles by 2030.

These economically harmful goals represent Democrats' desire for central government planning that is not driven by public demand but by bureaucrats deciding what they think is best for our diverse, vibrant Nation of over 330 million people.

A prime example of Democratic failed policy initiatives is the story of the electric bus manufacturer, Proterra, a company that received extremely high praise from President Biden, as well as other administration officials.

According to President Biden, Proterra was getting us in the game for sustainable transportation. Well, after receiving millions upon millions of dollars in Federal Government funding, on August 7 of this year, Proterra filed for bankruptcy—this is not the first time this thing has happened where a government-subsidized company has gone bankrupt—citing a multitude of reasons, including the 9-figure debt. That does not sound sustainable to me.

Almost 2 years ago, the Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said that America should purchase electric vehicles so that they won't have to worry about gas prices again. Instead, they will have to worry about supply-chain disruptions and critical mineral sourcing, not to mention the cost of these vehicles.

Now, I don't know about the average American, but I guarantee you they don't spend an extra \$17,000 per year on gas. The average cost of an electric vehicle is over \$60,000 and on average costs \$17,000 more than a gas vehicle. This does not take into account if the battery goes bad. It will, and it costs about \$17,000 to replace that, too, which means people are going to be relying on the government for more subsidies.

These types of statements show just how out of touch the leftwing officials in the Biden administration can be. Switching to electric vehicles, or whatever future technology, must come naturally through free-market forces. Mandating a change is building an entire vehicle market on an expensive house of cards, and it will eventually come crashing down, just like Proterra.

Just as concerning is Executive Order 14096 and its crusade for so-called environmental justice. Mr. Chair, instead of simply declaring what is true and promoting environmental conservation, which most people would agree is a good thing, the Biden administration makes this about cultural

Marxism, oppressor versus the oppressed. This is toxic rhetoric.

Instead of tackling economic hardships facing Americans, the fentanyl crisis in our communities, the crisis along the southern border, and multiple crises overseas, the Biden administration is creating a narrative that fits their dark view of American history and executive policy that negatively affects Americans.

□ 1845

Everyone wants clean air, safe water, and access to the outdoors for all. Let's not make this about something it is not.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, we simply oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Chairman, Congress should not allow valuable taxpayer dollars to fund these executive orders that do nothing to help the American people.

Those demanding EV vehicles know the impoverished cannot afford them, which will cause even more dependence on government. That is the built-in harassment package that liberals have created—regulate people into dependence on government so they must vote for bigger government that can never be paid for but will forever be empowered over those who would otherwise be free to live the full measure of the American Dream.

Mr. Chairman, ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this commonsense amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. MCCORMICK).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 62 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 62 printed in part B of House Report 118–261.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, as the designee of Mr. NEHLS, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. The salary of Ann E. Carlson, Acting Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would reduce the salary of

Ann Carlson, who is the acting administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, to \$1.

While we abhor her radical climate change agenda, questionable ethics investigation, and overall policy decisions, the reason for my amendment is because Ms. Carlson is serving as acting administrator after she failed to clear the Senate confirmation process for the position.

In March of 2023, the Biden administration submitted Ms. Carlson's nomination for the National Highway Traffic Safety administrator. Before the Senate could vote on her nomination and after Senator CRUZ led an effective opposition, the White House pulled her nomination once it was obvious that she was not going to be confirmed.

After the Senate effectively rejected her nomination, the White House nominated her to that same role as an acting official anyway, circumventing the Advice and Consent clause in the United States Constitution on Presidential nominations.

I view this as a constitutional overreach and a violation of the Federal Vacancy Reform Act, and so do our counterparts in the Senate.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, do we really want to target dedicated public servants and threaten their livelihoods because we disagree with them?

These public servants are doing their jobs, carrying out the policy of the administration they serve. They should be commended, not demonized.

Our government is dependent on them in our ability to attract the best talent to bring their skills to public service. We shouldn't be penalizing public servants who are representing the administration they serve based on these policy disagreements.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chairman, in September of this year, 13 Republican Commerce Committee Senators sent a letter to President Biden urging him to immediately replace Ms. Carlson and appoint a new nominee.

The letter highlights that since Ms. Carlson's nomination is a violation of the Federal Vacancy Reform Act, all the agency's actions while she has held herself out as acting administrator should be voided.

This is an unacceptable situation for the Department of Transportation. Congress represents a coequal branch of government, and this administration isn't a monarchy. Congress must hold this administration accountable, and I urge all Members to vote for my amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 63 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 63 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, as the designee of Mr. NEHLS from Texas, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the Electric or Low-Emitting Ferry Pilot Program established under section 71102 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would prohibit funds being made available for the Federal Transit Administration's Electric or Low-Emitting Ferry Pilot Program.

This \$250 million program simply serves to further Joe Biden's radical climate change agenda and fund Green New Deal pet projects to support coastal elitists in blue States.

As an example, the San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority received \$3.4 million to construct a new zero-emissions ferry. The Casco Bay Island Transit in Portland, Maine, received \$3.6 million to replace a passenger ferry with a new ferry equipped with a diesel hybrid propulsion system. The Kitsap Transit in Kitsap County, Washington, received \$7.7 million to replace a diesel vessel with a new, environmentally friendly battery-electric passenger-only ferry and necessary charging infrastructure.

Mr. Chairman, I could go on and on. This is not the taxpayers' burden to bear these individual pet projects that I just named.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, my colleague is already trying to undo the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which

included funding to improve and expand ferry service in rural and urban communities across the country.

These funds allow places like Georgia, Representative BUDDY CARTER's district, to acquire ferries and install charging stations to build on the innovation necessary to protect our waterways, reduce costs, and lower emissions.

These projects allow communities to work within and across States where waterways are shared and there are mutual benefits to advance technology. These funds also support the use of alternative fuels, which include, but is not limited to natural gas, hydrogen, and electricity.

Innovation should be championed by the Federal Government rather than discouraged, and our industry partners should be able to trust that we will stand behind bipartisan goals to create this pilot.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chairman, those words are just another banner of pet projects. This is what the public is sick and tired of in this country, especially when we are \$33 trillion in debt.

Overall, ferries play a minor role in the United States transportation system, providing roughly 1 percent of the public transportation trips in 2019—1 percent. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act more than tripled the annual dedicated ferry funding, setting aside \$2.3 billion, with a b, for ferry funding.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote for this amendment, stop this boondoggle, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 64 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 64 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. The salary of Julia Gordon, Assistant Secretary for Housing and the Federal Housing Commissioner, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chairman, my amendment reduces the salary of Julia Gordon, who is the Assistant Secretary for Housing and the Federal Housing Commissioner, to \$1.

Ms. Gordon has a long history of anti-police rhetoric that makes her unfit for public office. Among other things, she retweeted an inflammatory post that described police officers as “the people killing us.”

She also suggested in a letter that she wrote—not a tweet or a retweet—that cases of police violence are not just outliers but “. . . stem from flawed and biased systems that require structural change.”

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, it can only be described as disgraceful to target dedicated public servants and threaten their livelihoods.

Our government is dependent on their skills and their dedication to the job to help this country go forward.

Ms. Gordon has been a strong advocate for and a hands-on practitioner working to expand access to homeownership and wealth building for millions seeking the American Dream.

If you have an issue with the policy, let's discuss that and not penalize her and other public servants.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chairman, in response, it is her words that are inflammatory in a day and time that is uncalled for. My view is shared by the National Sheriffs' Association, a leading law enforcement group that opposed her nomination.

Ms. Gordon also has a troubling history of denigrating her fellow Americans residing in southern States, as I do. She retweeted an article that asserted the South has rejected nearly everything that is good about this country and has become just one big nuclear waste site of extremely radicalized resentment. That is unheard of.

We should not spend another dollar on paying her salary. By the way, she makes \$158,500, and when you add all the other things with it, she is probably closer to \$200,000.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to adopt my amendment, and I yield the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. SMUCKER). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 65 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 65 printed part B of House Report 118–261.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____ . None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to consider the social cost of greenhouse gases in the development and implementation of a budget for a Federal agency, in any Federal procurement processes, or when preparing an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chairman, my amendment prohibits use of funds for the consideration of the social cost of greenhouse gases—and I don't know how they define social costs—in the development and implementation of budgets, Federal procurement, or environmental reviews.

□ 1900

President Biden is directing agencies to consider the flawed social cost of greenhouse gases in the development and implementation of budgets, the Federal procurement process, and environmental reviews.

Democrats use the social cost of greenhouse gases metrics to justify sweeping climate policies and strict regulations. This impacts everything from purchasing goods and services, conducting environmental reviews of all kinds, and levying climate penalties against private businesses.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to yet another attack on scientific consensus and on evidence-based approaches to addressing our climate reality.

This amendment would prohibit any agency funded in this bill from considering the social cost of greenhouse gases in budget formulation, procurement processes, or environmental reviews. It is an unconscionable denial of reality.

The social cost of carbon is simply an estimate, in dollars, of the economic costs or damage that will result from emitting one additional ton of greenhouse gases into the air.

Climate change has tangible and measurable economic impact on a myriad of aspects of our economy from agriculture to healthcare to infrastructure and energy use.

When heat waves, drought, or extreme storms affect crop yields, that

loss costs our economy and disrupts our food supply.

When smoke from wildfires and extreme heat or cold cause illness and death or homelessness increases due to extreme weather displacing people from their homes, that costs our healthcare and emergency service systems.

When hurricanes, flooding, and mudslides destroy critical infrastructure, supply chains are disrupted, and time and money must be spent to rebuild.

We know, beyond a doubt, that greenhouse gas emissions lead to increased atmospheric CO₂ which leads to a warming climate which leads to more extreme weather and rising sea levels.

In 2022, the cost of climate and weather disasters in the United States totaled more than \$165 billion. In every decade since the 1980s, the average annual cost of these disasters has increased substantially.

The amendment before us would prohibit agencies from considering measurable and tangible economic costs when making policy and spending decisions. It would literally prohibit accounting for reality.

This is a whole new level of climate denialism, not just a personal denial of overwhelming scientific evidence and consensus, but a sweeping prohibition on ever acknowledging and considering certain evidence that Republicans would rather ignore.

This is, of course, particularly egregious in the case of the Department of Transportation, given that our transportation infrastructure is responsible for more greenhouse gases than any other part of the economy.

I can't overstate the recklessness and cynicism of enacting a prohibition on accounting for reality into the law.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD).

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Chairman, I fully support the gentleman's amendment. In fact, in the underlying bill, we have included in section 126 a prohibition on the Department of Transportation from imposing requirements on State and local governments to prove emission reductions as a condition of receiving funds.

Nonetheless, the gentleman's amendment is even more comprehensive, which I support, because it would cover programs across this entire bill and several of the Biden executive orders that would harm our economy.

Mr. Chairman, I encourage all of our colleagues to vote “yes” on this amendment.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, as Sheriff Rutherford said, the social cost of greenhouse gases is an extremely inefficient policymaking tool that can be manipulated.

The Biden administration continues to use unproven figures to attempt to

justify its radical environmental policies that drive up the cost of every family in this country today.

Mr. Chairman, I urge adoption of my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 66 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 66 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. 435. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce the rule entitled "Equal Access in Accordance With an Individual's Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs" published by the Department of Housing and Urban Development in the Federal Register on September 21, 2016 (81 Fed. Reg. 64763).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chairman, my amendment prohibits the use of funds for the implementation of the rule entitled "Equal Access in Accordance with an Individual's Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs."

My amendment defunds an Obama administration's Housing and Urban Development rule that requires equal access for individuals in accordance with their gender identity in shelter programs that are funded from HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development. This means women and young children can be housed in shelters with a male stranger simply because these men identify as women.

Mr. Chairman, think about the impact this has on residents of female-only shelters when men who claim to be women are allowed to share bathrooms and shower access.

These concerns are not hypothetical. In California, nine homeless women filed a civil complaint after a homeless shelter enabled sexual harassment because a male identifying as a female entered the shelter and showered with a woman. In Alaska, a faith-based shelter filed a lawsuit because female residents would rather sleep in the woods in extremely cold temperatures than get harassed alongside a biological male.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment which would prohibit HUD from continuing to carry out an existing rule that ensures that all individuals have equal access to many of HUD's core shelter programs in accordance with their gender identity.

I am not sure why my colleagues are so intent on targeting such a vulnerable population, but I find it unconscionable.

This amendment would do serious harm to our efforts to protect one of the most vulnerable populations, LGBTQ youth, who comprise up to 40 percent of the homeless youth population and who are 120 percent more likely to experience homelessness than non-LGBTQ youth.

These young people are at an incredibly high risk of abuse on the streets. A study by True Colors United found that among homeless transgender youth: 75 percent had been victims of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse; 25 percent had been victims of intimate partner violence; and 20 percent had been victims of sexual exploitation or trafficking.

In addition, LGBTQ youth are two to three times more likely to commit suicide. Transgender youth also have high levels of HIV/AIDS, mental health problems, and substance abuse disorders.

When these young people arrive at a shelter, they are not a safety risk to others. They are desperate for help. We should be doing everything that we can to make sure these alternatives exist to living on the streets, and then when they ask for help, they are not turned away.

Frankly, it is not that difficult to help these people who need assistance while respecting their identities.

More than 300 domestic violence and sexual violence organizations have signed a national consensus statement agreeing that it is appropriate to serve transgender women alongside other women.

This amendment is not based on the facts. In reality, transgender women are particularly vulnerable to abuse in housing systems themselves. One survey found that over one-half of transgender respondents who stayed in a shelter in the past year were verbally harassed, physically attacked, and/or were sexual assaulted because of their gender identity. We should be doing more to protect this population, not less.

To ensure continued progress toward ending youth homelessness, we cannot roll back rules that ensure basic equal access rights and protect transgender youth from discrimination and violence when seeking shelter.

This amendment would lead to increased numbers of unsheltered homeless LGBTQ youth.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chairman, it is amazing we even have to debate this. It

just shows that my friends on the opposite side of the aisle support the perpetrators of the crime rather than the victims of the crime.

Forcing women and children to share their private spaces with biological men is wrong. It is dangerous in any setting, but especially in a setting as intimate and vulnerable as a homeless shelter.

Mr. Chair, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE).

Mr. COLE. Mr. Chairman, I thank my friend for the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the fact that the safety of individuals who sleep in single-gender shelters is of the utmost importance. It doesn't mean provisions cannot be provided elsewhere for other individuals, but in this case, we need to ensure that people are both comfortable in their surroundings and are protected as they are coming out of difficult situations.

The proposal also puts burdens on religious organizations who might feel differently about gender identity than the current administration.

Mr. Chairman, I urge a "yes" vote on this amendment.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chairman, I urge adoption of the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I stand in strong opposition to this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 67 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 67 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, as the designee of the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES), I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to purchase or lease a vehicle for use by the Secretary of Transportation.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, my amendment prohibits funds from being

used to purchase or lease a vehicle for use by the Secretary of Transportation.

Two years ago, Secretary Buttigieg was gifted with a taxpayer-funded Mustang Mach-E for dedicated use. The retail value of this electric SUV was valued at more than \$40,000 and proudly assembled in Detroit, Michigan, USA, the auto capital of the world.

No. I am just kidding.

The Ford Mustang Mach-E has since been recalled for battery issues. Apparently the battery cannot handle owners flooring it. It was made in Mexico by foreign workers.

Putting aside the Secretary's own tone-deaf decision to use taxpayers' funds to purchase a not-made-in-America vehicle, Mr. Buttigieg's noted proclivity for the finer things in life apparently extended to any mode of transportation.

Mr. Chairman, I urge adoption of my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 68 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 68 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, as the designee of the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES), I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for air travel by the Secretary of Transportation other than in economy class on a commercial flight.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

□ 1915

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, if there is one thing that my colleagues, Republican or Democrat, can agree on, it is that government corruption undermines faith in our Republic, and none more than this present administration.

It would, therefore, be astounding to see or hear any Democrat attempt to justify opposition to this simple amendment that would prohibit funds for air travel by the Secretary of Transportation, or any other, in economy class on a commercial flight.

In February, we learned that the Office of Inspector General at the Department of Transportation was opening an audit into Secretary Buttigieg's extensive use of private jets. Despite the Secretary's own rhetoric on the need to

combat global warming, in the first 2 years of the Biden administration, Mr. Buttigieg took at least 18 flights using taxpayer-funded private jets.

Make no mistake, there is no excuse for Secretary Buttigieg to waste taxpayers' money on private planes when commercial options were readily available to him.

Mr. Chair, I urge passage of my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 69 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 69 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, as the designee of Mr. OGLES, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to finalize, implement, or enforce the proposed rule of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration titled "Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards for Passenger Cars and Light Trucks for Model Years 2027-2032 and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Heavy-Duty Pickup Trucks and Vans for Model Years 2030-2035", and issued on August 17, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 56128).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, access to affordable, reliable cars and trucks is critical to every facet of American life.

Instead of ensuring that Americans have access, the Biden administration has included a multifront fight against the internal combustion engine as a centerpiece of its war on American consumers.

On this front, it is the new corporate average fuel economy standards, known as CAFE, for 2027 to 2032, which ratchet fuel economy standards to require automakers to meet a fleet average of 58 miles per gallon.

You might as well put a top on a riding mower. Good luck with trying to get that kind of mileage.

Based on EPA's list of most efficient vehicles, no vehicle for model year 2023, even including the small hybrids, reaches 58 miles per gallon. A bicycle would probably be over 58 miles per gallon. There is no path to reaching a fleet average, which would include larger vehicles, that high in less than 10 years.

These standards will fail to increase actual vehicle efficiency because automakers already know that the goal is unachievable, and they won't waste their time trying to comply.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, NHTSA has issued a proposal to update fuel economy standards for passenger cars and light trucks, and that proposal is going through a public comment review period. Why would we stop that?

Fuel economy standards aren't new. These standards spur the auto industry to innovate in improving fuel economy to the benefit of consumers and the environment.

The administration's July proposal increases these standards to advance energy security, reduce carbon emissions, and save families money at the pump.

The rule is going through the rule-making process, and constituents and concerned parties can and should weigh in, but let's be clear about what improving fuel economy standards can do. This rule would save consumers more than \$50 billion on fuel over vehicles' lifetimes. It would reduce our dependence on oil, saving more than 88 billion gallons of gasoline through 2050. It would prevent more than 900 million tons of CO₂ emissions, the equivalent of taking more than 233 million vehicles off the road from 2022 through 2050.

By increasing fuel economy standards, we would be decreasing costs for Americans at the pump, which is something my colleagues claim to be so concerned about, but how dare such an improvement come with positive benefits like carbon emission reductions.

I support the administration's proposal to go through the rulemaking process to improve fuel economy standards to reduce costs for drivers, promote American energy independence, and reduce carbon emissions.

Mr. Chair, I strongly oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, this is more than just words. This is going to force American taxpayers to pay fines for falling short, which will increase the price of any new car with an internal combustion engine by thousands of dollars.

Biden has made it clear all along that his goal isn't to improve gas-powered cars but to eliminate them in favor of electric vehicles. If you talk to any car dealer, no one is buying them. Unless they had subsidies, they wouldn't be selling.

For many drivers, EVs simply aren't a viable option. They may not have a garage and may rely on street parking. They may live in an area where the electric infrastructure can't support the fast charging of an EV. They may drive long distances where, when you run out of electricity, good luck.

Mr. Chair, I urge the adoption of my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 70 OFFERED BY MR. PERRY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 70 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for transit-oriented development.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, this amendment prohibits the use of any funds in this act for so-called transit-oriented development.

Contrary to the claims of proponents of such communities, they do not increase ridership on transit lines. Rather, they just ensure taxpayers subsidize development that would likely happen anyway.

Moreover, like transit investment generally, they do not create economic growth. Instead, these communities just subsidize the growth that would likely have occurred naturally.

This is a giveaway to developers in large urban areas, as most areas do not have the population density to support these communities. It does not address the more fundamental issue plaguing our Nation's transit systems than driving down ridership, which is the problem. Doing so will only result in wasted Federal resources that would be better directed toward core highway and bridge projects.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, this amendment, which would very broadly prohibit funding for transit-oriented development, "so-called" because that is what it is called, is yet another example of vague and sweeping overreach.

Communities in all of our districts rely on flexible HUD and DOT funding to close the gap on critical housing, transportation, and community infrastructure projects. Yet, this amendment would limit a recipient's ability to locally pursue different projects to determine where and how the community wants to invest.

Cities, towns, and suburban areas may pursue transit-oriented develop-

ment, which is simply an approach to urban development that aligns housing, commercial, and transit development for a variety of reasons unique to that community.

If a community wants to pair housing and transit development to save costs, reduce traffic congestion, increase access to essential goods and services, attract businesses, or connect Americans to good jobs, the Federal Government should not prohibit them from doing so.

Mr. Chairman, I find this place amusing in that we are for States' rights until we are not. We are Federalists until we are not. Apparently, it just depends on where you stand on an issue rather than whether they really believe in local jurisdictions having control over their own destinies.

No program in the underlying bill requires that funds be used for transit-oriented development, and there is no reason to adopt a restriction that prevents the use of funds for one particular approach to urban development.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, the gentleman says that Federalism is good sometimes but not other times, and States' rights are important sometimes but not other times.

Let me be clear: We are not talking about the transit lines themselves. This is transit-oriented development.

Let me break it down for everybody here. There is a transit line running somewhere. There is not a lot of ridership on it, so we have to boost the ridership. What that means is that we are going to subsidize some developer to build housing or whatever other development adjacent to the line to hope that those people will then get on that transit line. That is what is happening here.

You know what happens next. We subsidize the development. Then, the people who get into that development take their cars to wherever they are going and don't ride on the transit line.

If you have to have transit lines, God bless you. That is awesome. If you want to ride them, God bless you. That is awesome. There is no reason whatsoever that this is a Federal requirement or a Federal nexus at all to build developments next to transit lines.

If States and localities want to do that, if they want to subsidize them, God bless them, too. They should do that, but people in Pennsylvania shouldn't be supporting transit-related development in California any more than people in California should be supporting it in Illinois. That is no Federal nexus.

If Illinois wants to do it, they should. If Pennsylvania wants to do it, they should. We shouldn't require every taxpayer in the country to pay for transit-oriented development to boost ridership on the lines that don't have any so that we can justify the lines and then build more lines without any ridership.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, let us go back to the reality of the situation. I live in a transit-oriented development. I can walk 15 seconds outside my front door, get on the Red Line, and go downtown in Chicago, and I do. Many people do.

There is a reason we encourage transit-oriented development. It actually gets more people to ride transit, which is a good thing because they are not burning gasoline, not creating more climate change. It is better for the economy. It gets people to their jobs quicker and safer. If they want to do this, and it is an option and works the way that it actually does from personal experience, great.

What I said about people being for States' rights and not being for States' rights when it is inconvenient, I am implying that this amendment does just the opposite of what my father's Republican Party used to say, which is we are not going to dictate to local governments how they should function, how they should operate. This is a page out of the opposite book, and it is a horrible idea.

Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues to oppose it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, this is an awesome idea. I am glad that the gentleman can walk 15 seconds outside his door and get on the train and, as he says, more quickly and safely get to his destination. That is great. That is good for him.

If my colleague wants to pay for that, he should. If Illinois wants to pay for that, they should. I shouldn't have to pay for it.

By the way, while my colleague is talking about quicker and safer, of course, there are no metrics to support any of that.

I have no interest in riding mass transit. My daughters get on the bus every morning, and I remind them, as they are standing up there at the bus stop in the freezing cold waiting for the bus, that I hope they enjoy their mass transit. I hope they enjoy their public transportation because it is inefficient. It is not getting them there more quickly.

Riding in America's cities on mass transit, my colleague said it is safer. It seems like crime is on the rise in every single city. It is not "seeming so," it is so. It is not safe. It is not safe here in the Nation's Capital to ride on transit. It is not quicker. It is not safer. I am providing the same metrics to prove my point that you provided to prove yours, which are none.

□ 1930

Mr. Chair, this is about federalism. This is about subsidies and boondoggles and things that we can't afford while we are \$33 trillion in debt.

If somebody wants to build, if some developer wants to build next to the transit line because they think it will

help them sell their properties in their development more quickly, they should do that. Taxpayers shouldn't be involved.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 71 OFFERED BY MR. PERRY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 71 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to finalize, implement, or enforce the notice of proposed rulemaking of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration titled "Heavy Vehicle Automatic Emergency Braking" and issued on July 6, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 43174).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, this amendment prohibits the use of funds to finalize, implement, or enforce the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's rule mandating automatic emergency braking systems on new commercial vehicles.

Isn't that wonderful, another mandate? Making the world better, making America better, making us more free, making everything more affordable, except it is not.

The IIJA, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, required the Department of Transportation to issue a mandate for heavy-duty trucks to be equipped with automatic emergency braking systems. It also required the DOT to consult with the commercial vehicle user community and address any existing deficiencies with automatic emergency braking systems before issuing its mandate.

The issue is that DOT has failed to meet both requirements, or any requirement.

There are real and legitimate concerns about false activations of the systems that remain unaddressed and must be dealt with before proceeding with any requirement.

Moreover, an integrated safety system with an automatic emergency braking system can add up to \$5,000 to the cost of a single truck. Oh, but it is always worth it. It is always worth it. We are going to be more safe if we have this stuff.

Meanwhile, we can't get anybody to drive a truck anymore. That is why we

are looking at automated trucks without drivers in them because we have depleted the truck driving industry. We have driven everybody out because they can't afford to get in or stay in.

With fleets operating on exceedingly tight margins, this mandated cost increase presents a barrier to entry for new market participants. It will also likely result in extending the life of current vehicles, causing these operators to miss out on the safety improvements of newer trucks that they won't buy.

I know it is counterintuitive, but when these rules are made, they never think about the additional cost that the truck owner or the person that wishes to buy a truck or replace a truck is going to have to incur. They just assume, well, they will just spend the extra \$5,000.

This is not where it ends. This is just one system. There are multiple systems on these new trucks and all new equipment. They just keep adding and adding.

Well, I don't understand why the cost of everything goes up. I can't figure it out. If you are on the left you can never figure those things out. It is because of you and the things that you do. That is why.

Moreover, this will likely result in an older truck fleet in the U.S., which is actually probably more dangerous because people are not going to replace trucks because they don't have the extra \$5,000. I know you think all truck drivers are made of money, but they are not.

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

The Acting CHAIR. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, according to data from NHTSA's Fatality Analysis Reporting System and Crash Report Sampling System, heavy vehicles are involved in about 77,000 crashes a year, resulting in over 500 fatalities and almost 34,000 injuries.

NHTSA estimates that the proposed rule would prevent over 16,000 crashes a year, saving over 100 lives and reducing over 8,000 nonfatal injuries annually once all vehicles covered under this rule are equipped with AEB.

The rule is going through the rulemaking process, and constituents and concerned parties can and should weigh in, but we shouldn't stop the process altogether. I support the administration's proposal to go through the rulemaking process and appreciate that NHTSA is looking into ways of making our roads safer.

Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chairman, my good friend from Illinois says that we ought to just go through the rulemaking process.

However, as I told you, there are real and legitimate concerns that have not been addressed, and that is why you go through the rulemaking process. It is not just a perfunctory, well, we asked for your input, and we got it. Now we are just going to disregard it and do what we want to anyhow, which is exactly what the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is doing, which is why we cannot fund this.

It is our government. The government serves us. It is not the other way around. It is just another example where we act like we are Oliver Twist begging for more gruel. The gruel is ours, Mr. Chairman, and we should not have to beg for it as the citizens of this country. This government belongs to us, not the other way around.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, the Keynesian economics, I guess, aside, the gruel belongs wherever the gruel belongs, but public safety belongs to everyone else. It is not just the trucking industry, it is the people who are involved in those injuries, as well. We need to be concerned about them.

The rulemaking process has existed under every American President during our lifetime. It is part of the democratic process. It should be respected. If people want to participate, fine, that is the way it should operate.

Mr. Chair, for all those reasons, I oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chairman, my colleague says that we should respect the rulemaking process. Maybe some of my colleagues here in Washington don't understand, don't recognize, won't acknowledge that this government has gotten too big, and the rulemaking process is really meant to shut out voices across America.

It is we here in Congress who should be making these rules, not unelected bureaucrats who have no accountability to the people that they impose these rules upon. It is we who should be doing this.

By the way, there were some folks who came in, they said, We oppose your amendment. We want this emergency braking system on trucks.

I said, Well, how about on your trucks?

Oh, no, no, we don't want it on our trucks. We want it on their trucks. We want it on someone else's trucks.

Everybody wants someone else to pay the freight until it comes to their doorstep, then they are not interested.

Mr. Chairman, this government is too big. This is an example of it. I urge adoption of this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 72 OFFERED BY MR. ROY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 72 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

Sec. ____ None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to implement any of the following executive orders:

(1) Executive Order 13990, relating to Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science To Tackle the Climate Crisis.

(2) Executive Order 14008, relating to Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad.

(3) Section 6 of Executive Order 14013, relating to Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs To Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change on Migration.

(4) Executive Order 14030, relating to Climate-Related Financial Risk.

(5) Executive Order 14057, relating to Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs Through Federal Sustainability.

(6) Executive Order 14082, relating to Implementation of the Energy and Infrastructure Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

(7) Executive Order 14096, relating to Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, I appreciate my friend from Pennsylvania offering the amendments that he has offered. I am offering here an amendment that I have offered to other appropriations bills affecting other agencies that would prohibit any of the funding in this bill, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development bill, from being used to carry out President Biden's executive orders on climate change.

We have had success in moving this amendment on previous appropriations bills because, frankly, it is fairly obvious to most people in the Chamber, certainly to most Americans, that these executive orders are out of step and out of touch with where the American people are. They are pushing a radical agenda that is completely devoid of recognition of what is happening in every American's life right now, that they can't afford to buy even the home they live in, much less the fuel they need for their cars, buy the car that they need, be able to afford to pursue any of the initiatives put forward in terms of solar panels and other things because we are driving up the price of energy, making it impossible for people to live their lives because we are pursuing a radical agenda.

By the way, it is making us completely dependent on China at a time when we should be decoupling from China. It is at a time that is making it where we are not holding Iran accountable, and we are actually enriching Iran right now with our energy policies.

We are not sanctioning Iran. We are allowing them to sell oil to China. We

are advancing this agenda because my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to put out this notion of climate change as being more important than the inflation that is wrecking the American family. I have had Members on the other side of the aisle testify to this in the Rules Committee. They literally have said that.

They are prioritizing this agenda over the American family today who cannot afford an automobile, cannot afford the gasoline to put in the automobile, cannot afford the energy prices in their homes, electricity, and can't even afford the houses because of what this administration has done with their policies to drive up the price of energy with a radical agenda.

In this case, Secretary Buttigieg is on a mission to overhaul the transportation sector saying, "Transportation ought to be responsible for the biggest share of the solution." DOT has established a Climate Change Center with the goal of decarbonizing the transportation sector by 2050.

In July of 2022, the Secretary said, "The more pain we are all experiencing from the high price of gas, the more benefit there is for those who can access electric vehicles." Right there is the agenda of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. Right there is the agenda of the Biden administration. They want the American people to feel pain. Those are the words of the Secretary of Transportation.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, no one remembers who Edward Everett is. He spoke for a couple hours at Gettysburg. That speaks for itself.

There really doesn't need to be much in response to those who deny that climate is an existential threat, so I will just say two lines.

According to the data collected by NASA, the past 9 years have been the warmest years since modern record-keeping began in 1880. The 10 warmest years on record in world history have all occurred since 2010 in recorded temperatures.

We have to address that reality, and the fact is, our transportation infrastructure is responsible for more greenhouse gas emissions than any other sector of our economy. It needs to do the most to reduce that threat, as well.

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

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chairman, the problem is that if you listen to our Secretary, we saw that in 2 months after he made those comments, California asked EV owners to stop charging amid a heat wave.

Secretary Granholm literally pushed aside a pregnant woman and her family from the ability to charge at a charging station in order to do a photo op.

That is what we are doing. This is all about projecting an image. It is not about the real-life impact on American families. That is the truth. For example here, one of the Secretary's appointees to DOT's Advisory Committee on Transportation Equity—don't get me started on that—has said: "All cars are bad." All cars are bad.

This is about undermining the American way of life, and the fact of the matter is, if you eliminate the internal combustion engine—by the way, the internal combustion engine that is sitting in President Biden's 1967 Corvette—which I believe is a 327; I don't think he has the 427—doesn't get exactly a great deal of really good gas mileage and, in fact, is spewing out a whole lot more carbon than the average American's vehicle. By the way, I am totally fine with that because it is a great car, a great example of American awesomeness, to be clear.

The fact is when you have got an appointee of the Committee on Transportation Equity saying, "All cars are bad," that tells you exactly what the situation is.

If you eliminate the internal combustion engine, that will do nothing when you know that China has 1,100 coal-fired plants. We have about 250, and China is building a couple coal-fired plants a week, and we think that we are going to impact CO₂ production around the world?

How about we develop nuclear power? How about we let the American people live their lives? How about we let the American people not have their lives get crushed with radical policies?

That is why this amendment should be adopted.

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

□ 1945

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, we were quoting Dickens before. There is a line in Shakespeare. I will let somebody else fill in the rest of the lines. "It is a tale . . . full of sound and fury, signifying nothing."

We are the first generation to feel the effects of climate change. We are the last generation that can do anything about it.

Mr. Chairman, I oppose this amendment and encourage my colleagues to do the same, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 73 OFFERED BY MR. SANTOS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 73 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. The salary of Polly Trottenberg, Deputy Secretary of Transportation, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Chair, flight patterns have become a silent threat to the health and well-being of Americans. One might ask: What does that have to do with this amendment?

Well, citizens of New York's metropolitan area and the continental United States are ceaselessly burdened by aircraft noise and pollution.

Residents in NY-3 have been begging elected officials like me to support mitigation efforts to give citizens plagued by ceaseless, noisy, and polluted skies a reprieve.

Taking aim at Deputy Secretary of Transportation Polly Trottenberg is not a punishment but rather a wake-up call holding her accountable for her inaction.

By reducing her salary to \$1, we send a strong message that the well-being of Americans should be the top priority, not the convenience of a select few.

Mr. Chair, the fight against harmful flight patterns doesn't end with Polly Trottenberg. We must also demand transparency, accountability, and a comprehensive review of flight patterns across the country.

It is time to put the health of our communities first and ensure that every decision made in the aviation industry reflects our values.

Let's work together in this body of Republicans and Democrats alike to make a real difference in our communities.

For years, NY-3's constituents and communities just like it have asked for help, and now I will put it in the RECORD and let it be known that a "no" vote is a vote against accountability for the people who allow millions of Americans to suffer under the arbitrary rules of the Department of Transportation, FAA, and air traffic control, to name a few agencies.

I urge adoption of my amendment to set a new tone and to have accountability for the people suffering from a lack of leadership on this segmented issue of our decaying transportation infrastructure under this administration.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, just for reference, the last statement made—this is the first administration in my lifetime that has passed a comprehensive infrastructure bill of this magnitude.

To suggest that it is going the opposite direction while supporting a bill

that guts much of that effort belies comprehension.

I sometimes wonder what people will think in the future when they ask us, dad or granddad, what did you do in Congress?

The best you can say is I cut a dedicated public servant's salary to a dollar because I disagreed with them.

Ms. Trottenberg has an extensive, 25-year-plus public sector career in all levels of government, including stepping up to serve as acting administrator for the FAA to help ensure this country and our global partners could continue to rely on the safety of our national airspace system.

We again should not be penalizing public servants who are representing the administration they serve based on policy disagreements. I can't imagine our Founding Fathers thinking this would be a good idea, but it is, I guess, the new normal.

It is no reason to support this amendment. I encourage my colleagues to oppose it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Chair, my colleague from across the aisle, he speaks with honesty, and I believe so, but I will say this: To call a public servant a bureaucrat, I think that is disingenuous, and the American people are sick and tired of us considering people who fail at their jobs continuously to continue to keep their jobs.

I think it is cutting back bad government. I think it is holding government accountable, and I think it is holding people who are inept accountable.

Ms. Trottenberg's time as FAA administrator was abysmal with very little accountability, with very little done. I stand strong that we should adopt my amendment.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, it is clearly our responsibility to hold people accountable. There are a number of ways to do that: call them to testify, question them all day long, say whatever you want in public within reason. It is quite another thing to make it so they can't do the job because you are only paying them a dollar a year. It is outside the realm, the barriers here, of what we are supposed to be about.

At some point, we went outside the norms. I have come to believe that norms are almost as important as the Constitution. You don't treat people this way.

They couldn't imagine that we would do this to each other. They had that foundation that is so critical, and the law is almost as critical.

I am starting to believe that the way we treat each other is the most important norm. If we can't act with a baseline sense of decency and respect that nobody's going to work for a dollar a year, respectfully, you are just messaging and insulting other people and disrespecting the dignity of this House.

We can and we must do better.

Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 74 OFFERED BY MR. SELF

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 74 printed in part B of House Report 118-261.

Mr. SELF. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. 435. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce the Equity Action Plan of the Department of Housing and Urban Development established pursuant to Executive Order 13985 entitled "Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 838, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SELF) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. SELF. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of my amendment, which would prohibit funds from going toward implementing, administering, or enforcing the equity action plan of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

This plan clearly violates the Federal civil rights law that has been in place since the 1960s. The intent of the Fair Housing Act is clear: to prevent "discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of dwellings based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, and disability."

In other words, individuals with the financial means to rent or purchase a home cannot be discriminated against.

Unfortunately, the executive order signed by President Biden, and the equity action plan laid out by the Department of Housing and Urban Development stretches the definition of "fair housing" far beyond the original intent of Congress.

This administration has twisted the definition of the word "equity" to mean the exact opposite of fair and impartial treatment under the law.

Equity is the administration's way of manipulating the rule of law to offer preferential treatment to various constituency groups.

Rather than addressing the merits of those in need, the administration is conjuring up groups of individuals who have been assigned a predetermined victimhood status.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, again, it has to be pointed that there is a level of being completely ridiculous that two straight White men are debating all the issues of equality and equity as if we have faced them all our lives. We can't be the judge or the jury in this country on who should be served by the Federal Government.

While we are probably not the best people to speak on the issue, let's try to make clear what I think my colleagues are really saying. What they are really saying is they don't like diversity, and they absolutely don't like inclusion. They don't want to address discrimination against people of color, LGBTQ people, people with disabilities.

They don't want to build a Nation that supports people at the greatest risk of homelessness. Not caring allows them to ignore this insurmountable problem, but it doesn't make it less real.

It is not radical to want to build a country that is welcoming to all people from different backgrounds, but they do want you to believe that our country has reckoned with its history of discrimination.

They want you to believe that these issues are things in the distant past. They are wrong. They are attempting to legislate away those who look, think, or feel differently. That is not American. That is authoritarianism.

Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SELF. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE).

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Chair, I rise today to express my deep concern about the Biden administration's equity action plan at the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

We must ensure that American tax dollars allocated to HUD are spent based on financial need and readiness, not the Democrats' divisive social justice agenda.

These equity action plans direct the department to give special attention to individuals based on their race or if they identify as transgender or gender nonconforming. These criteria have no place in providing affordable housing and ending homelessness.

Helping Americans out of homelessness or helping them to buy their first home should be based on only preparedness and creditworthiness.

Anything else does them a disservice in the long run, as evidenced by the housing collapse of 2008, which was the result of unscrupulous promotion of subprime loans.

It is a fundamental tenet of our Republic that we treat all Americans equally, regardless of their race or creed. If any American is struggling, they should have equal access to assistance.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SELF. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Montana.

Mr. ROSENDALE. The Department of Housing and Urban Development should support those who are in need and ready to receive or help—no need for equity action plans.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support Congressman SELF's amendment.

Mr. SELF. Mr. Chair, when considering the mission of this equity action plan, it becomes clear that instead of rewarding people based on their merits, the government is attempting to pick winners and losers.

This policy would negatively impact Americans by creating the potential of another housing crisis, as my good friend mentioned, and exacerbating existing problems embedded in our economy.

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, again, in a moment of self-awareness, we are a bunch of straight White guys talking about social justice.

When did a social justice agenda become a bad thing? Again, who am I to say, but weren't the leaders of the civil rights movement leading a social justice agenda?

Does anyone imagine that that notion that we read about, as you go down to the archives, toward a more perfect union, does anyone think that we have met that and that housing and transportation have to be fundamental toward the ends of that agenda that we talked about?

In the end, wasn't Lincoln saying that 87 years ago—every once in a while, we have to ask ourselves did we really mean it when we said that we were all created equal?

We have to ask ourselves that today. We still have a long way to go, and it runs through all our systems, including our transportation and our housing systems. It is not a bad word.

Someone needs to stand up to you when you do this. It is wrong. This amendment is wrong. This bill is horrible because of these things.

I oppose it, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

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

□ 2000

Mr. SELF. Mr. Chairman, let me be very clear. We are discussing an executive order here.

Mr. Chair, if this is so important, bring a bill to the floor of the House. Do not give us an executive order. It is clear that this executive action plan will be rejected by the courts because it is in violation of the 14th Amendment.

This administration is clearly attempting to hide under layers of bureaucratic red tape and, in the process, grow the administrative state and

erode the power that voters have invested in this body. This action plan is, in fact, so radical that it won the endorsement of Marxists, who openly proclaim: "Keep dismantling the organizing principle of this society."

We should not fund this initiative. It is time for Congress to do its job by directing taxpayer dollars to priorities that affect all of our constituents.

Mr. Chair, I urge the passage of my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SELF).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SELF) having assumed the chair, Mr. SMUCKER, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4820) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER IN THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2103(b), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following individual to the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress on the part of the House for a term of 6 years:

Ms. Amy Kitchener, Fresno, California

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 7455(a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy:

Mr. BISHOP, Georgia

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8468(a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy:

Mr. DELUZIO, Pennsylvania

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-79)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

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 prior to 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 this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979, is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 2023.

Our relations with Iran have not yet normalized, and the process of implementing the agreements with Iran, dated January 19, 1981, is ongoing. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12170 with respect to Iran.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, November 7, 2023.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 838 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4820.

Will the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. TIFFANY) kindly take the chair.

□ 2501

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4820) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, with Mr. TIFFANY (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, a request for a recorded vote on amendment No. 74 printed in Part B of House Report 118-261 offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SELF) had been postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in part B of House Report 118-261 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 34 by Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio.

Amendment No. 36 by Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER of Delaware.

Amendment No. 37 by Mr. GROTHMAN of Wisconsin.

Amendment No. 46 by Mr. SCHWEIKERT of Arizona.

Amendment No. 47 by Mr. SCHWEIKERT of Arizona.

Amendment No. 57 by Ms. HAGEMAN of Wyoming.

Amendment No. 59 by Mr. MASSIE of Kentucky.

Amendment No. 60 by Mr. MASSIE of Kentucky.

Amendment No. 62 by Mr. NORMAN of South Carolina.

Amendment No. 64 by Mr. NORMAN of South Carolina.

Amendment No. 66 by Mr. NORMAN of South Carolina.

Amendment No. 73 by Mr. SANTOS of New York.

Amendment No. 74 by Mr. SELF of Texas.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 34 OFFERED BY MR. DAVIDSON

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 34, printed in part B of House Report 118-261 offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 144, noes 282, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 609]

AYES—144

Aderholt	Fox	Mills
Alford	Franklin, Scott	Mooney
Allen	Fry	Moore (AL)
Armstrong	Fulcher	Moran
Arrington	Gaetz	Murphy
Babin	Gallagher	Nehls
Baird	Good (VA)	Norman
Balderson	Gooden (TX)	Obernolte
Banks	Gosar	Owens
Barr	Graves (LA)	Palmer
Bean (FL)	Graves (MO)	Pence
Bentz	Green (TN)	Perry
Bergman	Greene (GA)	Pfluger
Bice	Griffith	Posey
Biggs	Grothman	Reschenthaler
Bilirakis	Guest	Rogers (KY)
Bishop (NC)	Guthrie	Rose
Boebert	Hageman	Rosendale
Bost	Harris	Rouzer
Brecheen	Harshbarger	Roy
Buck	Hern	Santos
Burchett	Higgins (LA)	Scalise
Burgess	Houchin	Schweikert
Burlison	Hudson	Scott, Austin
Cammack	Huizenga	Self
Carl	Hunt	Sessions
Carter (GA)	Jackson (TX)	Smith (MO)
Carter (TX)	Johnson (OH)	Smucker
Cline	Jordan	Spartz
Cloud	Kelly (MS)	Stauber
Clyde	Kustoff	Stefanik
Collins	LaHood	Steube
Comer	LaMalfa	Strong
Crane	Lamborn	Tiffany
Curtis	Latta	Timmons
Davidson	Loudermilk	Van Drew
De La Cruz	Luna	Van Duyne
DesJarlais	Luttrell	Van Orden
Donalds	Malliotakis	Walberg
Duncan	Mann	Waltz
Estes	Massie	Weber (TX)
Ezell	Mast	Weststrup
Fallon	McCaul	Westerman
Ferguson	McClain	Williams (TX)
Finstad	McClintock	Wilson (SC)
Fischbach	McCormick	Wittman
Fitzgerald	Miller (IL)	Womack
Fleischmann	Miller (WV)	Yakym

NOES—282

Adams	Clarke (NY)	Frankel, Lois
Aguilar	Cleaver	Frost
Allred	Clyburn	Gallego
Amodei	Cohen	Garamendi
Auchincloss	Cole	Garbarino
Bacon	Connolly	García (IL)
Balint	Correa	García (TX)
Barragán	Costa	García, Mike
Beatty	Courtney	García, Robert
Bera	Craig	Gimenez
Beyer	Crawford	Golden (ME)
Bishop (GA)	Crenshaw	Goldman (NY)
Blumenauer	Crockett	Gomez
Blunt Rochester	Crow	Gonzales, Tony
Bonamici	Cuellar	Gonzalez,
Bowman	Davids (KS)	Vicente
Boyle (PA)	Davis (IL)	González-Colón
Brown	Davis (NC)	Gottheimer
Brownley	Dean (PA)	Granger
Buchanan	DeGette	Green, Al (TX)
Bucshon	DeLauro	Grijalva
Budzinski	DelBene	Harder (CA)
Bush	Deluzio	Hayes
Calvert	DeSaulnier	Higgins (NY)
Caraveo	Diaz-Balart	Himes
Carbajal	Dingell	Hinson
Cárdenas	Doggett	Horsford
Carey	Duarte	Houlahan
Carson	Dunn (FL)	Hoyer
Carter (LA)	Edwards	Hoyle (OR)
Cartwright	Ellzey	Huffman
Casar	Emmer	Issa
Case	Escobar	Ivey
Casten	Eshoo	Jackson (IL)
Castor (FL)	Espallat	Jackson (NC)
Castro (TX)	Evans	Jacobs
Chavez-DeRemer	Feenstra	James
Cherfilus-	Fitzpatrick	Jayapal
McCormick	Fletcher	Jeffries
Chu	Flood	Johnson (SD)
Ciscomani	Foster	Joyce (OH)
Clark (MA)	Foushee	Joyce (PA)

Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
LaLota
Landsman
Langworthy
Larson (CT)
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (OH)
Miller-Meeks
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)

NOT VOTING—12

D'Esposito
Hill
Jackson Lee
Johnson (GA)

□ 2131

Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. CAREY, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Ms. MACE changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. RESCHENTHALER, ROGERS of Kentucky, LOUDERMILK, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BARR changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 36 OFFERED BY MS. BLUNT ROCHESTER

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. STEUBE). The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 36, printed in part B of House Report 118–261 offered by the gentlewoman from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 238, noes 185, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 610]

AYES—238

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Hayes
Beatty
Hill
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bush
Tokuda
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clark (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DeBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Españillat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
García (IL)
García (TX)
García, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente

NOES—185

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr

Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson
Ivey
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Lynch
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Van Drew
Van Orden
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norton
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell

NOT VOTING—15

Costa
D'Esposito
Hudson
Jackson Lee
Johnson (GA)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2136

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 37 OFFERED BY MR. GROTHMAN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 37, printed in part B of House Report 118–261 offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 106, noes 324, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 611]

AYES—106

Alford	Fischbach	Mills
Allen	Fitzgerald	Mooney
Armstrong	Fox	Moore (AL)
Arrington	Franklin, Scott	Murphy
Babin	Fulcher	Nehls
Banks	Gaetz	Norman
Bean (FL)	Gallagher	Ogles
Bentz	Good (VA)	Palmer
Biggs	Gooden (TX)	Perry
Bishop (NC)	Gosar	Pflugger
Boebert	Green (TN)	Posey
Bost	Greene (GA)	Rose
Brecheen	Grothman	Rosendale
Buck	Hageman	Rouzer
Burchett	Harris	Roy
Burgess	Hern	Santos
Burlison	Houchin	Scalise
Cammack	Hudson	Schweikert
Carl	Huizenga	Self
Carter (GA)	Hunt	Smith (MO)
Cline	Issa	Spartz
Cloud	Jackson (TX)	Stauber
Clyde	Johnson (SD)	Stefanik
Collins	Jordan	Steube
Comer	Kelly (MS)	Strong
Crane	Lamborn	Timmons
Davidson	Loudermilk	Tiffany
DesJarlais	Luna	Van Duyn
Donalds	Luttrell	Weber (TX)
Duncan	Mace	Wenstrup
Ellzey	Massie	Westerman
Emmer	Mast	Williams (TX)
Estes	McClain	Wilson (SC)
Ezell	McClintock	Yakym
Fallon	McCormick	
Finstad	McHenry	

NOES—324

Adams	Cole	Gonzales, Tony
Aderholt	Connolly	Gonzalez, Vicente
Aguilar	Correa	González-Colón
Allred	Costa	Gottheimer
Amodei	Courtney	Granger
Auchincloss	Craig	Graves (LA)
Bacon	Crawford	Graves (MO)
Baird	Crenshaw	Green, Al (TX)
Balderson	Crockett	Griffith
Balint	Crow	Grijalva
Barr	Cuellar	Guest
Barragán	Curtis	Guthrie
Beatty	Dauids (KS)	Harder (CA)
Bera	Davis (IL)	Harshbarger
Bergman	Davis (NC)	Hayes
Beyer	De La Cruz	Higgins (LA)
Bice	Dean (PA)	Higgins (NY)
Bilirakis	DeGette	Hill
Bishop (GA)	DeLauro	Himes
Blumenauer	DelBene	Hinson
Blunt Rochester	Deluzio	Horsford
Bonamici	DeSaulnier	Houlihan
Bowman	Diaz-Balart	Hoyer
Boyle (PA)	Dingell	Hoyle (OR)
Brown	Doggett	Huffman
Brownley	Duarte	Ivey
Buchanan	Dunn (FL)	Jackson (IL)
Bucshon	Edwards	Jackson (NC)
Budzinski	Escobar	Jacobs
Bush	Eshoo	James
Calvert	Españillat	Jayapal
Caraveo	Evans	Jeffries
Carbajal	Feenstra	Johnson (GA)
Cárdenas	Ferguson	Johnson (OH)
Carey	Fitzpatrick	Joyce (OH)
Carson	Fleischmann	Joyce (PA)
Carter (LA)	Fletcher	Kamlaeger-Dove
Carter (TX)	Flood	Kaptur
Cartwright	Foster	Kean (NJ)
Casar	Foushee	Keating
Case	Frankel, Lois	Kelly (IL)
Casten	Frost	Kelly (PA)
Castor (FL)	Fry	Khanna
Castro (TX)	Gallego	Kildee
Chavez-DeRemer	Garamendi	Kiley
Cherfilus-	Garbarino	Kilmer
McCormick	Garcia (IL)	Kim (CA)
Chu	Garcia (TX)	Kim (NJ)
Ciscomani	Garcia, Mike	Krishnamoorthi
Clark (MA)	Garcia, Robert	Kuster
Clarke (NY)	Gimenez	Kustoff
Cleaver	Golden (ME)	LaHood
Clyburn	Goldman (NY)	LaLota
Cohen	Gomez	

LaMalfa	Neguse	Simpson
Landsman	Newhouse	Slotkin
Langworthy	Nickel	Smith (NE)
Larson (CT)	Norcross	Smith (NJ)
Latta	Norton	Smith (WA)
LaTurner	Obernolte	Smucker
Lawler	Ocasio-Cortez	Sorensen
Lee (CA)	Omar	Soto
Lee (FL)	Owens	Spanberger
Lee (NV)	Pallone	Stansbury
Lee (PA)	Panetta	Stanton
Leger Fernandez	Pappas	Steel
Lesko	Pascrell	Steil
Letlow	Payne	Stevens
Levin	Pelosi	Strickland
Lieu	Peltola	Swalwell
Lofgren	Pence	Sykes
Lucas	Perez	Takano
Luetkemeyer	Peters	Tenney
Lynch	Pettersen	Thanedar
Magaziner	Pingree	Thompson (CA)
Malliotakis	Plaskett	Thompson (MS)
Mann	Pocan	Thompson (PA)
Manning	Porter	Titus
Matsui	Pressley	Tlaib
McBath	Quigley	Tokuda
McCarthy	Ramirez	Tonko
McCaul	Raskin	Torres (CA)
McClellan	Reschenthaler	Torres (NY)
McCollum	Rodgers (WA)	Trahan
McGarvey	Rogers (AL)	Trone
McGovern	Rogers (KY)	Turner
Meeks	Ross	Underwood
Menendez	Ruiz	Valadao
Meng	Ruppersberger	Van Drew
Meuser	Rutherford	Van Orden
Mfume	Ryan	Vargas
Miller (IL)	Sablan	Vasquez
Miller (OH)	Salazar	Veasey
Miller (WV)	Salinas	Velazquez
Miller-Meeks	Sánchez	Wagner
Molinaro	Scarbanes	Walberg
Moelenaar	Scanlon	Waltz
Moore (UT)	Schakowsky	Wasserman
Moore (WI)	Schiff	Schultz
Moran	Schneider	Waters
Morelle	Scholten	Watson Coleman
Moskowitz	Schrier	Wexton
Moulton	Scott (VA)	Wild
Moylean	Scott, Austin	Williams (GA)
Mrvan	Scott, David	Williams (NY)
Mullin	Sessions	Wilson (FL)
Bacon	Sewell	Wittman
Napolitano	Sherman	Womack
Neal	Sherrill	Zinke

NOT VOTING—8

D'Esposito	Larsen (WA)	Radewagen
Jackson Lee	Nunn (IA)	Webster (FL)
Kiggans (VA)	Phillips	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2140

Mr. CARSON changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 46 OFFERED BY MR. SCHWEIKERT

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 46, printed in part B of House Report 118-261 offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 133, noes 295, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 612]

AYES—133

Alford	Fry	Mooney
Allen	Fulcher	Moore (AL)
Amodei	Gaetz	Moore (UT)
Armstrong	Good (VA)	Nehls
Babin	Gooden (TX)	Norman
Balderson	Gosar	Ogles
Banks	Green (TN)	Owens
Barr	Greene (GA)	Palmer
Bean (FL)	Grothman	Pence
Bentz	Guest	Perry
Biggs	Hageman	Pflugger
Bilirakis	Harris	Posey
Bishop (NC)	Harshbarger	Rogers (AL)
Boebert	Hern	Rose
Bost	Higgins (LA)	Rosendale
Brecheen	Hill	Rouzer
Buck	Houchin	Roy
Burchett	Hudson	Santos
Burgess	Huizenga	Scalise
Burlison	Hunt	Schweikert
Cammack	Jackson (TX)	Scott, Austin
Carey	Johnson (SD)	Self
Carter (GA)	Jordan	Sessions
Cline	Joyce (PA)	Smith (MO)
Cloud	Kelly (PA)	Smith (NE)
Clyde	Kustoff	Smucker
Collins	LaMalfa	Spartz
Comer	Lamborn	Steel
Crane	Lesko	Steube
Curtis	Loudermilk	Strong
Davidson	Luna	Tiffany
De La Cruz	Luttrell	Timmons
DesJarlais	Mace	Van Drew
Donalds	Mann	Van Duyn
Duncan	Massie	Waltz
Dunn (FL)	Mast	Weber (TX)
Emmer	McClain	Wenstrup
Estes	McClintock	Westerman
Fallon	McCormick	Williams (TX)
Feenstra	McHenry	Wilson (SC)
Finstad	Meuser	Wittman
Fischbach	Miller (IL)	Yakym
Fitzgerald	Miller (OH)	Zinke
Fox	Miller (WV)	
Franklin, Scott	Mills	

NOES—295

Adams	Ciscomani	Frost
Aderholt	Clark (MA)	Gallagher
Aguilar	Clarke (NY)	Gallego
Allred	Cleaver	Garamendi
Arrington	Clyburn	Garbarino
Auchincloss	Cohen	Garcia (IL)
Bacon	Cole	Garcia (TX)
Baird	Connolly	Garcia, Mike
Balint	Correa	Garcia, Robert
Barragán	Costa	Gimenez
Beatty	Courtney	Golden (ME)
Bera	Craig	Goldman (NY)
Bergman	Crawford	Gomez
Beyer	Crenshaw	Gonzales, Tony
Bice	Crockett	Gonzalez, Vicente
Bishop (GA)	Crow	González-Colón
Blumenauer	Cuellar	Gottheimer
Blunt Rochester	Dauids (KS)	Granger
Bonamici	Davis (IL)	Graves (LA)
Bowman	Davis (NC)	Graves (MO)
Boyle (PA)	Dean (PA)	Green, Al (TX)
Brown	DeGette	Griffith
Brownley	DeLauro	Grijalva
Buchanan	DelBene	Guthrie
Bucshon	Deluzio	Harder (CA)
Budzinski	DeSaulnier	Hayes
Bush	Diaz-Balart	Higgins (NY)
Calvert	Dingell	Himes
Caraveo	Doggett	Hinson
Carbajal	Duarte	Horsford
Cárdenas	Edwards	Houlihan
Carl	Ellzey	Hoyer
Carson	Escobar	Hoyle (OR)
Carter (LA)	Eshoo	Huffman
Carter (TX)	Españillat	Issa
Cartwright	Evans	Ivey
Casar	Ezell	Jackson (IL)
Case	Ferguson	Jackson (NC)
Casten	Fitzpatrick	Jacobs
Castor (FL)	Fleischmann	James
Castro (TX)	Fletcher	Jayapal
Chavez-DeRemer	Flood	Jeffries
Cherfilus-	Foster	Johnson (GA)
McCormick	Foushee	Johnson (OH)
Chu	Frankel, Lois	

Joyce (OH) Morelle
 Kamlager-Dove Moskowitz
 Kaptur Moulton
 Kean (NJ) Moylan
 Keating Mrvan
 Kelly (IL) Mullin
 Kelly (MS) Murphy
 Khanna Nadler
 Kildee Napolitano
 Kiley Neal
 Kilmer Neguse
 Kim (CA) Newhouse
 Kim (NJ) Nickel
 Krishnamoorthi Norcross
 Kuster Norton
 LaHood Nunn (IA)
 LaLota Obernolte
 Landsman Ocasio-Cortez
 Langworthy Omar
 Larson (CT) Pallone
 Latta Panetta
 LaTurner Pappas
 Lawler Pascrell
 Lee (CA) Payne
 Lee (FL) Pelosi
 Lee (NV) Peltola
 Lee (PA) Perez
 Leger Fernandez Peters
 Letlow Petterson
 Levin Pingree
 Lieu Plaskett
 Lofgren Pocan
 Lucas Porter
 Luetkemeyer Pressley
 Lynch Quigley
 Magaziner Ramirez
 Malliotakis Raskin
 Manning Reschenthaler
 Matsui Rodgers (WA)
 McBeth Rogers (KY)
 McCarthy Ross
 McCaul Ruiz
 McClellan Ruppberger
 McCollum Rutherford
 McGarvey Ryan
 McGovern Sablan
 Meeks Salazar
 Menendez Salinas
 Meng Sanchez
 Mfume Sarbanes
 Miller-Meeks Scanlon
 Molinaro Schakowsky
 Moolenaar Schiff
 Moore (WI) Schneider
 Moran Scholten

NOT VOTING—10

D'Esposito Phillips Tenney
 Jackson Lee Radewagen Webster (FL)
 Kiggans (VA) Scott, David
 Larsen (WA) Sherman

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
 There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2143

Ms. GARCIA of Texas changed her vote from "aye" to "no."

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Chair, had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 612.

AMENDMENT NO. 47 OFFERED BY MR.

SCHWEIKERT

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 47, printed in part B of House Report 118-261 offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.
 The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 104, noes 325, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 613]

AYES—104

Alford Fulcher
 Allen Gaetz
 Armstrong Good (VA)
 Babin Gooden (TX)
 Banks Gosar
 Bean (FL) Green (TN)
 Bentz Greene (GA)
 Biggs Grothman
 Bilirakis Hageman
 Bishop (NC) Harris
 Boebert Harshbarger
 Brecheen Hern
 Buck Higgins (LA)
 Burchett Houchin
 Burgess Huizenga
 Burlison Cammack
 Hunt Carter (GA)
 Cline Johnson (SD)
 Cloud Jordan
 Clyde Kelly (MS)
 Collins Kustoff
 Comer Lamborn
 Crane Lesko
 Davidson Luna
 DesJarlais Luttrell
 Donalds Mace
 Duncan Massie
 Dunn (FL) Mast
 Emmer McClain
 Estes McClintock
 Fallon McCormick
 Fitzgerald McHenry
 Foxx Miller (IL)
 Fry Mills

NOES—325

Adams Clark (MA)
 Aderholt Clarke (NY)
 Aguilar Cleaver
 Alired Clyburn
 Amodei Cohen
 Arrington Cole
 Auchincloss Connolly
 Bacon Correa
 Baird Costa
 Balderson Courtney
 Balint Craig
 Barr Crawford
 Barragán Crenshaw
 Beatty Crockett
 Bera Crow
 Bergman Cuellar
 Beyer Curtis
 Bice Davids (KS)
 Bishop (GA) Davis (IL)
 Blumenauer Davis (NC)
 Blunt Rochester De La Cruz
 Bonamici Dean (PA)
 Bost DeGette
 Bowman DeLauro
 Boyle (PA) DelBene
 Brown Deluzio
 Brownley DeSaulnier
 Buchanan Diaz-Balart
 Bucshon Dingell
 Budzinski Doggett
 Bush Duarte
 Calvert Edwards
 Caraveo Ellzey
 Carbajal Escobar
 Cárdenas Eshoo
 Carey Espailat
 Carl Evans
 Carson Ezell
 Carter (LA) Feenstra
 Carter (TX) Ferguson
 Cartwright Finstad
 Casar Fischbach
 Case Fitzpatrick
 Casten Fleischmann
 Castor (FL) Fletcher
 Castro (TX) Flood
 Chavez-DeRemer Foster
 Cherfilus-Foushee
 McCormick Frankel, Lois
 Chu Franklin, Scott
 Ciscomani Frost

Keating Moskowicz
 Kelly (IL) Moulton
 Kelly (PA) Moylan
 Khanna Mrvan
 Kildee Mullin
 Kiley Murphy
 Kilmer Nadler
 Kim (CA) Napolitano
 Kim (NJ) Neal
 Krishnamoorthi Neguse
 Kuster Newhouse
 LaHood Nickel
 LaLota Norcross
 LaMalfa Norton
 Landsman Nunn (IA)
 Langworthy Obernolte
 Larson (CT) Ocasio-Cortez
 Latta Omar
 LaTurner Owens
 Lawler Pallone
 Lee (CA) Panetta
 Lee (FL) Pappas
 Lee (NV) Pascrell
 Lee (PA) Payne
 Leger Fernandez Pelosi
 Letlow Peltola
 Levin Pence
 Lieu Perez
 Lofgren Petterson
 Loudermilk Titus
 Lucas Plunger
 Luetkemeyer Pingree
 Lynch Tonko
 Magaziner Plaskett
 Malliotakis Pocan
 Mann Porter
 Manning Pressley
 Matsui Quigley
 McBeth Ramirez
 McCarthy Raskin
 McCaul Reschenthaler
 McClellan Rodgers (WA)
 McCollum Rogers (AL)
 McGarvey Rogers (KY)
 McGovern Ross
 Meeks Ruiz
 Menendez Ruppberger
 Meng Rutherford
 Meuser Ryan
 Mfume Sablan
 Miller (OH) Salazar
 Miller (WV) Salinas
 Miller-Meeks Sanchez
 Molinaro Sarbanes
 Moolenaar Scanlon
 Moore (WI) Schakowsky
 Moore (UT) Schiff
 Moore (WI) Schneider
 Moran Scholten
 Morelle Schrier

NOT VOTING—9

D'Esposito Larsen (WA) Sherrill
 Jackson Lee Phillips Tenney
 Kiggans (VA) Radewagen Webster (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
 There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2146

So the amendment was rejected.
 The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 57 OFFERED BY MS. HAGEMAN
 The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 57, printed in part B of House Report 118-261 offered by the gentleman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 191, noes 238, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 614]

AYES—191

Aderholt Garcia, Mike Mooney
 Alford Gimenez Moore (AL)
 Allen Gonzales, Tony Moore (UT)
 Amodei Good (VA) Moran
 Arrington Gooden (TX) Moylan
 Babin Gosar Murphy
 Baird Graves (LA) Nehls
 Balderson Graves (MO) Newhouse
 Banks Green (TN) Norman
 Barr Greene (GA) Nunn (IA)
 Bean (FL) Griffith Obernolte
 Bentz Grothman
 Bergman Guest
 Bice Guthrie Palmer
 Biggs Hageman Pence
 Bilirakis Harris Perez
 Bishop (NC) Harshbarger Perry
 Boebert Hern Pfluger
 Bost Higgins (LA) Posey
 Brecheen Hill Reschenthaler
 Buchanan Hinson Rogers (KY)
 Buck Houchin Rose
 Bucshon Hudson Rosendale
 Burchett Huizenga Rouzer
 Burgess Hunt Roy
 Burlison Issa Rutherford
 Calvert Jackson (TX) Salazar
 Cammack James Santos
 Carey Johnson (OH) Scalise
 Carl Johnson (SD) Scott, Austin
 Carter (GA) Jordan Self
 Cline Joyce (OH) Sessions
 Cloud Joyce (PA) Simpson
 Clyde Kelly (MS) Smith (MO)
 Collins Kelly (PA) Smith (NE)
 Comer LaMalfa Smith (NJ)
 Crane Lamborn Smucker
 Crawford Langworthy Stauber
 Crenshaw Latta Steel
 Curtis LaTurner Stefanik
 Davidson Lee (FL) Steil
 De La Cruz Lesko Steube
 DesJarlais Letlow Strong
 Donalds Loudermilk Tenney
 Duarte Luetkemeyer Thompson (PA)
 Duncan Luna Tiffany
 Dunn (FL) Luttrell Timmons
 Edwards Mace Turner
 Emmer Malliotakis Van Drew
 Estes Mann Van Dwyne
 Ezell Massie Van Orden
 Fallon Mast Wagner
 Feenstra McCarthy Walberg
 Ferguson McClain Waltz
 Finstad McClintock Weber (TX)
 Fischbach McCormick Wenstrup
 Fitzgerald McHenry Westerman
 Fleischmann Meuser Williams (NY)
 Foxx Miller (IL) Williams (TX)
 Franklin, Scott Miller (OH) Wilson (SC)
 Fry Miller (WV) Wittman
 Fulcher Miller-Meeks Yakym
 Gaetz Mills Zinke
 Gallagher Moolenaar

NOES—238

Adams Carter (TX) Davids (KS)
 Aguilar Cartwright Davis (IL)
 Allred Casar Davis (NC)
 Armstrong Case Dean (PA)
 Auchincloss Casten DeGette
 Bacon Castor (FL) DeLauro
 Balint Castro (TX) DelBene
 Barragán Chavez-DeRemer Deluzio
 Beatty Cherfilus-DeSaunier
 Bera McCormick Diaz-Balart
 Beyrer Chu Dingell
 Bishop (GA) Ciscomani Doggett
 Blumenauer Clark (MA) Ellzey
 Blunt Rochester Clarke (NY) Escobar
 Bonamici Cleaver Eshoo
 Bowman Clyburn Espaillat
 Boyle (PA) Cohen Evans
 Brown Cole Fitzpatrick
 Brownley Connolly Fletcher
 Budzinski Correa Flood
 Bush Costa Foster
 Caraveo Courtney Foushee
 Carbajal Craig Frankel, Lois
 Cárdenas Crockett Frost
 Carson Crow Gallego
 Carter (LA) Cuellar Garamendi

Garbarino Lofgren Sablan
 Garcia (IL) Lucas Salinas
 Garcia (TX) Lynch Sánchez
 Garcia, Robert Magaziner Sarbanes
 Golden (ME) Manning Scanlon
 Goldman (NY) Matsui Schakowsky
 Gomez McBath Schiff
 Gonzalez, McCaul Schneider
 Vicente McClellan Scholten
 González-Colón McCollum Schrier
 Gottheimer McGarvey Scott (VA)
 Granger McGovern Scott, David
 Green, Al (TX) Meeks Sewell
 Grijalva Mendez Sherman
 Harder (CA) Meng Sherrill
 Hayes Mfume Slotkin
 Higgins (NY) Molinaro Smith (WA)
 Himes Moore (WI) Sorensen
 Horsford Murrell Soto
 Houlahan Moskowitz Spanberger
 Hoyer Moulton Stansbury
 Hoyle (OR) Mrvan Stanton
 Huffman Mullin Stevens
 Ivey Nadler Strickland
 Jackson (IL) Napolitano Swalwell
 Jackson (NC) Neal Sykes
 Jacobs Neguse Takano
 Jayapal Nickel Norcross
 Jeffries Norcross Thompson (CA)
 Johnson (GA) Norton Ocasio-Cortez
 Kamlager-Dove Omar Thompson (MS)
 Kaptur Pallone Titus
 Kean (NJ) Keating Panetta Tlaib
 Kelly (IL) Pappas Tokuda
 Khanna Pascrell Tonko
 Kildee Payne Torres (CA)
 Kiley Pelosi Torres (NY)
 Kilmer Peltola Trahan
 Kim (CA) Peters Trone
 Kim (NJ) Pettersen Underwood
 Krishnamoorthi Pingree Valadao
 Kuster Plaskett Vargas
 Kustoff Pocan Vasquez
 LaHood Porter Veasey
 LaLota Pressley Velázquez
 Landsman Quigley Wasserman
 Larson (CT) Ramirez Schultz
 Lawler Raskin Waters
 Lee (CA) Rodgers (WA) Watson Coleman
 Lee (NV) Rogers (AL) Wexton
 Lee (PA) Ross Wild
 Leger Fernandez Ruiz Williams (GA)
 Levin Ruppertsberger Wilson (FL)
 Lieu Ryan Womack

NOT VOTING—9

D'Esposito Larsen (WA) Schweikert
 Jackson Lee Phillips Spartz
 Kiggans (VA) Radewagen Webster (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
 The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
 There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2150

So the amendment was rejected.
 The result of the vote was announced
 as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 59 OFFERED BY MR. MASSIE
 The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished

business is the demand for a recorded
 vote on amendment No. 59, printed in
 part B of House Report 118-261 offered
 by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr.
 MASSIE), on which further proceedings
 were postponed and on which the ayes
 prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
 amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
 ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
 has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.
 The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
 minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
 vice, and there were—ayes 211, noes 220,
 not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 615]

AYES—211

Aderholt Gonzales, Tony Moolenaar
 Alford González-Colón Mooney
 Allen Good (VA) Moore (AL)
 Amodei Gooden (TX) Moore (UT)
 Arrington Gosar Moran
 Babin Granger Morelle
 Baird Graves (LA) Moylan
 Balderson Graves (MO) Murphy
 Barr Green (TN) Nehls
 Bean (FL) Greene (GA) Newhouse
 Bentz Griffith Norman
 Bergman Grothman Nunn (IA)
 Bice Guest Obernolte
 Biggs Guthrie Ogles
 Bilirakis Hageman Owens
 Bishop (NC) Harris Palmer
 Boebert Harshbarger Panetta
 Bost Hern Pence
 Brecheen Higgins (LA) Perry
 Buchanan Hill Pfluger
 Buck Hinson Posey
 Bucshon Houchin Reschenthaler
 Burchett Hudson Rodgers (WA)
 Burgess Huizenga Rodgers (AL)
 Burlison Hunt Rogers (KY)
 Calvert Issa Rose
 Cammack Jackson (TX) Rosendale
 Carey James Rouzer
 Carl Johnson (LA) Roy
 Carter (GA) Johnson (OH) Rutherford
 Carter (TX) Johnson (SD) Salazar
 Ciscomani Jordan Scalise
 Cline Joyce (OH) Scott, Austin
 Cloud Joyce (PA) Self
 Clyde Kelly (MS) Sessions
 Collins Kelly (PA) Simpson
 Comer LaMalfa Smith (MO)
 Crane Lamborn Smith (NE)
 Crenshaw LaLota Smith (NJ)
 Curtis LaMalfa Smucker
 Davidson Lamborn Stauber
 De La Cruz De La Cruz Langworthy
 DesJarlais Latta Stefanik
 Donalds Diaz-Balart Steil
 Duarte Lee (FL) Steube
 Duncan Letlow Strong
 Dunn (FL) Luetkemeyer Tenney
 Edwards Lofgren Thompson (PA)
 Ellzey Loudermilk Tiffany
 Emmer Lucas Timmons
 Estes Luetkemeyer Turner
 Ezell Luna Valadao
 Fallon Luttrell Van Drew
 Feenstra Malliotakis Van Dwyne
 Ferguson Mann Van Orden
 Finstad Massie Wagner
 Fischbach Mast Walberg
 Fitzgerald McCarthy Weber (TX)
 Fleischmann McClintock Wenstrup
 Foxx McCormick Westerman
 Franklin, Scott McHenry Williams (NY)
 Fry Meeks Williams (TX)
 Fulcher Meuser Wilson (SC)
 Gallagher Miller (IL) Wittman
 Garbarino Miller (WV) Womack
 Garcia, Mike Miller-Meeks Yakym
 Gimenez Mills Zinke

NOES—220

Adams Carbajal Crockett
 Aguilar Cárdenas Crow
 Allred Carson Cuellar
 Auchincloss Carter (LA) Davids (KS)
 Bacon Cartwright Davis (IL)
 Balint Casar Davis (NC)
 Banks Case Dean (PA)
 Barragán Casten DeGette
 Beatty Castor (FL) DeLauro
 Bera Castro (TX) DelBene
 Beyrer Chavez-DeRemer Deluzio
 Bishop (GA) Cherfilus-DeSaunier
 Blumenauer McCormick Dingell
 Blunt Rochester Chu Doggett
 Bonamici Clark (MA) Escobar
 Bowman Clarke (NY) Eshoo
 Boyle (PA) Cleaver Espaillat
 Brown Clyburn Evans
 Brownley Cohen Fitzpatrick
 Buck Connolly Fletcher
 Budzinski Costa Flood
 Bush Courtney Foster
 Caraveo Craig Foushee

Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gaetz
Galego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larson (CT)
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lynch

NOT VOTING—8

D'Esposito
Jackson Lee
Kiggans (VA)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2155

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ changed her vote from “aye” to “no.”
Mrs. MILLER of Illinois and Mr. CAREY changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 60 OFFERED BY MR. MASSIE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 60, printed in part B of House Report 118–261 offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MASSIE), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 201, noes 229, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 616]

AYES—201

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Sherman
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
Carl
James
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Curtis
Lesko
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Donalds
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Malliotakis
Mann
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Flood
Foxy
Franklin, Scott
Fry

NOES—229

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bush
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas

Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Graves (LA)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
Landsman
Larson (CT)
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCaul
McClellan
McCollum
McGovern
McGuire
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Norton
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Peltola
Perez
Peterson
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salinas
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—8

D'Esposito
Jackson Lee
Kiggans (VA)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2158

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Chair, during rollcall Vote No. 616 on amendment 60 to H.R. 4820, I mistakenly recorded my vote as “aye” when I should have voted “no.”

AMENDMENT NO. 62 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 62, printed in part B of House Report 118–261 offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 164, noes 264, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 617]

AYES—164

Aderholt	Gaetz	Miller (WV)
Alford	Gallagher	Miller-Meeks
Allen	Garcia, Mike	Mills
Amodi	González-Colón	Molinaro
Armstrong	Good (VA)	Moolenaar
Arrington	Gooden (TX)	Mooney
Babin	Gosar	Moore (AL)
Baird	Granger	Moran
Balderson	Graves (LA)	Murphy
Banks	Graves (MO)	Nehls
Barr	Green (TN)	Norman
Bean (FL)	Greene (GA)	Ogles
Bentz	Grothman	Palmer
Bergman	Guest	Perry
Biggs	Guthrie	Prluger
Bilirakis	Hageman	Posey
Bishop (NC)	Harris	Reschenthaler
Boebert	Harshbarger	Rodgers (WA)
Bost	Hern	Rose
Brecheen	Higgins (LA)	Rosendale
Burchett	Hill	Rouzer
Burlison	Houchin	Roy
Cammack	Hudson	Issa
Carey	Huizenga	Jackson (TX)
Carl	Hunt	Johnson (OH)
Carter (GA)	Issa	Johnson (SD)
Cline	Jackson (TX)	Jordan
Cloud	Johnson (OH)	Joyce (PA)
Clyde	Johnson (SD)	Kelly (MS)
Collins	Jordan	Kustoff
Comer	Joyce (PA)	LaHood
Crane	Kelly (MS)	LaMalfa
Crenshaw	Kustoff	Lamborn
Davidson	LaHood	Langworthy
De La Cruz	LaMalfa	Latta
DesJarlais	Lamborn	LaTurner
Donalds	Langworthy	Lee (FL)
Duarte	Latta	Lesko
Duncan	LaTurner	Letlow
Dunn (FL)	Lee (FL)	Loudermilk
Emmer	Lesko	Luetkemeyer
Estes	Letlow	Luna
Ezell	Loudermilk	Luttrell
Fallon	Luetkemeyer	Mann
Feenstra	Luna	Masse
Ferguson	Luttrell	Mast
Finstad	Mann	McClain
Fischbach	Masse	McClintock
Fitzgerald	Mast	McCormick
Fleischmann	McClain	McHenry
Flood	McClintock	Miller (IL)
Foxx	McCormick	Miller (OH)
Franklin, Scott	McHenry	
Fry	Miller (IL)	
Fulcher	Miller (OH)	

NOES—264

Adams	Cartwright	DeLauro
Aguilar	Casar	DelBene
Allred	Case	Deluzio
Auchincloss	Casten	DeSaulnier
Bacon	Castor (FL)	Diaz-Balart
Balint	Castro (TX)	Dingell
Barragán	Chavez-DeRemer	Doggett
Beatty	Cherfilus-	Edwards
Bera	McCormick	Ellzey
Beyer	Chu	Escobar
Bice	Ciscomani	Eshoo
Bishop (GA)	Clark (MA)	Españillat
Blumenauer	Clarke (NY)	Evans
Blunt Rochester	Cleaver	Fitzpatrick
Bonamici	Clyburn	Fletcher
Bowman	Cohen	Foster
Boyle (PA)	Cole	Foushee
Brown	Connolly	Frankel, Lois
Brownley	Correa	Frost
Buchanan	Costa	Gallego
Buck	Courtney	Garamendi
Bucshon	Craig	García (IL)
Budzinski	Crawford	García (TX)
Burgess	Crockett	García, Robert
Bush	Crow	Gimenez
Calvert	Cuellar	Golden (ME)
Caraveo	Curtis	Goldman (NY)
Carbajal	Davidson	Gomez
Cárdenas	Davis (IL)	Gonzales, Tony
Carson	Davis (NC)	Gonzalez,
Carter (LA)	Dean (PA)	Vicente
Carter (TX)	DeGette	Gottheimer

Green, Al (TX)	McGarvey	Sarbanes
Grijalva	McGovern	Scanlon
Harder (CA)	Meeks	Schakowsky
Hayes	Menendez	Schiff
Higgins (NY)	Meng	Schneider
Himes	Meuser	Scholten
Hinson	Mfume	Schrier
Horsford	Moore (UT)	Scott (VA)
Houlihan	Moore (WI)	Scott, Austin
Hoyer	Morelle	Scott, David
Hoyle (OR)	Moskowitz	Sewell
Huffman	Moulton	Sherman
Ivey	Moylan	Sherrill
Jackson (IL)	Mrvan	Simpson
Jackson (NC)	Mullin	Slotkin
Jacobs	Nadler	Smith (NJ)
James	Napolitano	Smith (WA)
Jayapal	Neal	Sorensen
Moran	Neguse	Soto
Johnson (GA)	Newhouse	Spanberger
Joyce (OH)	Nickel	Stansbury
Kamlager-Dove	Norcross	Stanton
Kaptur	Norton	Steel
Kean (NJ)	Nunn (IA)	Stevens
Keating	Obernolte	Strickland
Kelly (IL)	Ocasio-Cortez	Swalwell
Kelly (PA)	Omar	Sykes
Khanna	Owens	Takano
Kildee	Pallone	Thanedar
Kiley	Panetta	Thompson (CA)
Kilmer	Pappas	Thompson (MS)
Kim (CA)	Pascrell	Titus
Kim (NJ)	Payne	Tlaib
Krishnamoorthi	Pelosi	Tokuda
Kuster	Peltola	Tonko
LaLota	Pence	Torres (CA)
Landsman	Perez	Torres (NY)
Larson (CT)	Peters	Trahan
Lawler	Pettersen	Trone
Lee (CA)	Pingree	Turner
Lee (NV)	Plaskett	Underwood
Lee (PA)	Pocan	Valadao
Leger Fernandez	Porter	Van Orden
Levin	Pressley	Vargas
Lieu	Quigley	Vasquez
Lofgren	Ramirez	Veasey
Lucas	Raskin	Velázquez
Lynch	Rogers (AL)	Wagner
Mace	Rogers (KY)	Wasserman
Magaziner	Ross	Schultz
Manning	Ruiz	Waters
Matsui	Ruppersberger	Watson Coleman
McBath	Ryan	Wexton
McCarthy	Sablan	Wild
McCaul	Salazar	Williams (GA)
McClellan	Salinas	Wilson (FL)
McCollum	Sánchez	Womack

NOT VOTING—10

D'Esposito	Kiggans (VA)	Radewagen
Garbarino	Larsen (WA)	Webster (FL)
Griffith	Malliotakis	
Jackson Lee	Phillips	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2201

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 64 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN
The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 64, printed in
part B of House Report 118-261 offered
by the gentleman from South Carolina
(Mr. NORMAN), on which further pro-
ceedings were postponed and on which
the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 155, noes 272,
not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 618]

AYES—155

Aderholt	Gaetz	Miller (WV)
Alford	Gallagher	Miller-Meeks
Allen	Good (VA)	Mills
Armstrong	Gooden (TX)	Molinaro
Arrington	Gosar	Moolenaar
Babin	Graves (LA)	Mooney
Baird	Graves (MO)	Moore (AL)
Balderson	Green (TN)	Murphy
Banks	Greene (GA)	Nehls
Barr	Grothman	Norman
Bean (FL)	Guest	Ogles
Bentz	Guthrie	Palmer
Bergman	Hageman	Perry
Bice	Harris	Prluger
Biggs	Harshbarger	Posey
Bilirakis	Hern	Reschenthaler
Bishop (NC)	Higgins (LA)	Rodgers (WA)
Boebert	Hill	Rose
Bost	Houchin	Rosendale
Brecheen	Huizenga	Rouzer
Burchett	Hunt	Roy
Burlison	Issa	Rutherford
Cammack	Jackson (TX)	Santos
Carey	Johnson (OH)	Scalise
Carl	Johnson (SD)	Schweikert
Carter (GA)	Jordan	Self
Cline	Joyce (PA)	Sessions
Cloud	Kelly (MS)	Smith (MO)
Clyde	Kustoff	Smith (NE)
Collins	LaHood	Smith (NE)
Comer	LaMalfa	Smucker
Crane	Lamborn	Spartz
Crenshaw	Langworthy	Stauber
Davidson	Latta	Stefanik
De La Cruz	LaTurner	Steil
DesJarlais	Lee (FL)	Steube
Donalds	Lesko	Strong
Duarte	Letlow	Tenney
Duncan	Loudermilk	Tiffany
Dunn (FL)	Luetkemeyer	Timmons
Emmer	Luna	Van Drew
Estes	Luttrell	Van Dyne
Ezell	Mann	Walberg
Fallon	Masse	Walz
Feenstra	Mast	Weber (TX)
Ferguson	McCaul	Wenstrup
Finstad	McClain	Westerman
Fischbach	McClintock	Williams (TX)
Fitzgerald	McCormick	Wilson (SC)
Fleischmann	McHenry	Wittman
Flood	Miller (IL)	Yakym
Foxx	Miller (OH)	Zinke
Franklin, Scott		
Fry		
Fulcher		

NOES—272

Adams	Cherfilus-	Evans
Aguilar	McCormick	Fitzpatrick
Allred	Chu	Fletcher
Auchincloss	Ciscomani	Flood
Bacon	Clark (MA)	Foster
Balint	Clarke (NY)	Franke
Barragán	Cleaver	Frankel, Lois
Beatty	Clyburn	Frost
Bera	Cohen	Gallego
Beyer	Cole	Garamendi
Bishop (GA)	Connolly	Garbarino
Blumenauer	Correa	García (IL)
Blunt Rochester	Costa	García (TX)
Bonamici	Courtney	García, Mike
Bowman	Craig	García, Robert
Boyle (PA)	Crawford	Gimenez
Brown	Crockett	Golden (ME)
Brownley	Crow	Goldman (NY)
Buchanan	Cuellar	Gomez
Buck	Curtis	Gonzales, Tony
Bucshon	Davidson	Gonzalez,
Budzinski	Davis (IL)	Vicente
Burgess	Davis (NC)	González-Colón
Bush	Dean (PA)	Gottheimer
Calvert	DeGette	Granger
Caraveo	DeLauro	Green, Al (TX)
Carbajal	DelBene	Grijalva
Cárdenas	Deluzio	Harder (CA)
Carson	DeSaulnier	Hayes
Carter (LA)	Diaz-Balart	Higgins (NY)
Carter (TX)	Dingell	Himes
Cartwright	Doggett	Hinson
Casar	Dunn (FL)	Horsford
Case	Edwards	Houlihan
Casten	Ellzey	Hoyer
Castor (FL)	Escobar	Hoyle (OR)
Castro (TX)	Eshoo	Huffman
Chavez-DeRemer	Españillat	Ivey

Jackson (IL)	Morelle	Schrier	[Roll No. 619]	Gallego	Malliotakis	Sánchez
Jackson (NC)	Moskowitz	Scott (VA)		Garamendi	Manning	Sarbanes
Jacobs	Moulton	Scott, Austin	AYES—212	Garcia (IL)	Matsui	Scanlon
James	Moylan	Scott, David		Garcia (TX)	McBath	Schakowsky
Jayapal	Mrvan	Sewell		Garcia, Robert	McClellan	Schiff
Jeffries	Mullin	Sherman		Golden (ME)	McCollum	Schneider
Johnson (GA)	Nadler	Sherrill		Goldman (NY)	McGarvey	Scholten
Joyce (OH)	Napolitano	Simpson		Gomez	McGovern	Schrier
Kamlager-Dove	Neal	Slotkin		Gonzalez,	Meeks	Scott (VA)
Kaptur	Neguse	Smith (NJ)		Vicente	Menendez	Scott, David
Kean (NJ)	Newhouse	Smith (WA)		Gottheimer	Meng	Sewell
Keating	Nickel	Sorensen		Green, Al (TX)	Mfume	Sherman
Kelly (IL)	Norcross	Soto		Grijalva	Moore (WI)	Sherrill
Kelly (PA)	Norton	Spanberger		Harder (CA)	Morelle	Slotkin
Khanna	Nunn (IA)	Stansbury		Hayes	Moskowitz	Smith (WA)
Kildee	Obernoite	Stanton		Higgins (NY)	Moulton	Sorensen
Kiley	Ocasio-Cortez	Steel		Himes	Mrvan	Soto
Kilmer	Omar	Stevens		Horsford	Mullin	Spanberger
Kim (CA)	Owens	Strickland		Houlihan	Nadler	Stansbury
Kim (NJ)	Pallone	Swalwell		Hoyer	Napolitano	Stanton
Krishnamoorthi	Panetta	Sykes		Hoyle (OR)	Neal	Stevens
Kuster	Pappas	Takano		Huffman	Neguse	Strickland
LaLota	Pascrell	Thanedar		Ivey	Nickel	Swalwell
Landsman	Payne	Thompson (CA)		Jackson (IL)	Norcross	Thompson (MS)
Larson (CT)	Pelosi	Thompson (MS)		Jackson (NC)	Norton	Sykes
Lawler	Peltola	Thompson (PA)		Jacobs	Ocasio-Cortez	Takano
Lee (CA)	Pence	Titus		Jayapal	Omar	Thanedar
Lee (NV)	Perez	Tlaib		Jeffries	Pallone	Thompson (CA)
Lee (PA)	Peters	Tokuda		Johnson (GA)	Panetta	Thompson (MS)
Leger Fernandez	Petterson	Tonko		Kamlager-Dove	Pappas	Titus
Levin	Pingree	Torres (CA)		Kapoor	Pascrell	Tlaib
Lieu	Plaskett	Torres (NY)		Keating	Payne	Tokuda
Lofgren	Pocan	Trahan		Kelly (IL)	Pelosi	Tonko
Lucas	Porter	Trone		Khanna	Peltola	Torres (CA)
Lynch	Pressley	Turner		Kildee	Perez	Torres (NY)
Mace	Quigley	Underwood		Kilmer	Peters	Trahan
Magaziner	Ramirez	Valadao		Kim (NJ)	Petterson	Trone
Malliotakis	Raskin	Van Orden		Krishnamoorthi	Pingree	Underwood
Manning	Rogers (AL)	Vargas		Kuster	Plaskett	Vargas
Matsui	Rogers (KY)	Vasquez		Landsman	Pocan	Vasquez
McBath	Ross	Veasey		Larson (CT)	Porter	Veasey
McCarthy	Ruiz	Velázquez		Lawler	Pressley	Velázquez
McClellan	Ruppersberger	Wagner		Lee (CA)	Quigley	Wasserman
McCollum	Ryan	Wasserman		Lee (NV)	Ramirez	Schultz
McGarvey	Sablan	Schultz		Lee (PA)	Raskin	Walters
McGovern	Salazar	Waters		Leger Fernandez	Ross	Watson Coleman
Meeks	Salinas	Watson Coleman		Levin	Ruiz	Wexton
Menendez	Sánchez	Wexton		Lieu	Ruppersberger	Wild
Meng	Sarbanes	Wild		Lofgren	Ryan	Williams (GA)
Meuser	Scanlon	Williams (GA)		Lynch	Sablan	Wilson (FL)
Mfume	Schakowsky	Williams (NY)		Magaziner	Salinas	
Moore (UT)	Schiff	Wilson (FL)				
Moore (WI)	Schneider	Womack				
Moran	Scholten					

NOT VOTING—11

Amodei
Crenshaw
D'Esposito
Griffith

Hudson
Jackson Lee
Kiggans (VA)
Larsen (WA)

Phillips
Radewagen
Webster (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2204

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 66 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 66, printed in
part B of House Report 118–261 offered
by the gentleman from South Carolina
(Mr. NORMAN), on which further pro-
ceedings were postponed and on which
the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 212, noes 217,
not voting 9, as follows:

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bush
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson

NOES—217

Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleave
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow

Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost

NOT VOTING—9

Buchanan
Crenshaw
D'Esposito

Jackson Lee
Kiggans (VA)
Larsen (WA)

Phillips
Radewagen
Webster (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2207

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 73 OFFERED BY MR. SANTOS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 73, printed in
part B of House Report 118–261 offered
by the gentleman from New York (Mr.
SANTOS), on which further proceedings
were postponed and on which the ayes
prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 112, noes 318,
not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 620]

AYES—112

Aderholt Gaetz Nehls
 Arrington Gallagher Norman
 Babin Good (VA) Ogles
 Barr Gooden (TX) Palmer
 Bean (FL) Gosar Perry
 Biggs Green (TN) Pfluger
 Bilirakis Greene (GA) Posey
 Bishop (NC) Grothman Reschenthaler
 Boebert Guest Rodgers (WA)
 Bost Guthrie Rose
 Brecheen Hageman Rosendale
 Buck Harris Rouzer
 Burchett Harshbarger
 Burlison Hern
 Cammack Higgins (LA)
 Carl Houchin Santos
 Carter (GA) Huizenga Scalise
 Cline Issa Schweikert
 Cloud Jackson (TX) Self
 Clyde Jordan Smith (MO)
 Collins Joyce (PA) Smucker
 Comer LaMalfa Spartz
 Crane Lamborn Stauber
 Davidson LaTurner Stefanik
 De La Cruz Letlow
 Donalds Luetkemeyer Steil
 Duncan Luna
 Emmer Luttrell
 Estes Mann
 Fallon Massie
 Feenstra McClain
 Ferguson McClintock
 Finstad McCormick
 Fischbach Miller (IL)
 Fitzgerald Miller (OH)
 Foxx Miller (WV)
 Fry Mooney
 Fulcher Moore (AL)

NOES—318

Adams Cohen
 Aguilar Cole
 Alford Connolly
 Allen Correa
 Allred Costa
 Amodei Courtney
 Armstrong Craig
 Auchincloss Crawford
 Bacon Crenshaw
 Baird Crockett
 Balderson Crow
 Balint Cuellar
 Banks Curtis
 Barragán Davids (KS)
 Beatty Davis (IL)
 Bentz Davis (NC)
 Bera Dean (PA)
 Bergman DeGette
 Beyers DeLauro
 Bice DelBene
 Bishop (GA) Deluzio
 Blumenauer DeSaulnier
 Blunt Rochester DesJarlais
 Bonamici Diaz-Balart
 Bowman Dingell
 Boyle (PA) Doggett
 Brown Duarte
 Brownley Dunn (FL)
 Buchanan Edwards
 Bucshon Ellzey
 Budzinski Escobar
 Burgess Eshoo
 Bush Espaillat
 Calvert Evans
 Caraveo Ezell
 Carbajal Fitzpatrick
 Cárdenas Fleischmann
 Carey Fletcher
 Carson Flood
 Carter (LA) Foster
 Carter (TX) Foushee
 Cartwright Frankel, Lois
 Casar Franklin, Scott
 Case Frost
 Casten Gallego
 Castor (FL) Garamendi
 Castro (TX) Garbarino
 Chavez-DeRemer Garcia (IL)
 Cherfilus-McCormick Garcia (TX)
 Chu Garcia, Mike
 Ciscomani Garcia, Robert
 Clark (MA) Gimenez
 Clarke (NY) Golden (ME)
 Cleaver Goldman (NY)
 Clyburn Gomez
 Gonzalez, Tony

Lee (CA) Norcross
 Lee (FL) Norton
 Lee (NV) Nunn (IA)
 Lee (PA) Obernolte
 Leger Fernandez Ocasio-Cortez
 Lesko Omar
 Levin Owens
 Lieu Pallone
 Lofgren Panetta
 Loudermilk Pappas
 Lucas Pascrell
 Lynch Payne
 Mace Pelosi
 Magaziner Peltola
 Malliotakis Pence
 Manning Perez
 Roy Peters
 Matsui Petteersen
 McBeth Pingree
 McCarthy Plaskett
 McCaul Pocan
 McClellan Porter
 McCollum Pressley
 McGarvey Quigley
 McGovern Ramirez
 McHenry Raskin
 Meeks Rogers (AL)
 Menendez Rogers (KY)
 Meng Ross
 Meuser Ruiz
 Strong Ruppertsberger
 Tenney Ryan
 Tiffany Mills
 Timmons Molinaro
 Turner Moolenaar
 Van Drew Moore (UT)
 Waltz Moore (WI)
 Moran
 Morelle
 Moskowitz
 Moulton
 Moylan
 Mrvan
 Mullin
 Murphy
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal
 Neguse
 Newhouse
 Nickel

Gonzalez, Vicente
 González-Colón
 Gottheimer
 Granger
 Graves (LA)
 Graves (MO)
 Green, Al (TX)
 Grijalva
 Harder (CA)
 Hayes
 Higgins (NY)
 Hill
 Himes
 Hinson
 Horsford
 Houlihan
 Hoyer
 Hoyle (OR)
 Hudson
 Huffman
 Hunt
 Ivey
 Jackson (IL)
 Jackson (NC)
 Jacobs
 James
 Jayapal
 Jeffries
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson (OH)
 Johnson (SD)
 Joyce (OH)
 Kaptur
 Kamlager-Dove
 Kean (NJ)
 Keating
 Kelly (IL)
 Kelly (MS)
 Kelly (PA)
 Khanna
 Kildee
 Kiley
 Kilmer
 Kim (CA)
 Kim (NJ)
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kuster
 Kustoff
 LaHood
 LaLota
 Landsman
 Langworthy
 Larson (CT)
 Latta
 Lawler

Slotkin
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (WA)
 Sorensen
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Stansbury
 Stanton
 Steel
 Stevens
 Strickland
 Swalwell
 Sykes
 Takano
 Thanedar
 Mast
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Thompson (PA)
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tokuda
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres (NY)
 Trahan
 Trone
 Underwood
 Valadao
 Van Duyn
 Van Orden
 Vargas
 Vasquez
 Veasey
 Velázquez
 Wagner
 Walberg
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Wenstrup
 Westerman
 Wexton
 Wild
 Williams (GA)
 Williams (NY)
 Wilson (FL)
 Womack
 Yakym
 Zinke

NOT VOTING—8

D'Esposito Kiggans (VA)
 Griffith Larsen (WA)
 Jackson Lee Phillips

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
 The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
 There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2210

So the amendment was rejected.
 The result of the vote was announced
 as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 74 OFFERED BY MR. SELF
 The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
 business is the demand for a recorded
 vote on amendment No. 74, printed in
 part B of House Report 118–261 offered
 by the gentleman from Texas (Mr.
 SELF), on which further proceedings
 were postponed and on which the ayes
 prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
 amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
 ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
 has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
 minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
 vice, and there were—ayes 211, noes 219,
 not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 621]

AYES—211

Aderholt Gallagher Miller-Meeks
 Alford Garbarino Mills
 Allen Garcia, Mike Molinaro
 Amodei Gimenez Moolenaar
 Armstrong Gonzales, Tony Mooney
 Arrington Good (VA) Moore (AL)
 Babin Gooden (TX) Moore (UT)
 Bacon Gosar Moran
 Baird Granger Moylan
 Balderson Graves (LA) Murphy
 Banks Graves (MO) Nehls
 Barr Green (TN) Newhouse
 Bean (FL) Greene (GA) Norman
 Bentz Griffith
 Bergman Grothman Obernolte
 Bice Guest Ogles
 Biggs Guthrie Palmer
 Bilirakis Hageman Pence
 Bishop (NC) Harris Perry
 Boebert Harshbarger Pfluger
 Bost Hern Posey
 Brecheen Higgins (LA) Reschenthaler
 Buchanan Hill Rodgers (WA)
 Buck Hinson
 Bucshon Houchin Rogers (AL)
 Burchett Hudson Rogers (KY)
 Burgess Huizenga Rose
 Burlison Hunt Rosendale
 Calvert Issa Rouzer
 Cammack Jackson (TX) Roy
 Carey James Rutherford
 Carl Johnson (OH) Salazar
 Carter (GA) Johnson (SD) Santos
 Carter (TX) Jordan Scallise
 Ciscomani Joyce (OH) Schweikert
 Cline Joyce (PA) Scott, Austin
 Cloud Kean (NJ) Self
 Clyde Kelly (MS) Sessions
 Cole Kelly (PA) Simpson
 Collins Kiley
 Comer Kim (CA) Smith (MO)
 Crane Kustoff Smith (NE)
 Crawford LaHood Smith (NJ)
 Crenshaw LaLota Smucker
 Curtis LaMalfa Spartz
 Davidson LaMalfa Stauber
 De La Cruz Lamborn Steel
 DesJarlais Langworthy Stefanik
 Diaz-Balart Latta Steil
 Lee (FL) Luna Steube
 Duarte Lesko Strong
 Duncan Letlow Tenney
 Dunn (FL) Loudermilk Tiffany
 Edwards Lucas
 Ellzey Luetkemeyer Timmons
 Emmer Luna Valadao
 Estes Luttrell Van Drew
 Ezell Mace Van Duyn
 Fallon Mann Wagner
 Feenstra Massie Walberg
 Ferguson Mast Waltz
 Finstad McCarthy Weber (TX)
 Fischbach McCaul Wenstrup
 Fitzgerald McClain Westernman
 Fleischmann McClintock Williams (NY)
 Flood McCormick Williams (TX)
 Foxx McHenry Wilson (SC)
 Franklin, Scott Meuser Wittman
 Fry Miller (IL) Womack
 Fulcher Miller (OH) Yakym
 Gaetz Miller (WV) Zinke

NOES—219

Adams
 Aguilar
 Allred
 Auchincloss
 Balint
 Barragán
 Beatty
 Bera
 Beyers
 Bishop (GA)
 Blumenauer
 Blunt Rochester
 Bonamici
 Bowman
 Boyle (PA)
 Brown
 Brownley
 Budzinski
 Bush
 Caraveo
 Carbajal
 Cárdenas
 Carson
 Carter (LA)
 Cartwright
 Casar
 Case
 Casten
 Castor (FL)
 Castro (TX)
 Chavez-DeRemer
 DelBene
 DeLauro
 DeRemer
 Deluzio
 DeSaulnier
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Escobar
 Eshoo
 Espaillat
 Evans
 Fitzpatrick
 Fletcher
 Foster
 Foushee
 Frankel, Lois
 Frost
 Gallego
 Garamendi
 Garbarino
 Garcia (IL)
 Garcia (TX)
 Garcia, Mike
 Garcia, Robert
 Gimenez
 Golden (ME)
 Goldman (NY)
 Gomez
 Gonzalez, Tony

Cuellar
 Davids (KS)
 Davis (IL)
 Davis (NC)
 Dean (PA)
 DeGette
 DeLauro
 DelBene
 Deluzio
 DeSaulnier
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Escobar
 Eshoo
 Espaillat
 Evans
 Fitzpatrick
 Fletcher
 Foster
 Foushee
 Frankel, Lois
 Frost
 Gallego

Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
González-Colón
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larson (CT)
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner

Malliotakis
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Norton
Nunn (IA)
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Peltola
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan

Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—8

D'Esposito
Jackson Lee
Kiggans (VA)

Larsen (WA)
Phillips
Radewagen

Van Orden
Webster (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2214

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. RUTHERFORD). There being no further amendments pursuant to the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STEUBE) having assumed the chair, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4820) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 838, he reported the bill back to the House with sundry amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 4820 is postponed.

CENSURING REPRESENTATIVE RASHIDA TLAIB FOR PROMOTING FALSE NARRATIVES REGARDING THE OCTOBER 7, 2023, HAMAS ATTACK ON ISRAEL AND FOR CALLING FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the resolution (H. Res. 845) censuring Representative RASHIDA TLAIB for promoting false narratives regarding the October 7, 2023, Hamas attack on Israel and for calling for the destruction of the state of Israel, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 234, nays 188, answered “present” 4, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 622]

YEAS—234

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Collins
Comer
Costa
Craig
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon

Ryan
Salazar
Santos
Scalise
Schneider
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Soto
Spartz

Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Stell
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Torres (NY)
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyn
Van Orden
Wagner

Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—188

Adams
Aguilar
Ailred
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buck
Budzinski
Bush
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clever
Clyburn
Connolly
Correa
Courtney
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Duarte
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frost
Gallego

Neguse
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Peltola
Peters
Pettersen
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Salinas
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Massie
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—4

Joyce (OH)
Norcross

Spanberger
Wild

NOT VOTING—6

D'Esposito
Jackson Lee

Kiggans (VA)
Larsen (WA)

Phillips
Webster (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 2224

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEUBE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

□ 2230

HAPPY 134TH BIRTHDAY, MONTANA

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

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to wish the State of Montana a happy 134th birthday. On November 8, 1889, Montana was the 41st State admitted to the Union, and it is truly a blessing to call it home.

Montana boasts a rich heritage and is home to some of the Nation's most pristine public lands, including Glacier National Park and the crown jewel of the National Park System, Yellowstone.

However, what truly makes Montana special is the people. Montanans are hardworking folks who value our traditions and cherish our freedoms and our liberties. There is a reason that Montana is the most patriotic State in the Nation.

Our Montana way of life is second to none, and it is an honor and a privilege to represent the Treasure State here in Congress, which is why we will continue to fight to protect our way of life.

Happy birthday, Montana.

TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank President Biden for his continued commitment to the American people.

Recently, the Biden administration announced billions of dollars in Federal funding for bridges, subways, and road projects in the Northeast Corridor.

The funding included \$3.8 billion for a new Hudson River tunnel between New Jersey and New York. The current tunnel is 113 years old, and any service delays could cost the country \$100 million in lost economic activity and disrupt service for 200,000 travelers a day.

President Biden understands the importance of the project, and his administration has provided almost \$11 billion in Federal funding for it in the last 4 months.

This funding will help millions of future travelers get to their destinations faster and safer, and it is another example of his great work as President.

CONGRATULATING DAWN BAKER

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dawn Baker on her induction into the Silver Circle.

Ms. Baker is a native of Riceboro, Georgia, and attended both Liberty County and Chatham County public school systems.

In 1989, Ms. Baker began her career at WTOC and joined the legendary group of past WTOC honorees, including Doug Weathers, Pat Prokop, Mike Manhattan, Jody Chapin, and Craig Harney with this designation.

The longtime WTOC anchor was recently inducted into the Southeast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' Silver Circle with a ceremony in Atlanta.

To be eligible for the Silver Circle, one must have 25 or more years of service and have made significant contributions to one's craft in the Southeast region.

We congratulate Ms. Baker on her remarkable achievement. Her dedication to serving the people in the First District is greatly appreciated, and we cannot think of anyone more deserving of this award.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LISA STANLEY

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

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and service of Decatur Township Supervisor Lisa Stanley who passed away this weekend after a long health battle.

Lisa Stanley was a dedicated public servant, a lifelong member of the Decatur community, and a fierce advocate for equality and justice.

Whether it was helping women with high-risk pregnancies, working with members of the Boys and Girls Club, or serving Illinois and the citizens of Decatur, Lisa spent her entire career fighting to make a difference.

As we mourn her loss, let us remember her contributions to our community and send our thoughts and prayers to her loved ones and everyone who has been touched and inspired by her life of service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LARRY COX

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of former Knoxville City Council Member Larry Cox who passed away on October 18 at the age of 81.

Larry grew up in North Knoxville where he attended Fulton High School and went on to serve for five terms on the city council.

Larry cared deeply about his community, the young and the old alike. He led the Knoxville Falcons Youth Sports Organization and ended up having the Larry Cox Senior Center named after him for his contributions to our great community and to our senior citizens.

He was a dear friend to me and my predecessor, Representative Jimmy Duncan. While I was in the Tennessee State Legislature and when I was county mayor, Larry would always call on behalf of the constituents or folks that he no longer represented, and they just needed some help.

He never called about anything for himself. He was always advocating for those around him and his community. He gave back to his community in every way he could, and he made such a positive impact on those around him.

Larry is survived by his beautiful wife, Brenda; his daughter, Brooke; his son, Shane; and his three grandchildren.

He will be deeply missed by his family and friends and missed by me, as well, Mr. Speaker. Our community loved him very much, and he will be very missed.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF PAUL BAFFICO

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, as Veterans Day approaches, I rise today to mourn the loss of Paul Baffico, a dear friend and pillar of our local veterans community.

We met 30 years ago while working together at Sears. Over the years, I learned the full breadth of his story and the depth of his character. Paul served in Vietnam in the 101st Airborne Division, participating in 206 combat assaults.

Like so many of his era, Paul was not welcomed home the way he deserved. It was an experience that informed his career and his volunteering throughout his life.

Paul committed his life to serving our Nation's veterans. For more than 15 years, Paul volunteered as a docent at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

In 2012, he founded the Lake County Veterans and Family Services Foundation, engaging with and advocating on

behalf of thousands of veterans and families.

Paul was a big man and leaves an even bigger legacy, and his memory will forever be a blessing.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD an oral history Paul shared with the Pritzker Military Museum & Library in 2013.

[From Pritzker Military Museum and Library, Nov. 17, 2023]

PAUL BAFFICO, FIRST LIEUTENANT

Paul Baffico's story of service truly represents the turmoil our nation faced in the early 1960s—a college student in San Francisco who chose to enroll in the ROTC as Americans were becoming more and more divided on the issue of the Vietnam War. Baffico served with the famed 101st Airborne Division in an area that saw heavy action, before returning home to a community that either couldn't—or wouldn't understand what the military's sacrifice had been about.

Differing from some of the public universities at the time, the school that Baffico attended—the University of San Francisco—had a requirement that all students participate in ROTC for their first two years with the option to continue on voluntarily after that. Despite the more conservative nature of the school, the university's proximity to landmarks of 60s counter-culture—Haight-Ashbury, The University of California at Berkeley, and San Francisco itself—made putting on a uniform and going to class that much more intense in an environment where heated debates about Vietnam were raging. Watching as peers were pulled out of class and taken to the draft board, however, and hoping to postpone being drafted himself, Mr. Baffico chose to continue with ROTC after the school's initial requirements had been met.

After completing his undergraduate studies, Baffico was trained as a Signal Officer at Ft. Gordon, Georgia before moving on to Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, and finally landing at Ft. Hood, Texas. From there, he deployed to Vietnam and joined up with the 101st Airborne Division as a Signal Platoon Leader at Camp Eagle, in the hotly contested DMZ. From the time he landed in Vietnam—coming into Tan Son Nhut and making the 30-minute drive by jeep to Camp Eagle—Baffico was enveloped by the dangers of the conflict that would be ever-present in his 206 combat assaults.

One day, in particular, stands out to Baffico and represents the intensity he experienced:

As dawn broke on the morning of May 6th [1970] I was called to Division Tactical Operations Center (the Situation Bunker) and told that Firebase Henderson was under heavy attack and partially overrun. It was a sapper attack and the ammo dump was on fire and cooking off. My three men had been hit: two killed and one MEDEVAC'd out. The battle was at full peak and the only working communications for the entire firebase was the Pathfinder radio (LZ air traffic control). I was ordered to get a new team and equipment ready and get them installed at Henderson within 45 minutes regardless of the situation. I was not to leave the firebase until my men were in place and the equipment was back on air.

That during his interview Baffico chooses to focus on issues of leadership surrounding this moment, and what it means to support the troops in such a situation, is perhaps telling of how hard it is to revisit certain moments in the past. Mr. Baffico does suggest it took him many years to be able to even write about that day. The understanding of leadership that Baffico took

away with him that day continued to shape him as he came home to a community protesting the war in Vietnam; as he married and raised a family, and as he began a long career with Sears Roebuck & Co.—a company that understood his service and supported him.

Baffico, who lives in Lake Bluff, Illinois and is one of the founders of the Lake County Veterans and Family Service Foundation, takes time each month to volunteer at The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., where he talks with visitors about the war-time sacrifices he witnessed and what it actually means to be of service to your country.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly an enrolled bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 366. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to treat certain individuals who served in Vietnam as a member of the armed forces of the Republic of Korea as a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States for purposes of the provision of health care by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-2348. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; International Aero Engines, LLC Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1996; Project Identifier AD-2022-01361-E; Amendment 39-22570; AD 2023-20-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2349. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier Inc.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1992; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00414-T; Amendment 39-22568; AD 2023-20-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2350. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1040; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-01512-T; Amendment 39-22558; AD 2023-19-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law

104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2351. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; British Aerospace (Operations) Limited and British Aerospace Regional Aircraft Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1643; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-01649-A; Amendment 39-22555; AD 2023-19-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2352. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1213; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-01615-T; Amendment 39-22561; AD 2023-20-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2353. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1499; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00458-T; Amendment 39-22565; AD 2023-20-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2354. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Régional Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1641; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00598-T; Amendment 39-22557; AD 2023-19-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2355. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Epic Aircraft, LLC Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1503; Project Identifier AD-2023-00197-A; Amendment 39-22566; AD 2023-20-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2356. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31511; Amdt. No.: 4082] received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2357. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31510; Amdt. No.: 4081] received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2358. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Philadelphia, PA [Docket No.:

FAA-2023-1800; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AEA-15] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2359. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Warrenton, VA [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1692; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AEA-13] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2360. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's direct final rule — Inclusion of Additional Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) Out Technical Standard Orders; Incorporation by Reference [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1836; Amdt. Nos.: 43-53 and 91-371] (RIN: 2120-AL70) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2361. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Uvalde, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1747; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ASW-15] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2362. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of VOR Federal Airway V-36 and Establishment of RNAV Route T-675; Northcentral United States [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1325; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AGL-17] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CURTIS (for himself and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 6253. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Energy to make awards to cover regulatory costs relating to licensing certain first-of-a-kind advanced nuclear reactors; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. VAN ORDEN:

H.R. 6254. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review on the Public Buildings Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BAIRD:

H.R. 6255. A bill to require the Secretary of State to report an assessment of the Conflict and Stabilization Operations Bureau, including whether the Bureau should be maintained, explanations of its function, and cost analysis of the Bureau; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BAIRD:

H.R. 6256. A bill to require that the Chief Information Officer of the Bureau of Information Resources submit an annual report that lists all the information technology procurement awards and contract that were awarded over \$10,000,000; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. BALINT:

H.R. 6257. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare coverage of ambulance services that do not include transportation; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. HAGEMAN, and Mr. MOONEY):

H.R. 6258. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to disqualify any State that discriminates against parents or guardians who oppose medical, surgical, pharmacological, psychological treatment, or clothing and social changes related to affirming the subjective claims of gender identity expressed by any minor if such claimed identity is inconsistent with such minor's biological sex from receiving funding under such Act; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARSON, and Mr. TRONE):

H.R. 6259. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to establish record-management plans in order to be accredited or continue to be accredited, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER:

H.R. 6260. A bill to provide for certain reviews of the use and safety of Federal buildings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER:

H.R. 6261. A bill to direct the Comptroller General to conduct a review on the impact of crime on public building usage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Accountability, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DAVIDSON (for himself, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. BIGGS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. MASSIE, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. MACE, Mr. CORREA, Mr. CAREY, Ms. CHU, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LIEU, and Ms. HOYLE of Oregon):

H.R. 6262. A bill to implement reforms relating to foreign intelligence surveillance authorities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select), Energy and Commerce, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 6263. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide basic and emergency supplemental living assistance grants under the student support services program; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 6264. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase the maximum stipend amounts provided under Upward Bound projects; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DUNCAN:

H.R. 6265. A bill to direct the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to update the mission statement of the Commission to ensure li-

censing and regulation is efficient and is in alignment with the policies stated in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. EZELL:

H.R. 6266. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, with respect to authority of contract security personnel of the General Services Administration Public Buildings Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 6267. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to establish Election Day as a Federal holiday; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. GUTHRIE (for himself and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 6268. A bill to enable timely licensing reviews for nuclear reactor facilities at brownfield sites and retired fossil fuel sites, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HORSFORD (for himself and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 6269. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish headstones, markers, and medallions for graves of certain enslaved individuals and individuals who performed military functions despite ineligibility to serve in the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KHANNA (for himself, Ms. BALINT, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCHA-KOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. THANEDAR, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. RAMIREZ, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 6270. A bill to amend title I of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to authorize the establishment of, and provide support for, State-based universal health care systems that provide comprehensive health benefits to State residents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Armed Services, Oversight and Accountability, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MILLER of Ohio (for himself, Mr. FLOOD, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. FINSTAD, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mrs. HINSON, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Mr. NUON of Iowa):

H.R. 6271. A bill to amend certain agricultural laws with respect to the definition of biofuels and sustainable aviation fuel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama:

H.R. 6272. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 with respect to the issuance of quality control guidance issued by the Secretary of Agriculture; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. MOYLAN:

H.R. 6273. A bill to extend the authorization of certain grants to the governments of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa, and

for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 6274. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to establish a State innovation demonstration authority; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. PEREZ (for herself, Mr. CASTEN, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 6275. A bill to prohibit brand name drug manufacturers from compensating generic drug manufacturers to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, and to prohibit biological product manufacturers from compensating biosimilar and interchangeable product manufacturers to delay entry of biosimilar and interchangeable products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6276. A bill to direct the Administrator of General Services and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to identify the utilization rate of certain public buildings and federally-leased space, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PERRY (for himself and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 6277. A bill to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to improve such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6278. A bill to direct the Administrator of General Services to identify two Federal agencies to consolidate into the GSA Headquarters Building, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. STEEL (for herself, Mr. BERA, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 6279. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow certain wearable devices to be purchased using health savings accounts and other spending arrangements and reimbursement accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. VASQUEZ (for himself, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. SALINAS, and Ms. CARAVEO):

H.R. 6280. A bill to authorize additional appropriations for certain U.S. Customs and Border Protection operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Ways and Means, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. VASQUEZ (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. CARAVEO, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina):

H.R. 6281. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to increase the punishment for certain offenses involving children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. VASQUEZ (for himself, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. CARAVEO, and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 6282. A bill to require a report on detainees in U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) custody, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.J. Res. 97. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Justice relating to "Office of the Attorney General; Home Confinement Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BUCK:

H. Res. 849. A resolution reaffirming the State of Israel's right to exist, condemning antisemitism in all forms, and rejecting false equivalencies between democracies and terrorist organizations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DONALDS (for himself, Mr. CARSON, Mr. HUNT, Mr. JAMES, and Mr. OWENS):

H. Res. 850. A resolution designating the House Press Gallery as the "Frederick Douglass Press Gallery"; to the Committee on House Administration.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 6253.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3
The single subject of this legislation is:
To advance nuclear energy by authorizing the Secretary of Energy to make awards to cover regulatory costs relating to licensing certain first-of-a-kind advanced nuclear reactors.

By Mr. VAN ORDEN:

H.R. 6254.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 1 (relating to providing for the general welfare of the United States) and Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress) and Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).

The single subject of this legislation is:
To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review on the Public Buildings Service, and for other purposes.

By Mr. BAIRD:

H.R. 6255.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

"Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution in that the legis-

lation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or any Department or Office thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:
To require the Secretary of State to report an assessment of the Conflict and Stabilization Operations Bureau, including whether the Bureau should be maintained, explanations of its function, and cost analysis of the Bureau and for other purposes.

By Mr. BAIRD:

H.R. 6256.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

"Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or any Department or Office thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:
To requires that the Chief Information Officer of the Bureau of Information Resources submit an annual report that lists all the information technology procurement awards and contract that were awarded over \$10,000,000 and for other purposes.

By Ms. BALINT:

H.R. 6257.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Medicare reimbursement for EMS

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 6258.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

The single subject of this legislation is:
Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act reform

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 6259.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

The single subject of this legislation is:
This bill amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to establish record-management plans in order to be accredited or continue to be accredited, and for other purposes.

By Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER:

H.R. 6260.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 1 (relating to providing for the general welfare of the United States) and Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress), and Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).

The single subject of this legislation is:
To provide for certain reviews of the use and safety of Federal buildings, and for other purposes

By Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER:

H.R. 6261.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 1 (relating to providing for the general welfare of the United States) and Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress), and Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Comptroller General to conduct a review on the impact of crime on public building usage, and for other purposes.

By Mr. DAVIDSON:

H.R. 6262.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Government Surveillance

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 6263.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the powers enumerated under section 8 and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Post-secondary education

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 6264.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the powers enumerated under section 8 and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Education

By Mr. DUNCAN:

H.R. 6265.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To advance nuclear energy by directing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to update the mission statement of the Commission to ensure licensing and regulation is efficient and is in alignment with the policies stated in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.

By Mr. EZELL:

H.R. 6266.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 40, United States Code, with respect to authority of contract security personnel of the General Services Administration Public Buildings Service, and for other purposes.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 6267.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:
Elections

By Mr. GUTHRIE:

H.R. 6268.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation would advance nuclear energy by directing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to identify and report on the regulations, guidance, or policy necessary to license and oversee nuclear facilities at brownfield sites and other sites with retired fossil fuel facilities.

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 6269.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Recognizes individuals who performed military service while enslaved or otherwise legally prohibited from serving on basis of their race, gender, sex, or ethnicity. The legislation would allow the final remains of these individuals to be memorialized with a headstone or marker from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 6270.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health Care

By Mr. MILLER of Ohio:

H.R. 6271.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

“The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to make rules for the government and regulation of the land, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 14 of the United States Constitution.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

To expand agriculture markets through promotion of aviation renewable fuels.

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama:

H.R. 6272.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 with respect to the issuance of quality control guidance issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.

By Mr. MOYLAN:

H.R. 6273.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Article one of the United States Constitution Congress has the power to enact this legislation.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To adjust policy regarding host communities for migrants from the Freely Associated States

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 6274.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Workforce

By Ms. PEREZ:

H.R. 6275.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

health

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6276.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Directs GSA and OMB to identify utilization rates for public buildings.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6277.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To improve the sale and transfer of federal assets.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6278.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Directs GSA to identify two federal agencies to consolidate into the GSA headquarter building.

By Mrs. STEEL:

H.R. 6279.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health Care

By Mr. VASQUEZ:

H.R. 6280.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of the Congress.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Border Security

By Mr. VASQUEZ:

H.R. 6281.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of the Congress.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Public Safety

By Mr. VASQUEZ:

H.R. 6282.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of the Congress.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Detention Oversight

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.J. Res. 97.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Disapproving of the Justice Department final rule “Office of the Attorney General; Home Confinement Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act”

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 345: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 409: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 472: Mrs. LUNA.

H.R. 529: Ms. DE LA CRUZ.

H.R. 531: Mr. PALMER and Mr. CISCOMANI.

H.R. 537: Mr. PASCARELL.

H.R. 542: Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 594: Mrs. FOUSHEE.

H.R. 595: Mrs. FOUSHEE.

H.R. 619: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. BERA, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.

H.R. 732: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

- H.R. 733: Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 743: Mr. GOODEN of Texas and Mr. FRY.
H.R. 793: Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 807: Mr. YAKYM, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, and Mr. TORRES of New York.
H.R. 847: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 936: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 953: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 974: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 977: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 987: Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. CAREY, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. ROUZER, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. OWENS, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. MANN, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mrs. KIM of California, and Mr. BENTZ.
H.R. 1015: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 1044: Mrs. PELTOLA.
H.R. 1097: Mr. KEATING, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. MOYLAN, and Mr. ELLZEY.
H.R. 1222: Mr. PANETTA and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 1235: Ms. SHERRILL and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
H.R. 1247: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 1279: Mrs. STEEL and Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas.
H.R. 1321: Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 1325: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 1477: Mr. BACON and Mr. LAHOOD.
H.R. 1488: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. DELUZIO.
H.R. 1492: Mr. FINSTAD.
H.R. 1516: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, and Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 1526: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 1679: Mr. GOMEZ.
H.R. 1705: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 1708: Mr. GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 1728: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 1770: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 1777: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 1788: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 1833: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 2374: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 2377: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 2441: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 2584: Mr. MEUSER, Mr. BACON, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 2663: Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SARBANES, and Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 2666: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 2673: Mr. BANKS, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. DUNN of Florida, and Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 2706: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 2726: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 2766: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 2878: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.
H.R. 2918: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 2941: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 2957: Mrs. WAGNER and Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 3005: Mrs. FOUSHEE.
H.R. 3063: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 3074: Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE.
H.R. 3086: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 3090: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 3170: Mr. NEGUSE and Ms. DE LA CRUZ.
H.R. 3171: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 3238: Ms. BARRAGÁN and Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 3239: Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 3253: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 3269: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 3327: Mr. EZELL and Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
H.R. 3336: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 3350: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 3376: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 3382: Mr. FROST and Mr. GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 3413: Mr. DUARTE.
H.R. 3470: Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 3475: Mr. GOMEZ, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. LEE of Florida, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 3519: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California.
H.R. 3520: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 3537: Ms. LEE of California and Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE.
H.R. 3548: Mr. RASKIN and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 3599: Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 3646: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 3662: Ms. JACKSON LEE and Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 3689: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H.R. 3690: Mr. LAHOOD, Ms. VAN DUYNÉ, and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.
H.R. 3850: Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California.
H.R. 3894: Mr. MOULTON, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. SORENSEN, and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 3933: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 3961: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 3970: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 3982: Mr. LAHOOD.
H.R. 4175: Mr. WOMACK.
H.R. 4238: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
H.R. 4261: Ms. CROCKETT and Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4315: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 4326: Ms. BUSH, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. TRONE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. NICKEL.
H.R. 4335: Mr. WOMACK.
H.R. 4370: Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 4385: Ms. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 4391: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4565: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 4569: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. DELUZIO, Mrs. FLETCHER, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 4632: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 4721: Mr. GIMENEZ and Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 4758: Ms. MATSUI and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 4812: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4819: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 4844: Ms. SPANBERGER and Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 4852: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 4937: Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 4945: Mr. LANGWORTHY.
H.R. 5008: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 5012: Ms. WEXTON.
H.R. 5041: Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. TONKO, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 5044: Mr. BABIN.
H.R. 5046: Mr. DELUZIO.
H.R. 5051: Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 5064: Mr. ALLRED, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Mr. BOWMAN.
H.R. 5073: Mr. LAHOOD.
H.R. 5077: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 5134: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 5138: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 5140: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 5147: Mr. VAN ORDEN.
H.R. 5175: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 5329: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 5353: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 5399: Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. VALÁZQUEZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. SABLÁN, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. ESPAILLAT.
H.R. 5401: Ms. WILD, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. ALLRED, and Ms. DE LA CRUZ.
H.R. 5526: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 5545: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 5585: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
H.R. 5667: Mr. LEVIN and Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 5669: Ms. STANSBURY and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 5707: Mr. KILDEE and Mr. KUSTOFF.
H.R. 5793: Mr. MCGARVEY and Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 5807: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 5826: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 5834: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 5845: Mrs. HOUCHIN.
H.R. 5854: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 5863: Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BONAMICI, and Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 5866: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 5871: Ms. SHERRILL and Ms. BALINT.
H.R. 5896: Mr. GREEN of Texas and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 5928: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 5934: Mr. PANETTA, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. TRONE, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 5937: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 5949: Mr. BIGGS.
H.R. 5995: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 6001: Mr. MOULTON, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. MCCORMICK.
H.R. 6031: Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. KUSTER, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. WEXTON, and Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 6039: Mr. GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 6062: Mr. SABLÁN.
H.R. 6087: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. EVANS, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BUSH, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. OMAR, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 6091: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 6093: Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. ROSS, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, and Ms. STEVENS.
H.R. 6110: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 6114: Ms. FOXX, Mr. SMUCKER, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. CAREY, and Mr. KUSTOFF.
H.R. 6124: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 6140: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 6143: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina and Ms. STEFANKI.
H.R. 6144: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.
H.R. 6147: Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. TLAI, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 6148: Ms. TLAI.
H.R. 6170: Mr. CRANE.
H.R. 6174: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.
H.R. 6175: Mr. PALMER.
H.R. 6200: Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 6211: Mr. BAIRD.
H.J. Res. 65: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.J. Res. 96: Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. BERA, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. CASE, Ms. HAGEMAN, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. BARR, Ms. PORTER, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Mr. SABLÁN.
H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
H. Res. 262: Mr. KEATING.
H. Res. 561: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H. Res. 600: Ms. STEVENS.
H. Res. 697: Mr. GIMENEZ.
H. Res. 793: Mrs. MCCLAINE, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H. Res. 806: Ms. CARAVEO and Ms. SHERRILL.
H. Res. 828: Ms. TOKUDA.
H. Res. 830: Mr. DIAZ-BALART and Mr. BAIRD.
H. Res. 837: Mr. MULLIN.
H. Res. 839: Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. BOWMAN.
H. Res. 844: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H. Res. 845: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Ms. VAN

November 7, 2023

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

H5547

DUYNE, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. ALFORD, and
Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.



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Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023

No. 184

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, source of our strength, we come before You today remembering that Your presence, power, and purpose sustain us during life's dangerous days. It is comforting to know that in every situation, You are always present to empower us with Your love and wisdom.

Today, use our lawmakers as instruments of Your peace and love. Examine their hearts and minds, providing them with the courage to walk continually in Your truth. Look favorably upon their efforts to bring peace to a war-torn world.

And, Lord, bless our Nation, bring healing to this land we love until all our strivings cease.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 7, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNOCK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Monica M. Bertagnolli, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, in the next 2 weeks, Congress must work together to avoid another pointless, damaging, unnecessary government shut-

down. We also must work together to defend America's national security around the world by standing with Israel, standing with Ukraine, and increasing our defenses in the Indo-Pacific. And we must provide critical humanitarian assistance, including to civilians in Gaza, who have nothing to do with Hamas, who need food and water and shelter.

None of this will be easy to do. None of this is guaranteed to happen. The outcome of the next 2 weeks will hang on the same thing I have emphasized all year long—bipartisan cooperation.

If Republicans are willing to work with Democrats in good faith on issues where there is real overlap—and there are many—then we can move forward on the things we must accomplish. But if Republicans inject partisanship into otherwise bipartisan priorities, that is only going to make it harder to avoid a shutdown, pass Israel aid, pass Ukraine aid, pass humanitarian aid for Gaza, and all our other priorities.

Yesterday, a group of Senate Republicans released a proposal for border security that they want in exchange for Ukraine funding, and they know full well what they came up with is a total nonstarter. Instead of putting together commonsense border policies that can pass in divided government, Senate Republicans basically copied and pasted large chunks of the House's radical H.R. 2 bill, and that is their asking price for helping Ukraine.

Making Ukraine funding conditional on the hard-right border policies that can't ever pass Congress is a huge mistake by our Republican colleagues. By tying Ukraine to the border, Republicans are sadly making it harder—much harder—for us to help Ukraine in their fight against Putin. It sends a terrible signal to both our friends and adversaries. It will be a moment that history will remember, if Ukraine aid is tied to this.

Large segments of both parties in the Senate support Ukraine. Large segments of both parties in the Senate

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



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support Ukraine. So why on Earth do some Republicans want to torpedo it by tying this H.R. 2 anchor to Ukraine funding? This move is only going to endanger Ukraine assistance in the long run.

If Senate Republicans' open bid for border is an amalgamation of hard right policies, then, sadly, the two parties are far apart, and we have a lot of work to do to bridge the divide.

Now, I want to be clear, I would like to bridge the divide. Our caucus would like to see some kind of commonsense border policies done, and the President would like to get something done, as his supplemental proposal shows. If we can come together in a bipartisan fashion to stop the flow of fentanyl and give our frontline officers the resources and tools they need to do their jobs and stop fentanyl, all while staying true to our values, that is what we should be doing.

So, today, we are going to keep working with our Republican colleagues to see if there is a chance for compromise, but Republicans need to actually work with us on realistic border policies, even if it is not everything they want. You can't get just a few Republicans who are pretty much on the hard-right side of their party to say: Here is what we want. Take it or leave it.

That won't work. Senate Republicans should not repeat the mistake of the House GOP when they tried to push H.R. 2. Their H.R. 2 bill is going nowhere, and this Senate GOP proposal is very close to H.R. 2.

I have always been clear that I am ready to have open, good-faith, bipartisan negotiations. I was one of the authors of the Senate's comprehensive immigration bill from 2013. It was led by John McCain and me. I know what it is like to have a hard conversation about these issues. I know through firsthand experience this topic is not easy, but, nevertheless, I am willing to have conversations about the border again if Republicans are willing to meet us halfway.

We have so many shared bipartisan priorities to protect our Nation, our national security. I hope partisanship doesn't tarnish our shared purpose. I hope we can work in the coming days to bridge the gap.

Again, when Republicans willingly inject partisanship into issues that could have some bipartisan overlap, they make it extremely hard to get anything done. I urge my Republican colleagues to stop using the same approach again and again of taking bipartisan issues and injecting them with corrosive partisan measures that help sink them.

NOMINATIONS

Well, Mr. President, today is going to be a very important and good day on the Senate floor. This morning we will confirm Monica Bertagnolli as the next Director of the NIH, the National Institutes of Health, and, later today, the Senate will hit a new milestone in our record of confirming President Biden's

diverse, well-qualified judicial nominees when we confirm two more district judges—Kenly Kato to serve in the Central District of California and Julia Kobick to serve in the District of Massachusetts. With the confirmations today, the Senate will hit two exciting milestones: 150 total judges confirmed under President Biden and 100 female judges confirmed under President Biden.

Two-thirds—two-thirds—of the judges we have confirmed are women, redressing the imbalance that has existed for centuries.

We have 150 judges now who have brought integrity and impartiality to the bench. We have 150 judges who have expanded the diversity and dynamism of our courts. We have 150 judges who are restoring America's trust in the Federal judiciary.

Finally, after that, we will advance the nomination of Ramon Reyes to be a district judge in the Eastern District of New York, setting up his confirmation tomorrow.

Last night, we filed cloture on additional judicial nominees. I am extremely proud of the work we have done to confirm these 150 judges, including 100 women to the Federal Bench. I am extremely proud of the work we have done, again, to confirm these 150 judges.

And let me put it in perspective. As of tonight, the Senate will have confirmed 100 women to the Federal bench, nearly double that of President Trump's entire first term and more than the full first term of any recent President.

These nominees are all historic, taken together, and many are historic in their own right. We have confirmed the first Black woman to the Supreme Court, the first Muslim woman to the Federal bench, and much more. This Senate has now confirmed more women of color to the bench than any Senate under any previous President, and we aren't done. We aren't done. We will continue to advance judicial nominations on the floor of this Congress, and I thank my colleagues for their cooperation.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

IRAN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 44 years ago last week, shock troops chanting "Death to America" and "Death to Israel" led Iranian revolutionaries across Tehran, overran the U.S. Embassy, and took 66 Americans hostage for 444 days. Iran's war against

America, the "Great Satan," and Israel, the "Little Satan," has continued ever since. The regime has supported Shia terrorists, Sunni terrorists, and secular terrorists. It has underwritten violence across the world, from the 1983 marine barracks bombing in Beirut, to the 1992 Israeli Embassy bombing in Buenos Aires, to the 1996 Khobar Towers bombing in Saudi Arabia, to hundreds of attacks, masterminded by Qasem Soleimani, on U.S. forces in Iraq.

Tehran has invested its time and resources into cultivating the terrorists of Hezbollah, Hamas, and Palestinian Islamic jihad. The Iranian regime bears responsibility for their savagery. It is also responsible for more than 100 attacks on U.S. personnel and interests in Iraq and Syria just since President Biden took office. These attacks have spiked since October 7.

Two weeks ago, an Iranian-made suicide drone hit a U.S. military barracks in Iraq. Thankfully, the drone's explosive payload failed to detonate. But the message it sent about the state of President Biden's deterrence of the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism was as clear as day.

In recent weeks, U.S. forces in Iraq and Syria have been targeted at least another 38 times with lethal force, and more than 40 servicemembers have been injured. Let me say that again. Iran-backed terrorists have attacked U.S. forces at least 38 times since October 7.

U.S. personnel are, of course, not the only targets of the Iranian war on Western influence in the Middle East. America's Arab allies have endured repeated attacks as well. This ongoing siege is not the behavior of an adversary that is being effectively deterred.

How we got here is no mystery. When the Biden administration took office, it rushed to restore a failed nuclear agreement with an Iranian regime that had long since proven it wasn't to be trusted. When Iran-backed Houthi rebels killed three people at an airport in the UAE and aimed two ballistic missiles at its capital last year, the administration responded with silence.

In response to the latest wave of attacks on U.S. forces, the President authorized a strike on an ammunition facility. His Secretary of State felt compelled to reiterate that "we are not looking for conflict with Iran." Clearly, Iran is looking for conflict with us. The Iranian regime is working hard to kill Americans, undermine our influence, and sow chaos among our allies, and so far, you would have to say they are succeeding.

Hamas and Palestinian Islamic jihad perpetrated the deadliest day of violence against Jews since the Holocaust. Hezbollah stands ready, at Iran's behest, to escalate this conflict into a two-front war. Years of careful progress toward normalized relations between Israel and more of its Arab neighbors has been stalled.

Demanding that Israel cease fire against Hamas would lock in these

gains for Iran. It would grant amnesty for both the terrorists and their sponsors. We have a responsibility to reject these demands not just on behalf of our ally Israel but because amnesty for terrorists would embolden the Iran-backed threats to U.S. interests in the region.

As I have said before, effective deterrence requires both capabilities and credibility. It requires that a global superpower actually act like one. In practical terms, deterring Iran and its web of terrorists means meeting attacks on U.S. personnel in Iraq and Syria with swift, lethal, and overwhelming military force. It means working with allies to deploy crippling economic sanctions and inhibit Iran's support for terror. It means finally taking the advice I offered President Biden when he took office: Set aside the failed nuclear deal; work with Republicans; and build an Iran policy that can endure long after he leaves office.

BORDER SECURITY

Now, Mr. President, on another matter, at a hearing last week, the Secretary of Homeland Security told our colleagues that "ensuring the safety of the American people is a national imperative and a government obligation." Secretary Mayorkas is absolutely right about that, but for someone who understands so clearly the duty of his office, the Biden administration's border czar is utterly failing to execute it.

After 3 straight years of record-shattering overall border apprehensions, the alarming details of the national security crisis unfolding at the southern border on this administration's watch are coming into clearer focus.

Last fiscal year didn't just set a new alltime record for border apprehensions of individuals on the Terror Watchlist; it saw arrivals from countries beyond Latin America triple. CBP personnel are now facing a human wave at the border that, according to Mexican officials, hails from 120 different countries and speaks 60 different languages.

For 3 years, policy choice by policy choice, the Biden administration has welcomed this historic flood of illegal migration and set the brave men and women of Customs and Border Protection up for failure. And it is abundantly clear that the solution to the administration's border crisis is by replacing bad policies with sensible ones. Even Secretary Mayorkas admitted last week that "policy changes are needed." But, in reality, the supplemental request he is selling on behalf of the President is much less focused on fixing policy than on throwing money at the problem. Instead of shutting off the broken asylum incentives that are driving record arrivals, the administration wants to pay for faster asylum claim processing, a shower of grant funding for overwhelmed liberal cities that once proudly declared themselves "sanctuary cities," and, as Secretary Mayorkas put it, accelerate "work authorization for eligible non-citizens."

Well, the Biden administration's border crisis has created a fork in the road. In the face of record illegal migration, Democrats are focused more on getting more people into our country faster no matter the cost. Meanwhile, Senate Republicans are focused on securing the border and putting the American people back at the forefront of our border policy. I am grateful to a group of our colleagues, led by Senators LANKFORD, GRAHAM, THUNE, and COTTON, who are working hard on proposals to do exactly that.

I suggest the absence of a quorum. The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I wish this were not true—and it is true in the United States and nowhere else—but, on average, 70 women across this country are killed each month by an intimate partner, a husband or a boyfriend mostly, and most all of those murders are at the hands of a perpetrator with a firearm.

In the United States, women are 21 times more likely to be killed by a gun than women living in any other high-income nation. I get it that the numbers that we throw around when talking about the gun violence epidemic sometimes can get a little numbing and overwhelming, but that is a really damning, unconscionable statistic.

If you live in America as a woman—the most affluent, most powerful country in the world—you are not twice as likely to die as women in other countries at the hands of a firearm, you are not 5 times more likely, you are not 10 times more likely, you are 21 times more likely, living in the United States of America, to die from a gunshot wound as a woman than women living in any other high-income country.

I am not talking about comparing the United States to some war-ravaged, developing nation in the middle of civil conflict. I am talking about comparing the United States to other peer nations. That is unacceptable.

We made progress last year. We made progress last year because Republicans and Democrats came together and said you shouldn't be able to have a gun anywhere in this country if you have a judicial history, if you have a conviction related to domestic violence. So we changed the law. We limited something called the boyfriend loophole so that whether you are a spouse or an intimate partner or a dating partner, you now can't get your hands on a weapon—you can't buy one, can't have a weapon—if you have been convicted of a domestic violence charge. That was good news.

The reason that we did that, despite the fact that the gun lobby opposed it, is because the American public has just made up their mind on this question.

In general, on most questions about keeping dangerous weapons away from dangerous people, 89 percent of Americans have already decided that they just would rather we err on the side of caution.

Specifically, on this question of prohibiting abusers—domestic abusers—from owning guns, 83 percent of Americans support that. It is really hard to get 83 percent of Americans to support anything in this country. This is maybe the most popular public policy intervention in America today, stopping domestic abusers from getting firearms.

The gun lobby and the gun industry, which want to sell weapons to everybody, regardless of their criminal status, cannot win that fight here in the U.S. Senate. They lost that fight last year because the American public has made up its mind. You are likely not getting reelected to Congress from a swing State or a swing district if you are voting against measures to take guns away from domestic abusers.

But here is the problem with the state of American politics today: There are now two legislative lawmaking bodies. One of them is the U.S. Congress. The other is across the street at the Supreme Court. So over and over again, when an industry or a rightwing interest group can't move the laws of Congress in their favor because the American public is so wildly against their priority, they just shift the venue of the fight across the street to the Supreme Court. That is what is happening right now, as we speak, on this question of keeping guns away from domestic abusers.

Today, the Supreme Court is hearing the case of United States v. Rahimi. Let me tell you a little bit about Zackey Rahimi. He was a drug dealer with a history of armed violence toward intimate partners and a history of firing guns in public places.

In the winter of 2019, Rahimi had an argument with his girlfriend in a parking lot. She tried to walk away from the argument, knowing about his penchant for violence. But he grabbed her wrist. He knocked her to the ground. He then dragged her back to the car, picking her up and throwing her into the vehicle, causing her to hit her head on the side of the vehicle. Upon realizing that a person witnessed the assault, Rahimi retrieved a gun and fired a shot into the air, during which time his girlfriend escaped.

It won't surprise you that his girlfriend went and got a restraining order against him. He was vicious and violent, firing guns in public into the air as a means to threaten her. She went and got a restraining order. That restraining order required Rahimi to be noticed to the criminal background check system so that he couldn't own or buy guns. Eighty-three percent of

Americans think that is a great idea: Somebody with that kind of dangerous history, with an active restraining order against them, should not be able to buy a gun or possess guns. That was the law in Texas at the time. It worked for this woman who was being badly abused, and her life was unquestionably under threat.

Rahimi thinks that he should have the guns. He thinks that notwithstanding his long criminal history, the restraining order, that the Constitution requires him, a domestic abuser, to have weapons. So he has brought a case that has reached the Supreme Court asking to invalidate all laws that keep weapons away from domestic abusers who are the subject of restraining orders.

If this case is decided in his favor, it is not just an outrage, it is not just dangerous; it is a frontal assault on democracy because what it would say is that the Supreme Court—not the U.S. Congress, not the elected branch of government—is going to micromanage the decisions as to who can have a gun and who can't have a gun. They will decide who is dangerous and who is not dangerous. That should make you really nervous if the outcome of this case is to decide that Zackey Rahimi is a responsible individual, capable of owning and possessing more weapons.

Later in that year, Rahimi threatened another woman with a gun, which resulted, that time, in a charge of aggravated assault. Rahimi then participated in five separate shootings—five separate shootings—all of which were in public places. Rahimi was arrested and convicted of possessing a firearm. He was ultimately sentenced for these crimes for a long time in jail.

Restraining orders are designed to look at someone, assess their penchant for violence, and then take guns away from them to protect a spouse or a woman or a girlfriend. Rahimi was violent. He was wildly violent after the restraining order. This is exactly whom the law in Texas is designed to protect us from. Yet we are perhaps weeks away from the Supreme Court invalidating that law, invalidating Connecticut's law, invalidating Georgia's laws so that domestic abusers, with histories of vicious assault, can get their hands back on weapons.

But this should come as no surprise to Americans because we have won this fight, this fight to start moving the laws of this country toward common sense. We want people to have a right to own firearms. I believe in the Second Amendment. I believe the Second Amendment protects the right of private gun ownership. I do. But I think that there is a class of individuals—a pretty small class of individuals—who have demonstrated so clearly that they are so dangerous and so irresponsible with firearms that they should not have them. It is a small class of individuals. Zackey Rahimi is clearly in that class. And the idea that we are weeks away from somebody like him

being able to get guns again should shake this country to its foundation.

Maybe the Supreme Court listens to America; maybe they don't. But this country needs to understand the gravity of the decision that is being made and the wholesale shift that will occur in legislating on the question of gun safety.

If Rahimi wins this case, we are no longer in charge. The Supreme Court will now, on a case-by-case basis, decide who can have a gun and who can't. Frankly, that is bad for progressives and supporters of gun violence prevention. That is bad for conservatives as well because once the Supreme Court gets in the business of that kind of micromanaging, we are all out of jobs. We will just show up to work, punch our clock but have really nothing to do because they ultimately will pull the strings. They will substitute themselves as the new governing policy-making body in this country.

With the stakes so high for women's safety in this country, with 70 women dying every month at the hands of an intimate partner, we cannot let that happen.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican whip.

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, we have had no shortage of reminders in the last couple of years that we continue to live in a dangerous world.

Vladimir Putin's war of aggression in Ukraine, increased Chinese belligerence, and Hamas's October 7 attack, enabled by Iran, are all powerful reminders of the fact that there will always be malign actors in this world who must be confronted. These events are also a powerful reminder of something else, and that is the need for American leadership on the global stage.

Nature abhors a vacuum, and if the United States and other free countries don't lead, other countries will fill the void—countries like Iran, Russia, and China.

I don't need to tell anyone that all three of these countries have been flexing their power in recent years and seeking to expand their footprint. Iran, as Hamas's recent attack so pointedly reminded us, is supporting terrorist organizations throughout the Middle East: Hamas, Hezbollah, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, the Houthis in Yemen, Shia militias that are attacking U.S. troops in Iraq and Syria. And the list goes on. Nor is Iran confining its sphere of activities to the Middle Eastern countries.

Iran has provided Russia with weapons to use in its war on Ukraine, and it is helping Russia to build its own drone-manufacturing facility to dramatically increase Russia's drone supply.

Russia, of course, is currently providing the world with a clear illustration of its imperial aspirations in its war of aggression in Ukraine. And

Putin has made it clear that his ambitions don't end there. He is also occupying territory in Georgia and seemingly working on asserting Russian influence in Moldova and the Balkans.

And as for China, whether it is increasingly aggressive threats against Taiwan, efforts to expand its military and economic hold over the Indo-Pacific, menacing U.S. military aircraft, or sending a spy balloon across the United States in an attempt to gather information on sensitive military sites, China has made it very clear that it is set on expanding its power—and woe to anyone who gets in its way.

And it is backing up its determination with an aggressive military buildup that has seen the Chinese military outpace the U.S. military in modern capabilities like hypersonic missiles.

So it is abundantly clear that bad actors are flexing their power. And, as I said, our response to that must be a renewed commitment to American leadership internationally.

Now, American leadership doesn't mean attempting to fix every country's problems or to get militarily involved in every conflict around the globe. We neither can nor should attempt to become the world's policeman. But that doesn't mean that we should retreat from the global stage or confine our focus to one or two areas.

There is a lot that we can do while not attempting to play global policeman or to solve every conflict. In the first place, we can and should project the kind of strength that makes bad actors unwilling to tangle with us—or with our allies. That means first, and foremost, having a strong military prepared to meet and defeat any threat, backed up by resilient supply chains. But it also means things like a strong economy and developing our energy resources so that we don't have to depend on hostile countries or hostile areas of the world for oil.

Military and economic strength is a powerful deterrent. But it is not enough. We also have to engage on the global stage. We need to build and maintain relationships with allies, support free nations, and stand against hostile actions by hostile countries.

The stronger the bonds of free nations and the more united our response to belligerent countries, the less scope these countries will have for their aggression.

The world stage is going to be dominated by someone. And when free countries abdicate a leadership role, malign actors are likely to end up controlling the playing field.

Some might suggest that the United States should only engage globally when events directly and immediately affect us. But, unfortunately, that thinking often involves underestimating just how much we are affected by world events, even those that are not a direct and immediate attack on U.S. interests.

Some, for example, would question our continued support for Ukraine.

Well, I question what will happen if we don't support Ukraine. Withdrawing American support for Ukraine could very well end up with a victorious and newly emboldened Putin on the doorstep of four former Soviet satellite states—now NATO members whom we are bound by treaty to protect.

If Putin wins in Ukraine, it is not hard to imagine him viewing incursions into one or more of these former Soviet states as a good idea. And given our treaty obligations—and the imperative to prevent a Soviet Union 2.0—it is not hard to imagine American troops being drawn into the resulting conflict.

Supporting Ukrainians' efforts to defend themselves against Putin's war of aggression is a way of preventing a conflict that would require a far greater commitment from the United States—not to mention warding off a likely catastrophic economic fallout in Europe from a wider war, which would take a heavy toll on American businesses and consumers.

Furthermore, there is little question that a Russian victory in Ukraine would embolden not just Putin but other malign actors—notably China.

If Russia is successful at taking over part or all of Ukraine, why shouldn't China think it can successfully take over Taiwan? We should be supporting Ukraine—not just because peoples fighting for freedom against tyranny are worthy of support, but because supporting Ukraine, like supporting Taiwan and Israel and other free countries, is in our national interest.

We should support Ukraine with an endgame in mind. Saying we will back Ukraine "for as long as it takes," as the President likes to say, is noble. But not being intentional about the resources we send risks prolonging this war without advancing toward that end state.

We can't expect Ukraine to tread water indefinitely. And I am hopeful that the arrival of M1 Abrams tanks, longer-reaching ATACMS missiles, and soon—soon—F-16s, while too late to meaningfully contribute to Ukraine's summer counteroffensive, will enable Ukraine to make new battlefield gains.

The Senate will soon take up a supplemental spending bill to address defense issues. And any such bill should promote security abroad by providing support for our allies—specifically, right now, Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan.

And after three successive years of recordbreaking illegal immigration at our southern border, we should make sure that any supplemental also focuses on building up our security here at home by tightening security at our borders, in addition to addressing military priorities like ramping up munitions production.

Senators GRAHAM, LANKFORD, and COTTON have produced a substantive plan to help secure the border and stem the historic level of illegal migration under this President's watch. And we should take up their proposal to address this essential aspect of our national security.

We can't solve every problem or bring peace to every conflict around the world. But the United States can be a powerful force for good, if we are willing to lead. And we should use our strength and influence to contain evil actors and advance peace and freedom around the globe. Failing to do so may have consequences for our national security now and long into the future.

I yield the floor.
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). The Senator from Kansas.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 6126
Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, what if it was your family in these body bags? What if your wife, your daughter, or your mom were raped, tortured, and killed? What if videos of your baby or your grandchild being massacred were posted all over social media? What if a month had passed and there has been no meaningful action from your ally, the most powerful nation in the world?

I stand here today to right this wrong. Today, we will show the world that, once again, America will be there to do justice, to stand up for humanity, and ensure Hamas does not become more powerful.

As I stand in this Chamber, we have the opportunity to send a real message to Iran and its terrorist proxies that we will stop their hatred and evil from spreading.

This morning, I rise in support of the bipartisan, House-passed, standalone legislation to provide aid to the people of Israel, our strongest ally in the Middle East, during their ongoing war with Hamas. It is hard to believe that today marks a month—a month—since the October 7 savage attacks by the Hamas army of terror on the people of Israel.

Hamas unleashed an attack that was worse than animals, killing thousands of Israelis and 36 American citizens. And, right now, there are as many as 240 people taken hostage by these savages that only know one language: death and destruction.

Right now, there are families of hostages here at the U.S. Capitol begging for their loved ones to be no longer tortured, for their loved ones to reach safety from the grips of this evil army of terror.

Time is of the essence. And it is imperative that the Senate not delay delivering this crucial aid to Israel another day. A timely military aid package with a unified voice from Congress showing support for Israel will not only add to Israel's stability, it will slow down and hopefully stop the evil plots of Hamas, Iran, and its proxies.

Our bill provides military assistance and resources to Israel at the exact spending levels the Biden administration has requested. And I want to emphasize: These are the exact spending levels President Biden put forth that he agrees Israel needs in this time of war.

You can imagine my surprise—and the surprise of many—to hear that our Commander in Chief, admitting to a

significant security crisis in the Middle East, has threatened to veto this aid package.

Now, think about this. Our President is threatening to veto the aid he requested from Congress. With this veto, he would snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. And why? "Why?" many, many people are asking. Just because it isn't being leveraged for a \$105 billion boondoggle package with another blank check to another unending war in Ukraine.

Today, we plan on calling the President's bluff and delivering this critical standalone measure in a bipartisan victory for the White House. We must fast-track this much needed assistance to one of our staunchest allies: the people of Israel.

If this military aid and our strong message of support is not delivered soon, Israel will find itself fighting a war on three fronts. We know that Iran has those capabilities; that through their proxy forces, they have the ability to send long-range missiles to Israel from Lebanon and Yemen.

Helping our ally who is fighting a war from all angles against Hamas shouldn't require a prolonged battle here in Congress. This is a no-brainer and should have been done yesterday—or the week before.

The support for this package to Israel is bipartisan and bicameral. Again, our legislation honors the spending levels outlined by the Biden administration for Israel and keeps aid to Israel separate from the other conflicts.

What I want to make perfectly clear to every American is that our standalone package is an opportunity to secure a huge, bipartisan win for all of humankind and get aid to Israel quickly. The legislation we brought to the floor today ensures that funding for Israel is not coupled with a billion dollars of additional moneys in aid to Ukraine, Taiwan, or for a mass amnesty program at the border.

By passing this standalone spending bill today, the Senate will expedite the arrival of the assistance to Israel after the House and our newly elected Speaker, MIKE JOHNSON, passed with bipartisan support.

Now, many of us have concerns about the Ukraine conflict. But until the White House answers the 12 questions posed by the House, including the need for an inspector general and a clear-cut peace strategy, many of us will continue to block sending billions more in dollars to what looks like a stalemate that has already, tragically, cost over 200,000 lives.

Here in the home front, what is even more disheartening for the American people is this White House embrace of open-border policies that has allowed almost 10 million—that is right, we are approaching 10 million illegal crossings of our border, making every State a border State and every American less safe.

And it is a poke in the eye to every Member of Congress who has been to

the border and advocated for border security. This President sends us a \$105 billion bill, gaslighting the American people with a small fraction of this money going to Israel, and funds to make our border even more porous—more open—with an asylum-assist program on steroids.

This is a slap in the face and disrespectful for the families who have lost a loved one to the fentanyl crisis, for the communities who are overwhelmed by our open borders, and for every American who feels less and less safe in their own homes every day. This package the White House has given us is the only unserious package in town, jammed with very serious topics, and each of these issues should be debated fully, completely, and individually.

But today, on this Senate floor, we have the opportunity to make a difference for the people of Israel and all mankind. The legislation we brought to the floor would provide \$14 billion to Israel, including \$3.5 billion for foreign military financing and \$200 million in diplomatic funding to help protect the U.S. Embassy and personnel.

This bill would provide funding for the Iron Dome and Iron Beam defense systems. It will allow the United States to stockpile more weapons in Israel and provide more funding to protect U.S. Embassies.

Importantly, this bill strips all aid to Gaza, which we know is frequently commandeered by Hamas.

All this will make Israel safer and help stop this war. And, yes, Israel has the right to defend itself and to defend its people.

Our legislation is a real opportunity to find common ground and unite here to help our allies. It passed with 226 bipartisan votes in the House. Let's stop playing politics and pass this stand-alone bill for Israel right now. The House moved quickly to deliver this legislation to us here in the Senate. We should do the same and get it to the President's desk today.

Today, I am pleased to be joined by one of my colleagues from the great State of Ohio, Senator VANCE, in leading this effort in the Senate and pushing for its passage today so we don't delay this critical funding for our greatest ally in the Middle East, Israel, and stop the spread of terror.

I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. VANCE. I appreciate my colleague from Kansas making a forceful case for why this package is necessary.

We have been told by the President, we have been told by our Israeli allies, and we have been told by a number of national security experts that Israel is in a fight for its life. It is in a fight for its life against not just an enemy in Israel but an enemy—radical Islamist terrorism—that very often has and is planning as we speak to come to our shores and to attack us.

This is a commonsense package. As the Senator from Kansas mentioned, it

gives the President the exact amount of money that he asked for to support our Israeli allies. What is different about our bill—what is different about the House's bill that had already passed from what the President requested is twofold.

First of all, this is ready to go. It is ready to go today. If we pass this package today, aid would flow to our Israeli allies immediately. That is reason No. 1 to support it.

The other difference from the President's \$106 billion behemoth of a supplemental is that this is about a single problem, because we should be debating single problems in this country. The world is complicated, of course. The world has intertwined complexities. But we should have enough respect for the American people to debate these issues distinctly because they raise separate questions.

Many of my colleagues may forget that a matter of weeks ago—a matter of months ago, there were people in this Chamber, there were people in the United States of America demanding that the State of Israel give money and weapons to the Ukrainians—money and weapons that the Israelis are now using this very moment to defend themselves.

The idea that these policies are not intended with one another, the idea that what happens in Russia and Ukraine is separate from what happens in Israel is not just obvious, it is common sense, and it has been borne out by the reality of the last couple of weeks.

My colleagues would like to collapse these packages. Too many of my colleagues would like to collapse these packages because they would like to use Israel as a political fig leaf for the President's Ukraine policy. But the President's Ukraine policy, just like the Israeli policy, should be debated. We should talk about it. We should discuss it. We should separate the cost and benefits and analyze them as distinct policies because that is what the American people deserve of their legislature.

There are many questions we could ask about the Ukraine policy, many issues that have gone completely unanswered.

No. 1: What is our end goal in Ukraine?

You hear commonly that the goal is to throw the Russians out of every inch of Ukrainian territory. Yet, when you talk to the President's own administration in private, they admit that is a strategic impossibility. Let me repeat that. No rational human being in the President's administration believes that it is possible to throw the Russians out of every inch of Ukrainian territory.

So why is that the public justification offered by many advocates of indefinite, unlimited Ukrainian aid? Because this debate is fundamentally dishonest. We are not telling the American people the truth because we know

that if we did tell them the truth, they would not support an indefinite flow of money to Ukraine.

What are we doing, ladies and gentlemen? How long is this supposed to go on? How much money are we expected to spend? What is the strategic objective? What are we trying to do? Are we monitoring the fact that we have spent nearly \$200 billion, if the supplemental passes—\$200 billion to one of the most corrupt countries in the world? Do we have proper assurances that all that money is being spent on the things we tell ourselves it is being spent on? The answer, of course, is no because we have not had a real debate in this Chamber. The American people, I think, should be ashamed of us for that fact.

Let me offer just one final observation here. You have heard in this Chamber—you heard even today—that the Ukraine policy was born of a spirit of bipartisan agreement; that we had this moment where Democrats and Republicans recognized that it was very, very important to help the Ukrainians push back against the Russian attack. Of course, we support and praise our Ukrainian friends. They have done a lot more than many people gave them credit for.

But let's also be honest that for 30 years, Washington, DC, has run on bipartisan foreign policy wisdom, and it has run this country to the ground with \$1.7 trillion deficits; war after war after war that has killed thousands of Americans, millions of other people, and has not led to the strategic strength of this country.

It was great bipartisan agreement after September 11 that threw Saddam out of Iraq. Of course, a lot of people celebrated it until right now we realize that Iraq is a client state of Iran. We empowered one of the worst regimes in the world with our bipartisan wisdom.

Maybe what we should have is some bipartisan wisdom that the foreign policy consensus of this country for the last three decades has been a disaster. It has been a disaster for this country. It has been a disaster for our dead marines, Army soldiers, Navy sailors, and Air Force airmen. It has been a disaster for this country's finances, and it has been a disaster for the entire world.

Let's have a real debate. We haven't had one in 30 years.

Mr. President, I yield to my distinguished colleague from Florida.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, the terror and devastation unleashed on Israelis by Iran-backed Hamas terrorists have rightly horrified the world. Innocent families were murdered in their homes. Children were beheaded. Girls were raped. Whole families were burned alive. An elderly, wheelchair-bound woman, later identified as a Holocaust survivor, was brutally dragged through the streets of

Gaza. Children who witnessed the murders of their parents have been kidnapped and are being held hostage by Hamas. Hundreds were mowed down at a music festival. Thousands are dead. At least 33 Americans are dead, and reportedly 10 are held hostage. The atrocities are too numerous to fully recount, but the images we have seen will never leave our memories.

In 2019, my wife Ann and I had the opportunity to visit Kfar Aza, one of the kibbutzes that was the site of a complete massacre. As the early reports were coming out, I was really worried about the kibbutz because of its proximity to Gaza. It is about half a mile away. When I heard the news that it was the site of some of the most horrific and barbaric activities, my heart just sank. We had spent an afternoon there, and it was the most peaceful place. I keep thinking about the moms and kids who were playing outside, enjoying the warm summer weather. It is gut-wrenching to think of the fate of the families we met that day.

I spoke with Chen, the lady who led our tour of the kibbutz, who was traveling outside of Israel that day and survived. I was able to speak to her right after it happened, and she has not been able to go back home. She said it was unclear if she will ever be allowed to go back home. Can you ever imagine?

So many of us in this Chamber are so deeply connected to Israel, and I bet almost everyone here as a story like mine. We know people in the IDF who have been called to serve. We have friends all over Israel who have spent days in bomb shelters as rockets have been launched by terrorists intent on wiping Israel and Jews off the face of the Earth.

I have met with survivors and hostage families. I have placed a poster outside my office that features the faces of the hostages being held by Hamas. I am not going to take it down until they get home.

Not since the Holocaust has the world witnessed such a brutal attack on the Jewish people. We have to really let that sink in. It is 2023, and it sure feels like history is repeating itself. We also have a President who can barely even talk about the Americans who are held hostage right now in Gaza.

The first step to freeing these hostages and helping Israel destroy these terrorists is passing aid for Israel. We must send the world a clear message: Attacking the United States and our allies and partners is a bad idea, and it will only end with us winning.

In the days and weeks ahead, Israel is going to once and for all destroy Hamas and its ability to exist as a terror state on Israel's borders. The United States has to support Israel right now and ensure they have the weapons they need to completely destroy Hamas.

That is why I am proud to join Senators MARSHALL, VANCE, and our colleagues on the bill. The House took de-

cisive action by passing this bill last week. They moved quickly, and the measure is fully paid for. The Senate can follow suit right now. I am proud to colead the companion bill in the Senate.

I yield back to my colleague from Kansas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MARSHALL. As if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6126, which was received from the House. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, there are some fundamental flaws in the arguments my colleagues are making for the Senate to do only half of its job, to say nothing of the partisan, so-called pay-for here—which is a giveaway to billionaires—that actually costs our Nation money and sets a dangerous precedent that our allies are fair game to be used as partisan bargaining chips.

First, we should not be pitting funding for Israel against funding for Ukraine and other needs. There is no need given the widespread support for providing assistance to both nations on both sides of this aisle. There is strong support for providing the assistance the President requested for Israel, and there are also bipartisan supermajorities in both the House and Senate in favor of Ukraine aid. That is because most of us on both sides of the aisle understand that while there are important differences, the challenges we and our allies are facing around the world today are connected.

Just last month, over 300 House Members voted for Ukraine aid, so pretending that this doesn't have the votes to pass the House simply doesn't pass muster. There is strong support here in Congress to address these urgent priorities in one package, and that is exactly what I am working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do right now.

Secondly, our allies in Ukraine can no more afford a delay than our allies in Israel. Ukraine is at a critical point in a brutal war to defend its sovereignty against Putin's bloody invasion. We must not give Putin a win and throw Ukraine to the wolves for political expediency. After all, what sort of message does it send about our commitment to our allies if we delay Ukraine aid further, especially after we have already missed our earlier opportunities to get this done?

For American leadership to have any weight in the world, our word has to mean something. Our commitments have to be ironclad. That means we do not abandon our allies in their time of need, period.

Failing to stand by Ukraine now will only embolden Putin and other dictators looking to trample democracies, which brings me to my last point.

While the challenges we and our partners face across the globe have different natures and nuances, we have to be strategic enough to understand that they are connected, they are urgent, and they should be addressed as part of one package.

The Chinese Government is watching how we respond to Putin's aggression in Ukraine. Putin is wanting the Hamas attack to give him an opening to distract the world from aiding Ukraine against his brutal invasion.

In fact, we know that a Hamas delegation visited Moscow recently. So let's stop pretending there is no common thread.

And, make no mistake, Hamas is hoping that we ignore the humanitarian needs in Gaza so it can drive people to despair and anger and, ultimately, extremism.

When it comes to humanitarian aid, making sure that people have food and water and medical care isn't just the right and moral thing to do. It is also very clearly in our national interest, as this promotes long-term stability and security, combatting hopelessness that can spiral into new threats.

Our adversaries are watching closely to see whether we have the vision to recognize how these crises are related and the resolve to come together and respond forcefully to them. We need to send a strong message, and the way we do that is by passing a strong security package. We are working together right now to get that done, and I urge all of our colleagues to support us in those efforts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, reserving my right to object, I, too, believe, with my colleague from Washington State, that we must move forward with emergency funding for our allies—all of our allies, not just the State of Israel but also Ukraine. I also think we have to move quickly to head off a closure or shutdown of our government next week, and we have to address the pressing needs of the American people in this process.

But it is very clear that this proposal before us—this unanimous consent to pass the bill including only funds for Israel—is just an attempt to deny assistance to Ukraine. It is not really about helping Israel. It is about making sure we don't continue to keep our commitments to Ukraine.

And we have had a debate about Ukraine. We have talked over 2 years about Ukraine, how dangerous Russian aggression can be, not just with respect to the people of Ukraine but to the rest of the world.

As my colleague said, China is watching. In fact, I think they are paying more attention to Ukraine than the current issue in Israel because Putin's imperialistic dreams of restoring the

Russian Empire resonate more closely to the Xi Jinping's imperialist dreams to reunite Taiwan to China.

So if we fail in Ukraine, I think that will send a very strong and unfortunate message to China that you can attack, wait the West out, and, eventually, they will concede. That is not good strategy or policy.

My colleagues argue that this will deny Israel getting the means to defend itself. Well, we have already been supporting the State of Israel. We have moved two aircraft carrier strike groups into the region. We are moving marines into the region. We are sending signals that we are strongly protecting them. Indeed, we have already engaged and shot down missiles from our naval forces. We have also suffered more than 40 injuries of American military personnel because of actions against the United States' positions in the Middle East because of our protection of Israel.

We cannot abandon Ukraine. They have lost hundreds of thousands of civilians and military personnel.

If you want to talk about horrors, October 7 was a horrible day. I was in Israel. I saw photographs—some that have not yet been released—of the tragedy. It was traumatic for the entire State of Israel.

But go to Ukraine. Go to Bucha. Dig up the graves of people shot in the back of the head while their hands were tied.

You want to talk about atrocities? Those were atrocities.

So we are fighting forces that are dark and evil, and we have to support all of those democratic nations—Israel and Ukraine—that are struggling against that darkness.

Now, this is not my opinion alone. Last week, Mike Pompeo, the former Secretary of State for Donald Trump and a former Congressman from Senator MARSHALL's home State of Kansas wrote:

Make no mistake: the outcome of this war will have a direct impact on U.S. national security.

He was speaking of Ukraine.

Should Putin prevail—whether on the battlefield or through a war of attrition that leads to ill-conceived diplomacy—the war would be felt well beyond Ukraine's borders.

Indeed, I would add, if we fail to support Ukraine with funding and equipment, then it is more likely that young American servicemembers will be called upon to fight and die and suffer in Eastern Europe, because, as so many of my colleagues have suggested and as Secretary Pompeo suggested, Putin will not be satisfied with simply taking Ukraine, and we could see ourselves engaged in defending one of our NATO allies.

I have a very simple sort of notion about American military policy. I would rather send resources to a country fighting than send American soldiers to do the fighting, and, if we don't support Ukraine, that will happen.

Now, this is a situation that calls on us to do the right thing, and we have to do the right thing. But this is not something that we can do separate one from another, because, as we have all said, there is a connectivity here, and this connectivity has to be recognized.

Now, the other point I would make, too, is that this bill is paid for. Now, this to me is one of the most startling aspects of the legislation that the Senator from Kansas is promoting because they pay for it by taking money away from the Internal Revenue Service. Some would say they are using the Israeli crisis as a way to do what so many of my Republican colleagues like to do—give tax breaks to the wealthy—because when you take money away from the IRS, you go ahead and ensure that people can feel much more comfortable about not paying their taxes.

The Wall Street Journal published an article a few days ago. In 2021, the IRS failed to collect \$688 billion that was owed to the United States of America. That is many times this supplemental that we are talking about. No financial institution would take money away from its bill collectors on the notion that, oh, that is OK. Only in Washington would we do that.

This bill is, thus, irresponsible in the way it is paid for and irresponsible in ignoring our commitment to Ukraine.

It is time to get serious. We have 10 days before our government runs out of funding. Israel needs our support. Ukraine needs our support. American families and communities are counting on us to deliver critical disaster assistance. They need support for affordable, high-quality childcare. They need many things that are also at a crisis level. And we don't have time—we don't have time—to entertain political gestures to send a signal to Israel and a signal to the rich in America that we are with you and neglect and leave out Ukrainians, who have been struggling and fighting against a foe that is determined to continue this fight in Europe. Ultimately, I feel if we don't respond appropriately, this forces us to send our men and women into the fight.

I commend Chair MURRAY and Vice Chair COLLINS for standing up for this country and for our allies.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, as the chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I have come to the floor to speak about Hamas's attack on Israel. I joined with Senator REED—10 Senators, 5 Democrats and 5 Republicans—to visit Israel 2 weeks ago. We saw the brutality of Hamas firsthand. We met with the families of the hostages. We made it clear that we stand with Israel's right to defend itself, and we strongly support President Biden's efforts and the supplemental appropriations to provide those funds to Israel.

So why do I have concern about the unanimous consent request that has been presented? Because it is not bipar-

tisan. If you want to look at bipartisanship, look at the work of Senator MURRAY and Senator COLLINS on the Appropriations Committee. They have worked to get the type of unity we need in order to pass appropriations bills and get them into law, consistent with the agreements that were reached earlier this year, recognizing the division in our Congress. We need to have a bipartisan supplemental appropriations bill on the floor as quickly as possible.

So I am extremely disappointed by the action of the House because it is urgent that we consider the supplemental appropriations bill, and, because of the action in the House, it will now be delayed. Make no mistake about that. If the House would have acted in a responsible, bipartisan way, including the package that was submitted by President Biden, we would have had an excellent opportunity to pass a supplemental appropriations bill before November 17—the date, by the way, that our continuing resolution expires.

I am now deeply concerned, as a result of what happened in the House, as to whether we are going to be able to get that supplemental appropriations bill done before November 17, and it is urgent that we do this.

So let me speak about Ukraine. Ukraine is the frontline in defense of democracy. We know that Russia's invasion of Ukraine was not just aimed at taking over Ukraine. Mr. Putin would not stop with Ukraine. The Baltic States are clearly in his vision, and Moldova, Georgia, and beyond.

And as Senator REED pointed out, it is a lot better for us to have the frontline with the use of our funds defending our democracy than having to send American soldiers to Europe.

It is urgent we get assistance to Ukraine. We missed an opportunity 2 months ago. We have got to show the world that we are committed to the defense of democracy—U.S. leadership.

Just think about the message it would send if we say: We are going to help Israel, but I am sorry, Ukraine, we don't have time for you.

That is giving Mr. Putin a gift. We can't do that.

U.S. leadership is critically important. We need to make sure that we provide the leadership, and, quite frankly, our allies around the world are joining us, providing in total more assistance than we are. But it is absolutely essential that America lead, and we must get this Ukrainian aid moving forward. We need to do it in a bipartisan way.

It is a good investment. It is a good investment in protecting our democracy in Ukraine. It is a good investment in degrading Russia's military.

So let me try to connect the dots here, if I might, because Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine is very much related to Hamas's attack in Israel. Two of the most dangerous and brutal dictatorships in the world, Iran and

North Korea, have joined forces with Putin to support Russia's war efforts. Make no mistake about it. It was Russia that invaded Ukraine. Iran's proxy, Hamas, attacked Israel. Connect the dots.

We can't ignore Russia and think we are going to be safe in the Middle East. We need to provide the type of security that will help us with our own national security.

Iran is building factories in Russia to pump out new drones. North Korea is sending munitions to help Putin rearm his forces. We need a supplemental appropriations package that counters all of these threats, and we need to do it now.

So for the sake of our national security, we can't waste time. That is exactly what the House is doing by sending us this supplemental appropriation. We need to come together and show the leadership—the bipartisan leadership—in the Senate. Keep the package together. Let's put America's security first, and let's get to work immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, our colleague has come to the floor and asked for unanimous consent for a bill of some major significance. This bill deliberately throws the Republic of Ukraine under the bus by ripping Ukraine out of the emergency supplemental. This bill would have a very powerful, consequential impact. It will allow Ukraine to be torn apart by Putin's savage invasion.

In the process, it will shatter the Atlantic alliance; it will fracture NATO; it will destroy American leadership in defending democracies; and it will empower dictators around the world, dictators who conclude that they can outlast the coalition of democratic republics when a dictator seeks to conquer a democratic neighbor.

The last time our world saw such complicity placating a vicious conqueror was when Chamberlain went to Munich. In Munich, Chamberlain told Hitler he could take a big slice of Czechoslovakia, and England would look the other way.

Chamberlain declared peace in our time, but his appeasement did not produce peace in our time. Instead, it stoked Hitler's appetite for conquering adjacent land and set the stage for the Second World War, with a massive loss of life and treasure of Americans and life and treasure of many nations around the world.

I tell you this: Appeasing Putin today is as wrong and mistaken as appeasing Hitler was 85 years ago. We must stand with the freedom-loving, fierce-fighting, democracy-defending people of the Republic of Ukraine.

If you love Putin, then by all means, support this bill. If you love China and want to stoke China's appetite to invade Taiwan, then by all means, support this bill.

But if you love freedom, if you love democracy, if you respect the courage and the fortitude of the freedom-loving people of Ukraine, if you oppose democracy-crushing authoritarians wherever they are found, then oppose this bill.

There must be no Putin appeasement on the floor of the Senate. There must be no complicity in creating a Munich moment. And so I join my colleagues in preparing to object to this bill.

I yield to my colleague from Maryland.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, at this moment of danger and peril around the world, we, the United States, must support our friends and democracies that are under attack from brutal adversaries. That means ensuring that Israel has the right to defend itself in the aftermath of the brutal October 7 attack of Hamas. It also means ensuring that the people of Ukraine can defend themselves against Putin's rank aggression.

This proposal on the floor today is tantamount to surrendering to Putin's aggression. This is waving the white flag.

All of us were gathered in the Old Senate Chamber—most of us—recently when President Zelenskyy addressed the U.S. Senate. President Zelenskyy was very clear that the Ukrainians would continue to fight on no matter what. But he was equally clear that without the support of the United States and our allies, Putin has the upper hand, and it becomes a matter of time.

As we speak here, the Ukrainians are shedding blood. They are giving their lives. For God's sake, the least we could do is continue to provide them with the military and other assistance they need to fight off aggression, and time is of the essence in Ukraine.

And as my colleagues have said, this is not only about defending democracy and sovereignty in Ukraine; it is about the credibility of the NATO alliance and our other European partners who have come together to say to Putin: We stand together against your aggression.

The United States takes a walk, it sends a terrible signal not just to Ukraine but to all our NATO partners with whom we also say we have shared security interest. They see the United States walk away, it undermines the credibility of the entire alliance, not just with respect to Ukraine but with respect to any further aggression by Putin or others.

And it is not just about the NATO alliance. As my colleagues have said, this is also about other autocrats around the world who are watching very closely what happens in Ukraine, including what happens with respect to U.S. support in Ukraine.

President Xi is watching very closely as he keeps one eye on Taiwan. So

make no mistake about it, you can't get out here on the Senate floor and say you want to help protect Taiwan, say that you want to be tough on China when you are weak on Ukraine because what happens in Ukraine has a direct bearing on what happens to Taiwan and a direct bearing on Xi's aggression in the Indo-Pacific region. You can't have it both ways. That has been very clear from our allies in East Asia.

Talk to the leaders of Japan. Talk to the leaders in the Republic of Korea. Talk to other leaders in the Indo-Pacific. They say, if the United States walks on assistance to Ukraine, that our credibility will be totally undermined with respect to our allies in the Indo-Pacific region and that President Xi will have the upper hand there. So let's not pretend we are tough on China when you are weak on Ukraine.

Finally, as the chair of Appropriations pointed out, embedded in this proposal is also what appears to be a very cynical effort to actually use the claim of supporting Israel in order to secure relief for very rich taxpayers in the United States. This cuts funding from the IRS that the IRS will use to enforce current law against very wealthy Americans who are not paying the taxes that are already due and owing.

So under the cover of this bill, our Republican friends apparently want to help out very wealthy taxpayers who aren't paying their fair share, which is why the Congressional Budget Office has said that even when you cut the moneys to the IRS, it is going to actually increase the deficit.

The provision that the House had to cut funding for the IRS, which I guess they thought they were going to fool people that it was going to cover the cost of helping Israel—it doesn't do that. It actually adds to the deficit. Why? Because the IRS will not be able to enforce current tax law against very wealthy Americans who refuse to pay their fair share.

I know Republicans are always looking for a way to give the very wealthy and the very rich a free ride, but this takes cynicism to a new level. So I propose that we come back to the Senate floor with a proposal that does the right thing to support and defend Israel and its attacks from Hamas but also does the right thing for Ukraine, for the credibility of the NATO alliance, for the credibility of our alliances in the Indo-Pacific, for the people of Taiwan, and makes sure that this isn't used as a cover to give very wealthy people here in the United States a free ride on the taxes that already are due and owing.

So, with that, I yield the floor to the Senator from New Hampshire.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I join my colleagues in opposition to Senator MARSHALL's proposal and in support of a supplemental funding request that

recognizes the breadth of our national security interests, which should include Ukraine, Israel, and the emerging challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.

In Ukraine, as we know, Russia's brutal campaign of aggression is threatening the country's freedom and sovereignty, and the horrific events of October 7—1 month ago today—have forced Israel to defend itself in response to the worst terrorist attack that they have encountered. Both nations—both nations—face a similar threat against adversaries that seek to destroy them: Hamas wants to wipe Israel off the map. Putin wants to absorb Ukraine into Russia to recreate the Soviet Union.

Now, our allies and partners have already contributed a total of \$94.1 billion to support Ukraine's war and recovery effort. And we, alongside our international partners, recognize that the Ukrainian people are not only defending their land and freedom, they are fighting for the preservation of liberal democracies around the world.

What some of my colleagues overlook in their singular campaign in support of Israel is just how closely the fate of Ukraine and Israel are tied together, and there is one country which links both of those countries together. That country is Iran. Iran has been complicit in Russia's actions in Ukraine, exporting weapons and drones which inflict further bloodshed and harm on the Ukrainian people, and Iran is backing Hamas, which is waging war on the State of Israel.

And what is especially egregious is the blatant display of their malign partnership. Last week, Putin hosted Hamas and Iranian leadership, and Hamas expressed appreciation for Russia's criticism of Israeli sanctions.

This bill that Senator MARSHALL is proposing would also cost the Federal government \$27 billion—almost double what it provides to support Israel—and Senator VAN HOLLEN has been very eloquent in the reasons why that seems to be in the bill.

But it also strips out essential funding we need to address: the pacing threat from China in the Indo-Pacific. It ignores the humanitarian needs for both Ukraine and Israel. But most important, we can't pick and choose when the United States stands on the side of freedom and democracy. Do we really want to give a green light to Vladimir Putin to continue his revisionist crusade across Europe? Do we really want to give the impression to the allies and adversaries that the United States can't be depended on as a trusted partner? Do we really want to sow doubt in President Xi's mind that the United States will stand up for a free and open Indo-Pacific?

Our adversaries want the United States to fall short in standing up for our allies. They want us to be divided. We need to show them that we are united, and I am very pleased that Leader MCCONNELL and Appropriations Vice Chair COLLINS and so many of our

Republican colleagues are in full support of a holistic supplemental funding package. It is important that we fund this holistic response to address both Israel and Ukraine's needs, which includes humanitarian support for both Israel and Ukraine. I yield to my colleague from Minnesota.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I rise today to implore my colleagues to pass a national security supplemental in line with what Senator SHAHEEN, the great Senator from New Hampshire, just outlined: yes, to stand up to the Hamas terrorists but also to stand up for an open and free Indo-Pacific, to stand up for humanitarian aid, and to stand up to Vladimir Putin and his barbaric invasion of our ally Ukraine.

That is what I am going to focus on today because I have seen many of our colleagues on both side of the aisle standing proudly with President Zelenskyy. The rhetoric of standing up for democracy has to be matched by what happens in this bill. Just as Putin has shown his true colors—intentionally bombing apartment buildings, capturing cities, and slaughtering innocents, abducting Ukrainian children—the Ukrainian people have shown theirs in bright blue and yellow against all odds.

Since the invasion last February, Ukraine has reclaimed 50 percent of the territory that Russia unlawfully seized from them.

As the Ukrainians advance, Putin—what has happened? He tried to capture Kyiv, but he failed. He tried to wipe Ukraine off the map, but he failed. He tried to drive a wedge between the United States and our allies, but he failed. He tried to topple the Ukrainian Government, but he failed.

Putin tried to break the Ukrainian spirit, but he has made it stronger. He tried to break NATO, but NATO added member states.

Our Ukrainian allies have persevered against all odds. When Putin tried to weaponize winter, Ukraine kept the lights on. When he tried to stop them from producing and selling grain, Ukraine found a way forward.

In his visit to Washington, DC, in September, President Zelenskyy made it clear: Ukraine as we know it depends on the support of its allies—not just the United States but countries in Europe, countries like South Korea, countries like Japan. To abandon our allies now would be a dereliction of duty.

We will not abandon our allies. As Americans, we believe in government based on the principles of democracy and decency at home and abroad. After World War II, we made it clear that big countries can't invade little countries. Our fight is not only a fight for Ukraine; it is a fight for protecting democracy across the globe.

As President Zelenskyy said at the U.N. earlier this year, if we allow Ukraine to be carved up, is the independence of any nation secure?

We know what Putin has done—bombed hospitals, schools, apartment buildings; continues to weaponize food and energy. We cannot let our Ukrainian allies succumb because the United States just decided, eh, we said we were going to do this before, but now, we don't think so. That is not standing up for democracy. As my colleagues have so well pointed out, other tyrants in the world are watching. They are watching to see if we keep our covenants. They are watching to see if we keep our word.

We know what is happening in Ukraine—ballerinas putting on camo and going to the frontlines; exhausted workers at the biggest nuclear powerplant in Europe trying to protect not only Ukraine but all of Europe from a nuclear disaster; the cellist playing melodies in the bombed-out remnants of a town square to remind people that despite Vladimir Putin's worst efforts, culture and humanity are there in Ukraine and are not going away—as we saw the head of the museum in Odesa remind us this week—despite the bombing.

As President Zelenskyy has said, “There is not a soul in Ukraine that does not feel gratitude to you, America.”

When Rob Portman and I visited Kyiv this last August, what did we hear a year ago? We heard “Thank you for the HIMARS” on a bag of takeout food to the U.S. Embassy. We heard that was a name they were naming their kids—“Himar.” They know what we have done. They need us now.

As Congress continues to negotiate the budget, we must find a way forward on Ukraine. As Senator MCCONNELL reaffirmed, “Think of it as an axis of evil: China, Russia and Iran. So this is not just a test for Ukraine,” I say to my colleagues who are focused on national security. “It is a test for the United States and for the free world”—yes, an opportunity to secure our own borders but also an opportunity to secure the borders of our allies' democracies.

Remember the three words that Zelenskyy uttered on that first day when everyone had counted him out? He went to the street corner—just a few people around him—when everyone thought Russia was just going to take them out, and he said three words: “We are here.”

“We are here.”

That is what we have to do right now in this Chamber. We cannot send the message “We are not here” or “We were there before, but we are not here right now.” We are here.

I yield the floor, and I turn it over to my colleague from the great State of Delaware.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I join my colleagues in standing to speak against a proposal brought to the floor by my

colleague from Kansas—a proposal that would move aid to Israel swiftly but ignore the urgency and the importance of humanitarian aid to countries around the world, of investments to secure our own border, of critical aid to Ukraine.

As my colleague has just spoken eloquently, we have all been inspired by the tens of thousands of Ukrainians who, hearing the urgency of the call to fight for their nation, to fight for their freedom, have laid down their lives, have worked to restructure their society and to aim towards freedom.

I have a hard time countenancing the idea that we today, on this floor, in this Senate, would walk away from this moment of challenge. As many colleagues have said and as I will briefly point out, the proposal that has come over from the House is not serious. It uses the tragedy, the horror of Hamas and its attack on innocent civilians in Israel, killing dozens of Americans, 1,400 in all—the brutality of that and the urgency of this moment—to advance a pay-for under the cloak of fiscal responsibility that would add \$27 billion to our national deficit.

Many of us have already dismissed this proposal as not serious, but this is a serious moment. As my colleague from Ohio has said, we need a serious debate about our path forward, about where we are going and why.

I want to speak briefly to two components of this bill and then close.

Our President's supplemental proposal includes \$13.6 billion to secure our border. The last serious, bipartisan proposal on border security, which was the King-Rounds bill we took up in 2018, invested \$25 billion over 10 years, \$2.5 billion a year. This supplemental would put \$13 billion in 1 year into hiring thousands of new border agents—CBP and Border Patrol; thousands of new staff—attorneys, folks who can move the asylum process quickly; money for detention and deportation; and nearly a billion-dollar investment in scanning everything coming across our border to end human trafficking and the importation of fentanyl. This is a serious proposal that deserves serious support.

Last, the humanitarian piece of this overall supplement would not just help ease the suffering in Ukraine, in Gaza, but in dozens of countries around the world facing a collapse due to a global calamity of hunger.

Let me conclude. It is right now—right now—twilight, dusk in Kyiv. It is right now as we debate on this floor twilight, dusk in Jerusalem. I am confident there are members of the Ukrainian Government, there are members of the leadership of Ukrainian forces, there are individuals on the frontline in Ukraine listening to this debate, urgently wondering: Will we stand? Will this Senate that invited President Zelenskyy to address us in the Old Senate Chamber just 6 weeks ago keep our word? Will we stand or will we fall? This is a moment that will

test our Nation. This is a moment that tests this body. Will we allow ourselves to be distracted by moments of comfort or ease or will we take up the hard work with the leadership of this talented and capable pair, the chair and vice chair of our Appropriations Committee? Will we negotiate? Will we compromise? Will we take up the challenge laid before us to be the indispensable Nation that will care for those in need, that will secure our own border, that will defend Israel, that will defend Ukraine, that will look and face this moment and say: We are the indispensable Nation.

Will we stand, Mr. President?

It is my prayer that we have, we must, and we will.

With that, I yield the floor to my colleague from the State of Washington.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, for all of these well-stated reasons, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, this has certainly been one of the most substantive debates we have had up here—very meaningful and very important to myself—because it exposes what our priorities are as Senators to everybody across the Nation.

Today, I heard lots of arguments on why we should combine funding. People essentially want to leverage support for Israel for their own priorities. Again, there were lots of arguments on why we should combine the funding, but I didn't hear one meaningful argument that describes why we should not fund Israel singularly. Why shouldn't we just do it by itself? There is near unanimous agreement up here. This is a great opportunity to say, indeed, this is the time to support Israel. No one is abandoning Ukraine today. We are not abandoning Taiwan today.

But it is interesting to me that no one talked about the concern of the corruption in Ukraine, talked about their federal government nationalizing communications companies, the fact that Poland and Hungary and other countries are leaving them and saying that they don't support the war anymore.

No one is talking about peace. No one is talking about the 200,000 people who have already died in Ukraine. Are those bodies—are those people not important as well? Why isn't America leading a peace agreement?

Time is of the essence. Time is of the essence. But, as we can tell today, we can debate each and every one of these topics until the Sun sets here, until the Sun rises in Israel, but there is not unanimous—not near unanimous support for Ukraine without some certain questions being answered. Lots of questions need to be answered. Is there a plan?

Look at the schedules this week. Why are we talking about some type of supplemental bill on the floor? Why

don't we have it on the floor yet? If we were serious up here, if my leaders across the aisle and at the White House were serious, they would have had something on the floor last week. This is the administration that takes a week to decide to send an aircraft carrier when our allies are in need. The schedule this week is embarrassing, what we are spending time on up here.

I want to go back to priorities. I think so often all these causes are important, and we all agree that we need to address each and every one of them, but if I listen to my friends across the aisle, they would describe Ukraine as the priority.

I don't think anyone back home can really take the President's supplemental bill as serious when he actually makes the border more open. Ten million people have crossed the border illegally under his watch, and what he throws into this supplemental package is actually going to increase the number of people crossing the border illegally. The priority should be to fix a broken immigration system and to secure the border; that at the end of the day, there are less people crossing the border illegally, not more; that we need a policy that turns off this magnet of asking people to come here.

At the end of the day, what it looks like to me is my friends across the aisle want to take this opportunity of support for Israel and leverage it to pass their votes for their own agenda—an agenda of an open border, endless funding for an endless war in Ukraine.

Every day I wake up, I pray that I would do justice, that I would love mercy, and I would like to think that would be true of every Member of the Senate.

The argument today is not about the IRS. It is not about what is happening in the House. It is about what we are saying. It is about what we are doing and our willingness to stand up and fight in this case for the people of Israel. But this is a battle that goes way beyond just a battle between the people of Israel and the Hamas army of terror; this is a battle for the future of humankind.

We have encountered 179 known terrorists on the watch list, 60,000 aliens of interest have crossed our border, and the numbers go on. Just this week, they caught a terrorist who was released at the border, caught in New York as well.

This is about doing what is fair, what is right, and what is just. We may disagree on Ukraine. We may disagree on what we should do in Taiwan. We definitely disagree on what we should do at the border. And I will admit to you, I could be wrong on Ukraine. It will take history 50 or 100 or 200 years to find out who was right or wrong on Ukraine. But I am telling you this. You can take this to the bank: I am right on securing the border, and I am right on supporting Israel.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I am going to ask unanimous consent, but before I do, I just want to respond to the Senator and say we have a proposal that covers Israel, humanitarian aid, Ukraine, and the border. We are working to get that done, and I welcome the input from our Republican colleagues so that we can be a strong United States of America and address the issues we all need to address.

NOMINATION OF MONICA M. BERTAGNOLLI

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to express my support for Dr. Monica M. Bertagnolli, whom President Biden nominated to serve as the next Director of the National Institutes of Health—NIH. As current director of the National Cancer Institute—NCI—and a distinguished professor and surgeon, Dr. Bertagnolli certainly possesses the experience that will make her an effective leader for our Nation's preeminent research center.

The NIH serves as the pinnacle of biomedical and behavioral research in the United States and provides valuable insights that are used around the world for saving lives and improving people's health. Whether we know it or not, the NIH and the research done there has touched all of our lives by giving our healthcare professionals the resources they need for success. We in Maryland are proud to have the NIH headquartered in Bethesda, with so many in our State contributing to its important mission.

Thanks to Dr. Bertagnolli's decades of experience as a physician-scientist, she has obtained a well-rounded view of medical research that I am confident will properly inform her decisions as NIH Director. Her work to better understand the development and treatment of various types of cancer highlights the diligence and effectiveness that qualify Dr. Bertagnolli for this position.

As NCI Director, Dr. Bertagnolli has demonstrated her leadership capabilities alongside her efficacy as a researcher, working with the Biden Administration to reignite the Cancer Moonshot, which aims to reduce cancer mortality by 50 percent over the next 25 years. This ambitious goal reflects the determination of our cancer research professionals and President Biden's continued commitment to investing in programs, consortia, and research projects that aim to end cancer as we know it. The NCI, along with spearheading the Cancer Moonshot initiative, has also partnered with the Biden Administration to address disparities in cancer outcomes for Americans living in low-income areas, working to implement community-based programs in locations facing persistent poverty.

Just a few weeks into her tenure as director of NCI, Dr. Bertagnolli's work became much more personal as she was diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer following a routine mammogram. She was forced to balance her new role as our Nation's leading cancer re-

searcher with her own personal battle with the disease. I cannot commend Dr. Bertagnolli enough for the strength she has shown to continue her service to Americans in the face of such a daunting challenge.

If the Senate confirms Dr. Bertagnolli today, I would encourage her to take aim at some of the most pressing healthcare issues facing our country. As things stand, significant health disparities exist in the United States, with many Americans not receiving equitable access to care. Dr. Bertagnolli's confirmation provides her with the chance to utilize the NIH's National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities to work towards solutions for underserved populations that aren't receiving the care they need. Her new role would also empower her to build a stronger, more diverse healthcare workforce, one that would be well-equipped to face the challenges of today.

As a Marylander, I would be proud to welcome Dr. Bertagnolli to our State. She will be tasked with addressing many crucial and complex issues as Director of the NIH, but I am confident that she is up to the challenge.

I ask the Senate colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Bertagnolli for the outstanding work she has done as a researcher and surgeon, to support her confirmation, and to wish her well in her new role should she be confirmed.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 2 minutes prior to the vote, followed by Senator SANDERS, who will speak for up to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I have always strongly advocated for the NIH because I know the work that they do—as so many world-class institutions, including several in Washington State—isn't just cutting edge; it is lifesaving. This Agency, the NIH, holds the hope and future of patients across the country in its hands. So it is of the utmost importance to me to make sure we have an experienced leader at the helm of NIH, and Dr. Bertagnolli is an excellent choice to lead the Agency at this critical moment. You need a steady hand to be a cancer surgeon after all.

Her credentials go far beyond her record of accomplishment as an oncologist. She is a respected researcher and a proven leader. She has served on the board of directors of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, the American Cancer Society, and the Prevent Cancer Foundation. She was the CEO of Alliance Foundation Trials, LLC, a not-for-profit focused on making sure rural communities are included in clinical studies. Of course, now she is the head of the National Cancer Institute, where she has led the research strategy and goals for President Biden's Cancer Moonshot Initiative.

In addition to that which she brings to this role, she also brings a strong

personal connection, which she spoke about at our HELP Committee hearing. She brings the personal experience of growing up in a rural community, where she watched her uncle travel across the State to provide care to patients and where she watched her father fight cancer while care was far from home. And she brings the most recent personal experience of receiving a cancer diagnosis and then of receiving care that was made possible by NIH research.

It is clear that those experiences will inform how she approaches her new role at the NIH, and I know patients will be better for it.

I also want to take a moment to recognize that, in the field of biomedical research, where women have long been severely underrepresented both in clinical trials and in the workforce, it will be truly meaningful to have such an accomplished woman serving in a role that has real power to tackle issues like improving diversity in clinical trials, fighting sexual harassment that has pushed too many women out of the field, and tearing down other barriers to achievement and equal representation for women in medical research.

Dr. Bertagnolli is the right person to ensure the NIH stays on the cutting edge of innovation and research and fulfills its critical mission to promote health, improve equity, keep our Nation competitive, and give patients across the world real hope for the future. She has the experience in medicine, research, and management needed for this role. Most importantly, she has a deep understanding of what the NIH's work means for families in this country who are counting on medical breakthroughs.

I am proud to be voting yes. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, the American people understand—whether they are Democrats, Republicans, or Independents—that our healthcare system is broken; it is dysfunctional; it is failing.

We spend almost twice as much per person on healthcare—an unsustainable \$13,000 for every man, woman, and child—than any other country on Earth, and yet the results of all of that spending are abysmal. While the insurance companies and the drug companies make hundreds of billions of dollars in profit, we have 85 million Americans who are uninsured or underinsured and over 60,000 people who die every single year because they can't get to a doctor when they need to.

In this country, despite our huge expenditures, we don't have enough doctors, nurses, dentists, pharmacists, or mental health specialists; and our life expectancy is far lower than in most other countries, especially for working class and lower income Americans. In my view—and I think it is the view of

most Americans—healthcare is a human right, not a privilege, and we need major reforms to our current system so that every man, woman, and child in this country gets the quality healthcare they need regardless of their financial status.

The responsibility for reforming our broken healthcare system rests with the administration, and it rests with many Agencies of government, including the HHS; the CMS; the FDA; and the National Institutes of Health, the NIH, which plays a very important role in the development of new prescription drugs.

While the 10 largest drug companies made over \$112 billion in profits last year and while they pay their CEOs exorbitant compensation packages, 1 out of 4 Americans cannot afford to pay for the medicine they need, and thousands of families face financial ruin as they pay outrageously high prices for the prescription drugs that keep them alive.

Let's think about that for just 1 second. Millions of people in this country, every year, get sick. They go to the doctor, and the doctor writes out a prescription. Yet, because of the exorbitant price of prescription drugs in America, one out of four of those people cannot afford to fill that prescription. So what happens to those people? Well, they get sicker. Maybe they end up in an emergency room. Maybe they end up in a hospital. Maybe they die.

How crazy is it that, in the richest country in the history of the world, 25 percent of our people cannot afford to fill the prescriptions that their doctors prescribe?

But it is not just the high cost of prescription drugs that impacts individuals. In the largest hospital in my State, the State of Vermont—and I don't think it is terribly different elsewhere—the high cost of prescription drugs accounts for 20 percent of the overall budget of that hospital, and that drives insurance policies up. What we pay in the hospital impacts greatly the prices we pay for insurance.

In other words, the outrageously high cost of prescription drugs in America is a crisis situation that must be addressed. It impacts everybody.

Adding insult to injury, not only has the Federal Government not effectively regulated the price of prescription drugs, but the taxpayers of this country have, over the years, provided hundreds of billions of dollars in research and development into new prescription drugs that have provided enormous financial benefits to some of the most profitable drug companies in America.

For example, in America today, the median cost of new cancer drugs has gone up by more than 300 percent over the past decade even though 85 percent of the initial foundational cancer research is funded by U.S. taxpayers.

In June, the HELP Committee, which I chair, released a report that found that the average price of new treat-

ments that NIH scientists helped to develop over the past 20 years is over \$111,000.

In other words, we are spending a fortune in developing new drugs, but our people cannot afford the treatments that they pay for.

In virtually every case, American taxpayers are paying far more than people in other countries for the exact same medicine that the NIH helped to develop. Now, that may make sense to somebody, but it does not make sense to me.

Here are just a few examples from the report:

Astellas and Pfizer charge Americans with prostate cancer over \$165,000 for Xtandi while the exact same drug can be purchased in Japan for just \$20,000. Guess who developed that drug: American taxpayers.

Johnson & Johnson charges Americans with HIV \$56,000 for Symtuza while the exact same treatment can be purchased in the UK for just \$10,000. Guess who developed that treatment: American taxpayers.

Millennium Pharmaceuticals charges Americans with cancer \$54,000 for Velcade while the exact same drug can be purchased in France for just \$11,000. Guess who did the research and paid for that drug: the NIH and American taxpayers.

In other words, here is the insane situation: The American taxpayers fund the research for these drugs, but they can't afford the product that they helped create. Does anybody really think that makes sense? If American taxpayers help develop a drug, we should be paying the lowest price in the world for that product, not the highest. That has got to change. No prescription drug, no matter how effective and lifesaving it may be, is worth anything to the patient who cannot afford it.

In my view, at this crisis moment for American healthcare, we need an NIH Director who is prepared to take on the greed of the pharmaceutical industry and use every tool at their disposal to substantially lower the extraordinarily high cost of medicine in this country.

The 1,800 well-paid lobbyists from the pharmaceutical industry here in DC—it is almost 4 lobbyists for every Member of Congress—may not like it, but that is precisely what the American people want, and it is what they need. The status quo is not working. We need fundamental changes in the way that the NIH addresses the crisis of high prescription drug costs.

Dr. Monica Bertagnolli is an intelligent and caring person, but she has not convinced me that she is prepared to take on the greed and power of the drug companies and the healthcare industry in general nor is she prepared, in my view, to fight for the transformative changes the NIH needs at this critical moment. That is why I will be voting no on her confirmation.

With that, I yield the floor.

VOTE ON BERTAGNOLLI NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Bertagnolli nomination?

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The result was announced—yeas 62, nays 36, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 293 Ex.]

YEAS—62

Baldwin	Hassan	Peters
Barrasso	Heinrich	Reed
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Romney
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Rounds
Boozman	Kelly	Schatz
Brown	King	Schumer
Butler	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Lujan	Sinema
Capito	Lummis	Smith
Cardin	Manchin	Stabenow
Carper	Markey	Tester
Casey	Marshall	Tillis
Cassidy	Menendez	Van Hollen
Collins	Merkley	Warner
Coons	Moran	Warnock
Cortez Masto	Murkowski	Warren
Duckworth	Murphy	Welch
Durbin	Murray	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Wyden
Graham	Padilla	

NAYS—36

Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Braun	Hagerty	Risch
Budd	Hawley	Rubio
Cornyn	Hoeben	Sanders
Cotton	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cramer	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Crapo	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cruz	Lankford	Thune
Daines	Lee	Tuberville
Ernst	McConnell	Vance
Fetterman	Mullin C	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	Young

NOT VOTING—2

Britt
Scott (SC)

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The 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 nomination of Executive Calendar No. 28, Kenly Kiyu Kato, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin,
Alex Padilla, Tim Kaine, Margaret

Wood Hassan, Ben Ray Luján, Raphael G. Warnock, Tammy Duckworth, Jack Reed, John W. Hickenlooper, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Christopher Murphy, Tina Smith, Debbie Stabenow, Sheldon Whitehouse.

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 nomination of Kenly Kiya Kato, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 294 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Heinrich	Reed
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	Kelly	Shaheen
Butler	King	Sinema
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Smith
Cardin	Luján	Stabenow
Carper	Manchin	Tester
Casey	Markey	Van Hollen
Coons	Menendez	Warner
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warnock
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Welch
Fetterman	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	

NAYS—47

Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Budd	Hoeven	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Tuberville
Cruz	McConnell	Vance
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Mullin	Young
Fischer	Murkowski	

NOT VOTING—3

Britt	Sanders	Scott (SC)
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas are 50, the nays are 47.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Kenly Kiya Kato, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

NOMINATION OF KENLY KIYA KATO

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Judge

Kenly Kato to the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

Born in Los Angeles, CA, Judge Kato received her B.A. from the University of California, Los Angeles and her J.D. from Harvard Law School. She then clerked for Judge Robert M. Takasugi on the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. Judge Kato began her legal career at the Federal Public Defender's Office for the Central District of California, where she served for 6 years. She then entered private practice and spent 10 years as a solo practitioner, representing clients in both civil and criminal cases. During this time, she tried approximately 15 cases to verdict. In 2014, she was appointed to serve as a magistrate judge on the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. Judge Kato currently handles both a civil and criminal docket, and she has presided over several cases that have gone to verdict. In addition, she is heavily involved with diversionary programs within the Central District of California that focus on treatment, rehabilitation, and reentry issues for justice-involved individuals.

The American Bar Association unanimously rated Judge Kato "well qualified" to serve on the district court. The late Senator Feinstein strongly supported her nomination, and Senator PADILLA does as well. Judge Kato has the experience, temperament, and qualifications to serve on the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. I will be supporting this outstanding nominee, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

VOTE ON KATO NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Kato nomination?

Ms. ROSEN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT), the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "nay."

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 295 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Baldwin	Cortez Masto	King
Bennet	Duckworth	Klobuchar
Blumenthal	Durbin	Luján
Booker	Fetterman	Manchin
Brown	Gillibrand	Markey
Butler	Hassan	Menendez
Cantwell	Heinrich	Merkley
Cardin	Hickenlooper	Murphy
Carper	Hirono	Murray
Casey	Kaine	Ossoff
Coons	Kelly	Padilla

Peters	Shaheen	Warner
Reed	Sinema	Warnock
Rosen	Smith	Warren
Sanders	Stabenow	Welch
Schatz	Tester	Whitehouse
Schumer	Van Hollen	Wyden

NAYS—46

Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Budd	Hoeven	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lee	Tillis
Cramer	Lummis	Tuberville
Crapo	Marshall	Vance
Cruz	McConnell	Wicker
Daines	Moran	Young
Ernst	Mullin	
Fischer	Murkowski	

NOT VOTING—3

Britt	Scott (FL)	Scott (SC)
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The 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 nomination of Executive Calendar No. 36, Julia E. Kobick, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Tim Kaine, Margaret Wood Hassan, Ben Ray Luján, Raphael G. Warnock, Tammy Duckworth, Jack Reed, John W. Hickenlooper, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Christopher Murphy, Tina Smith, Debbie Stabenow, Sheldon Whitehouse.

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 nomination of Julia E. Kobick, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, 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. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 296 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Blumenthal	Brown
Bennet	Booker	Butler

Cantwell	Kelly	Schatz
Cardin	King	Schumer
Carper	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Casey	Lujan	Sinema
Collins	Markey	Smith
Coons	Menendez	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Tester
Duckworth	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murphy	Warner
Fetterman	Murray	Warnock
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Warren
Hassan	Padilla	Welch
Heinrich	Peters	Whitehouse
Hickenlooper	Reed	Wyden
Hirono	Rosen	
Kaine	Sanders	

NAYS—46

Barrasso	Grassley	Ricketts
Blackburn	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Hoeben	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	Manchin	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Vance
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Young
Fischer	Mullin	
Graham	Paul	

NOT VOTING—2

Britt Scott (SC)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 46.

And the motion to invoke cloture is passed.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

ISRAEL

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, on October 7, Hamas brutally assaulted Israel, killing over 1,000 people—Israelis—and taking 240 hostages. On October 22, I was in Israel with 10 Senators—5 Democrats, 5 Republicans. We were there to see firsthand what Hamas had done.

To tell you that it was beyond description—it hit each one of us extremely hard. We saw the anguish in the country. The most difficult meeting we had was not with the war cabinet—and we met with the war cabinet, the major members of the war cabinet—but it was meeting with the families of the hostages.

It broke our heart. The hostage families told us: You are not going to see tears because there are no tears left in our body.

Unspeakable things happened, and the horror was beyond description.

I know my colleague Senator COLLINS has put up a photo of Abigail, a 3-year-old—a 3-year-old—who was taken hostage by Hamas.

We expressed to the Israelis our commitment to stand with Israel, Israel's right and obligation to defend itself, the need to take out Hamas, and our commitment to do everything we possibly can to bring the hostages home safely.

I want to start by thanking President Biden for his extraordinary leadership on behalf of our Nation in that mission. He has held meetings with the hostage families, with government leaders from Israel and other countries, and so have we.

We have had numerous meetings here in Washington and in our States with families of the hostages. We have had personal meetings and calls with leaders of other countries that we think could play a constructive role in bringing the hostages home.

We are committed to always putting a spotlight on the hostages until they are brought home safely. We stand ready to do anything we possibly can.

So let me just give you an example of my weekend. On Friday night, the Jewish community in Baltimore hosted a Shabbat dinner with 240 empty seats at a table. My wife Myrna represented me at that gathering, reading a letter that I had written in solidarity with the community.

On Saturday, I attended religious services at B'nai Israel in Montgomery County, and I was proud of what that congregation did to put a spotlight on the hostages and demanding their safe return. Cantor Perlman rendered a beautiful rendition in honor of our continued commitment to bring the hostages home.

And then, on Sunday, on which we normally have morning prayers at our congregation at Beth Tfiloh—normally, there might be 15 or 20 who might show up for morning prayers on a Sunday morning—we had in excess of 240 representing every hostage, remembering their plight in our prayers, and making it clear that we are committed to doing everything we can to bring them home.

So that is why I am on the floor, speaking to my colleagues and expressing my views as a Senator, as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and as a human, that we will not forget the hostages, and we will continue to do everything we can to bring them home.

On October 7, for many, the last they heard from their loved ones was the moments before the attack began, or, worse, just as they were being taken hostage. One woman was texting with her family as Hamas terrorists approached. She wrote:

If I don't live, stay happy in your life and take care of mom and dad all your life.

Then:

They're here.

One man's wife and children were missing after the attack. The soldiers could not identify them among the dead. But then they learned that someone had seen them being led off away alive, being taken hostage. The person said: Well, it sort of felt like winning the lottery.

Winning the lottery because your loved one was abducted and not murdered? Such painful combinations of hope and dread, but this is the unspeakable shock and grief being felt by so many since October 7, because, for every hostage, there are family members and loved ones praying that they are still alive, who cannot sleep at night as they imagine the pain and danger the hostages are facing in the tunnels of Gaza right now, who have

been enduring a nightmare since October 7.

On my trip to Israel we met with the families of the hostages, like the family of Hersh Goldberg-Polin, who was last seen loaded into a truck by Hamas after losing his arm in a grenade attack.

I am on the floor today because I want to tell just a few of the stories of those Hamas abducted and represent all the families of the hostages, families whose young children are being held by terrorists. Their stories are moving not only because of their suffering but because of their bravery.

I heard about a family that Hamas captured at gunpoint. In a moment of incredible heroism, the mother handed her toddler to her husband because he was a faster runner. He ran with bullets flying overhead so their daughter could be safe.

Yarden, the mother, is still in captivity. The families of the hostages will not give up. Their grace and bravery in the face of such horror is an inspiration.

The father of Itay, the father of Edan, the parents of Omer—all three of whom are from the New York area and even live near each other—they didn't know one another until this terrible tragedy unfolded and which now has brought them together.

Many of the families are communicating with each other, working together through WhatsApp groups. Within hours of the attack, they have created a website called "Bring Them Home Now." They are making sure the world hears their pleas. I want to make one thing crystal clear: We hear you. We stand with you in your effort to return your family members home safely. And I can assure you the Biden administration is working around the clock to help bring them home. They are working with governments who have the ability to negotiate using all the leverage they have to release them.

American personnel from the FBI and the Pentagon are working to support Israeli special operators. U.S. Special Forces are offering their expertise on hostage situations. Secretary Blinken said that "the entire United States Government will work every minute of every day" to bring them home. "Working as though these family members are our own," as I am.

President Biden has spoken repeatedly with Prime Minister Netanyahu. They have discussed efforts to locate and secure the release of hostages, including American citizens. On behalf of the Foreign Relations Committee, I want to assure you that we in the United States Senate stand with you as well. We must keep up the effort for the sake of those being held in Gaza. Don't forget they can come home safely. I am not naive. It will be tough, but it can happen.

One of the hostages that has already been released is an 85-year-old woman from a kibbutz in southern Israel, whose husband remains in Hamas captivity. She described her experience in

Gaza, being beaten while lying on a motorcycle and going through tunnels. Like many of the hostages, she lived near the Palestinians in the kibbutzim outside of Gaza. They would regularly drive Palestinian patients from Gaza to the hospitals in Israel for treatment.

Like Lilach, a woman that Hamas murdered, who actually worked in the field of trauma relief focusing mainly on children, she was a longtime activist of Women in Black, an anti-war movement that was established by Israeli women after the first intifada. Seven of her family are still being held hostage, including a 3-year-old.

The cruel irony of the Hamas terrorist attack is that those who face the worst of October 7 believe the most in peace. They cared for their Palestinian neighbors. They believed in the two-state solution. This attack has changed their community and all of Israel forever.

I know that the kind of sheer evil we saw in the attack on October 7 is shocking and horrible. I was 15 months old when the Auschwitz-Birkenau and other concentration camps were liberated. I was too young to understand the headlines. But when I grew up, I heard the stories of life and death from survivors firsthand.

This experience of the Holocaust was imprinted on me and on an entire generation of Jews. It shaped our values in how we work, how we enact policy, and how we live with our families. It guides me today here on the floor of the Senate. It tells me that, despite this being the darkest days for Jews since the Holocaust, we must have faith. Despite bearing witness to some of the most horrific evil acts ever committed, we must find a way to reserve hope.

So, in closing, to the families of loved ones who are being held by Hamas: Do not lose hope. We will never stop standing with you. To the hostages themselves, you are not alone. We will not stop working for your safe return. I pray that you will be back home soon playing soccer, practicing piano, celebrating your birthdays, living life in Israel that is safe and secure and at peace.

That is our prayer, but it is also our mission. We will not rest until we do everything we can for the safe return of the hostages.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Cloture having been invoked, the clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Julia E.

Kobick, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, you are aware of the fact that I announced last week in the committee that we would vote to authorize subpoenas to Harlan Crow, Robin Arkley, and Leonard Leo as part of the Judiciary Committee's continuing investigation into the ethical situation at the U.S. Supreme Court.

I do not make this decision lightly. Seeking authorization to issue subpoenas is a relatively rare occurrence in the committee. So today I come to the floor for a few minutes to explain why we have taken this significant step.

Over the last several months, it has become clear that the Supreme Court is in desperate need of a binding code of ethics as we learned of lavish gifts and luxury travel that certain Supreme Court Justices have accepted from a gaggle of fawning billionaires.

Let's start with Justice Clarence Thomas. The sheer number and value of gifts accepted by Justice Thomas is staggering, and the shamelessness with which he accepted them is stunning. For decades, Justice Thomas has accepted lavish gifts from Harlan Crow, a conservative billionaire with business before the Supreme Court. These gifts have ranged from a \$19,000 Bible once owned by Frederick Douglass to a \$15,000 bust of Abraham Lincoln. Justice Thomas also accepted private jet trips and free lodging at Bohemian Grove, an exclusive all-male, invitation-only retreat in the redwoods of California. And these are only examples of what Justice Thomas disclosed.

After the Los Angeles Times reported on these disclosures, Justice Thomas, in 2004, 19 years ago, promptly stopped disclosing gifts as required by law.

We learned this year that he continued to accept expensive gifts for the past 19 years and that these billionaire benefactors have been part of a growing list.

There isn't time to detail all of the undisclosed gifts, which the press has discovered, and luxury travel that Justice Thomas has accepted, but for the sake of a record, I am going to give a few examples.

In 2019, Justice Thomas and his wife flew to Indonesia on Harlan Crow's private jet and boarded Crow's 162-foot superyacht, the Michaela Rose, to island hop with Harlan Crow and his wife.

The total cost of that trip alone could have exceeded half a million dollars if Justice Thomas had chartered the jet and yacht. Lucky for him, Harlan Crow was happy to cover the costs.

Justice Thomas also continued to join Crow on trips to Bohemian Grove in California. He visited Crow's ranch in East Texas, spent summers at

Crow's private resort in the Adirondacks.

But there is more. Crow paid thousands of dollars to cover tuition for Justice Thomas's grandnephew. He purchased real estate owned by Thomas and his relatives, including Thomas's mother's home, where she continues to live rent-free. And Crow donated half a million dollars to a conservative advocacy group founded by Justice Thomas's wife.

I could go on and on and on because the list of gifts Justice Thomas has chosen to accept and failed to disclose goes on and on and on.

Justice Thomas is not the only Supreme Court Justice who has accepted lavish gifts from billionaires and refused to disclose them. In 2008, Justice Samuel Alito boarded a private jet bound for Alaska to enjoy a luxury fishing trip, a trip that should have cost him over \$100,000, but it didn't cost him one penny because of the man who organized the flight and joined Alito on the luxury fishing trip, Leonard Leo.

Mr. Leo arranged Justice Alito's free flight to Alaska and his free lodging once he arrived. Their host at the luxury fishing lodge was a gentleman named Robin Arkley. Over the next few days, Justice Alito and his travel companions enjoyed guided fishing trips, flights on bush planes, meals of Alaskan king crab and Kobe beef, and wines costing upward of \$1,000 a bottle.

Justice Alito did not disclose any of this, and when challenged, for example, on the jet ride—why that should be disclosed—he said he didn't view it as a gift because if he didn't go, the seat on the plane would have gone empty.

That is an interesting analysis of a gift from a strict constructionist.

This kind of scandalous behavior cannot continue. One former Federal judge who served for years on the judicial committee that reviews the Justices' financial disclosures had this to say about the gifts to Justice Thomas:

In my career, I don't remember ever seeing this degree of largesse given to anybody.

When referring to the cascade of gifts from Harlan Crow to Justice Thomas, the former chief White House ethics lawyer for Republican President George W. Bush said:

This is way outside the norm. This is way in excess of anything I've seen.

And renowned conservative jurist, Judge J. Michael Luttig, stated in testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee:

The Supreme Court should want to lead by the example that only it can set. It should want to conduct itself in its non-judicial activities in all ways such that it is beyond reproach.

Unfortunately, the Supreme Court has not lived up to this expectation. That is why our Senate Judiciary Committee is exercising its constitutional authority to investigate. Months ago, I, along with my Democratic colleagues on the committee, sent letters to Crow, Arkley, and Leo, among others, seeking details about what exactly

has been provided to Supreme Court Justices. Our goal has been to understand how specific individuals and groups with business before the Court have used undisclosed gifts to gain private access to Justices—access not afforded to others.

For months, Crow has refused to fully comply with the committee's requests, and Leo has completely stonewalled the committee. Only now, under threat of subpoena, Mr. Arkley has stepped forward, and we are looking forward to continuing our conversation with him this week.

The fact that we have to go to this length is unacceptable but necessary. The Senate and the American people deserve to know the full extent of how billionaires with interests before the Court use their immense wealth to buy private access to our Supreme Court.

That is why, on Thursday, the Judiciary Committee will vote to authorize subpoenas for these individuals. The vote is a critical step in the committee's exercise of its constitutional right and duty to conduct oversight of the Federal judiciary. It is critical to the committee's effort to restore the Court's reputation. The highest Court in the land should not have the lowest standard of ethics.

This is not a fight I wanted, but now that it has come to this, the Judiciary Committee will not back down.

Most Americans are shocked to know or to learn that the nine Justices on the Supreme Court are the only high-ranking Federal officials in the United States of America who are beyond the reach of a code of ethics. How do you explain that?

How can you explain that every Federal judge in America is bound by a code of ethics except for the nine Supreme Court Justices?

What is so special about them? The Constitution makes it clear that we don't have royalty in this country. They are acting like they belong to some legal fraternity or sorority. That has got to come to an end.

When you look at the situation, Members of Congress are held to standards—and I am not complaining. I knew what I was getting into when I signed up for this job—held to standards of disclosure and limitation on gifts.

I cannot tell you how many times I have said to a person: Is this worth more than 50 bucks? If they answer: Well, maybe, it might be, I say: Well, keep it and thanks for thinking of me.

That is the kind of thing that just becomes a routine part of public service. These lavish gifts, particularly from individuals who have business before the Court, are just unacceptable and inexplicable.

It is important for us to have a response when people ask: What are you doing to clean up things at the Supreme Court?

The first thing we did, I think, was the responsible and respectable thing to do. We invited the Chief Justice of

the Supreme Court to appear before our committee and tell us his thoughts on the subject and what he believes should be done to deal with this bad publicity and these disclosures. He declined the invitation. I don't hold it against him. He explained, in my presence, a few weeks ago why he did. I understand it. I disagree with it, but I understand it.

But 11 years ago, was the first time I contacted the Chief Justice and said: This has got to come to an end. Tell us what you are going to do about establishing a code of ethics on the Supreme Court. Eleven years ago and nothing—nothing—has happened since.

I want to salute and commend my colleague Senator SHELDON WHITEHOUSE of the State of Rhode Island. He has been a leader on this topic in the subcommittee which he chairs on the Judiciary Committee, and we have cooperated in this effort.

We will meet this week. This is not the first time the Judiciary Committee will be asked to issue subpoenas. They happened before under Republican leadership as well in a much different type of case. But the fact of the matter is, we have tried carefully and studiously to come up with this information the right way, and, unfortunately, we have not gotten the kind of results we wanted. A subpoena, we hope, will jar loose the information to explain exactly what happened with the gift-giving by several individuals.

ISRAEL

Mr. President, one of my extraordinary friends in Chicago is Dr. Sahloul. Dr. Sahloul is a Syrian American. He is an exceptional man, and his wife Suzanne is also an extraordinary person. He has created an organization called MedGlobal. The best way to summarize what it does is to think of doctors without frontiers and how they travel across the world and go to some of the most dangerous places and volunteer medical assistance. Dr. Sahloul, through MedGlobal, has done the same thing.

Many of the doctors who volunteer for MedGlobal are Muslim and from the Middle East themselves, but they can be found in any spot in the world. He calls me from places, and I have run into him in places and seen him. I just can't believe what this man does. He risks his life to go to war zones to treat people who have been injured. I think so highly of him.

He has a friend in Gaza—a friend, a doctor—who was highlighted in the New York Times several days ago, Dr. Hussam Abu Safiyya, the director of the pediatric ward at Kamal Adwan Hospital. Many of the casualties from the Jabalia strikes were taken to that hospital. I read this article, and I have reread it many times. I try to understand what is happening on the ground in Gaza. Let me start at the beginning.

What the terrorist group Hamas did to Israel was an atrocity. The attack on October 7 cannot be rationalized, explained, or, for that matter, forgiven

for what they did to the innocent victims in Israel. The fact that Israel is defending itself is perfectly right in my eyes. They have a right to do that. Of course, Hamas continues to be a terrorist threat to them, and to try to stop Hamas and this activity is understood.

At the same time, it is important that they accept the standards which civilized nations accept even in the conduct of warfare. That is the message that has been delivered by President Biden and again by Antony Blinken, our Secretary of State, over and over: Be careful that your ultimate reaction is consistent with the threat and used to the basic standards of civilization. That has been a request over and over again.

The reason I come to the floor is because I got a call this morning from Dr. Sahloul, and he spoke this morning to Dr. Hussam again about the situation at this hospital. What the doctor had to say is basically what was in the article in *The New York Times*.

I ask unanimous consent that this article be printed in the RECORD at this point.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

GAZA DOCTOR WITNESSING NIGHTMARISH SITUATION

(By Hiba Yazbek and Karen Zraick)

The Jabaliya neighborhood north of Gaza City was pummeted with Israeli airstrikes for a third consecutive day on Thursday, while doctors treating the victims described nightmarish scenes of operating without basic supplies or anesthesia.

Dr. Hussam Abu Safiyya, director of the pediatric ward at Kamal Adwan Hospital, where many of the casualties from the Jabaliya strikes were taken, said the majority of the people arriving were children. Many were severely burned or were missing limbs.

On Tuesday, after the first strike in Jabaliya, the hospital received about 40 people who did not survive, and 250 others who were wounded, he said. The numbers were nearly the same on Wednesday, when another strike hit. On Thursday, a strike damaged a United Nations school being used as a shelter and sent in another wave of patients: 10 dead and 80 others wounded.

"I've never in my life seen injuries this bad," Dr. Abu Safiyya said on Thursday by phone, adding, "We saw children without heads."

The U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA, which runs the school, said that the school had been among four of its shelters—housing nearly 20,000 people total—that had been damaged in the previous 24 hours. Twenty people were reported to have been killed at the Jabaliya shelter, the agency said, along with three people in other strikes at the Shati and Bureij camps.

The Israeli military said that in its strikes on Jabaliya, it had been targeting Hamas commanders who played key roles in the attacks on Oct. 7, which Israeli officials said killed more than 1,400 people. The military also said that Hamas had an extensive tunnel network in Jabaliya.

On Wednesday, Dr. Abu Safiyya said, he was working with a colleague in the hospital's neonatal intensive-care unit—one of two units that still had power amid a severe fuel shortage—when casualties from Jabaliya started arriving.

When they rushed down to the emergency room to help, he said, his colleague was stunned to see that two of her own children were among the dead. Her 9-year-old and 7-year-old had been killed in their home, he said, along with several of her siblings and relatives.

"We are working at a place where at any moment we expect our children, spouses, siblings or friends to come in in pieces," he said.

Some children could not be identified because of the severity of their injuries, he said. The hospital's morgue was so full that people were stacking bodies on top of one another.

"We wish for death," said Dr. Abu Safyia. "It is easier than seeing the horrific scenes we're witnessing."

He later added: "Live images are being broadcast to the whole world of people blown up into pieces, of women and children who are being murdered, for what? What did they do wrong?"

The hospital, which is in the city of Beit Lahia, just north of Jabaliya, was running extremely low on medical supplies, like all others in the Gaza Strip, he said. With no anesthesia, doctors were operating on people with severe injuries using over-the-counter painkillers like paracetamol to help ease the pain. They had a limited supply of antibiotics and were using vinegar and chlorine to disinfect wounds, the doctor added.

"The children's screams during surgeries can be heard from outside," Dr. Abu Safyia said. "We are operating on people's skulls without anesthesia."

Doctors and nurses were using the flashlights on their phones to operate in the dark because a severe shortage of fuel had left the hospital's generators able to power only two departments—the neonatal intensive-care unit and the pediatric emergency room, where 12 children are on ventilators, he said. If the fuel runs out, he added, "the hospital will turn into a mass grave."

Hours earlier, Dr. Ashraf Al-Qudra, a spokesman for the Hamas-run Gazan Health Ministry, had held up the body of a dead child wrapped in a shroud at a news conference at Al-Shifa Hospital as he described the growing death toll.

The ministry said that more than 9,000 people had been killed since the start of Israel's relentless bombardment of Gaza, including more than 3,000 children. Many others remain missing or buried under the rubble.

Dr. Ghassan Abu-Sittah, a British-Palestinian plastic surgeon volunteering at Shifa's burn treatment unit, said the hospital—the largest in Gaza—had received about 70 patients from the strikes on Jabaliya since Tuesday, and many had no homes to return to.

Medical workers were being stretched to the breaking point, and normally preventable deaths had begun to soar, he said. Each surgery was turning into a grueling exercise of trying to use the fewest resources possible, he said.

The Gazan Health Ministry said 16 of the 35 hospitals in the Strip were already out of service from damage or lack of power. The maternity ward at Shifa was being used to treat the wounded, and expectant mothers had been moved to Al-Hilo Hospital, which the ministry said was damaged by bombardment on Wednesday night.

Communications with Gaza City remained spotty to nonexistent on Thursday, after a blackout for much of Wednesday left ambulances and rescue workers unable to find the injured, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said.

Ahmad Sardah, a Jabaliya resident who said his home had been damaged by the

strike on Wednesday, was able to send a quick message during a fleeting moment of internet connection before contact was lost again.

He said in a Facebook post he managed to write on Thursday: "If only friends and relatives who are outside could tell us what is going on around us instead of asking us how we are doing, because without internet and phone lines, all we hear is airstrikes and bombs. Where, how, why, and who? None of us know."

Dr. Ghassan Khatib, a political scientist at Birzeit University in the occupied West Bank, said that Jabaliya—both the name of a town and a refugee camp next to it—had a reputation as a stronghold of resistance to Israeli occupation for years.

The first intifada, an uprising that lasted from 1987 to 1993, started there after camp residents were run over by an Israeli vehicle, he said. Their funerals became demonstrations that spread to the Balata refugee camp in the West Bank city of Nablus and elsewhere, he said.

Tamara Alrifai, an official with UNRWA, said in an online briefing Thursday that the agency believed that about 30,000 of the Jabaliya camp's 116,000 residents had remained after Israel's order to evacuate under threat of bombardment last month. It was unclear whether they had all gone to the south, as directed, or to other areas of northern Gaza.

People displaced throughout Gaza have flocked to hospitals, hoping for a greater chance at safety. The Kamal Adwan Hospital is also housing more than 3,000 displaced people. Dr. Abu Safyia is among them, and barely sleeping. He said he sometimes goes into an empty room, shuts the door and sobs.

"These are people who had dreams, they had lives, they had a future," he said. "It all ended."

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, here is the situation reported from the hospital in Gaza: They will be out of fuel and electricity in 24 hours. Dr. Hussam told Dr. Sahloul that at this point, five children will die. The ventilators that are keeping them alive will be turned off. They cannot be transported to a better or a safer place. Turning off the electricity in some areas of the hospital will cause great hardship and pain. There is no fuel at the other hospitals either. In the north, they have basically been cut off from any assistance. It is impossible to transfer to the south because they don't have transportation, and they don't have the wherewithal—the ambulances and such—to do so. The desperate situation they have reached includes performing amputations with no anesthesia—performing amputations with no anesthesia.

I asked Dr. Sahloul: What do they use?

He said: Tylenol.

Can you imagine? Tylenol? They use vinegar because they don't have any access to iodine to be able to clean the wounds before the operations. Vinegar.

Every day, 200 people show up at their hospital, sick from the contaminated water which they are forced to drink. They are begging for help. They are asking for a pause so that basics can be provided: food, electricity, fuel, medicines—the basics. I don't think that is an unreasonable request, and I am sorry that they have been turned

down in their efforts to get this kind of help. There are 150 patients in this hospital—twice the number as usual—with many of them sleeping on the floor. And surgeries are performed on the floor.

I read this article last Friday and kept a copy of it. Now I will enter it into the RECORD for others to read as well.

At one point, Dr. Abu Safyia said:

We wish for death. It is easier than seeing the horrific scenes we're witnessing.

Twice now, this refugee camp, Jabalia, has been attacked by the Israelis as a site of Hamas terrorism. Unfortunately, on the first day of the attack, 40 people did not survive and 250 others were brought to the hospital. Then the attack took a second day but, basically, was the same as the last.

The doctor said: I've never in my life seen injuries this bad. He added: We saw children decapitated as a result of these attacks.

Asking for a pause in the war for the purpose of humanitarian relief is not unreasonable; it is humane and civilized. The United States is begging both sides to take that step. I will join that effort. I hope that this ends well and soon.

In the meantime, these innocent, helpless victims need to have a helping hand from the rest of the world. We need to provide the basics so they can survive. I will do my best to follow this closely. I encourage the United States to continue its efforts to ask for this pause in the actions for relief of the victims. This sort of situation in any part of the world cannot be ignored.

I yield the floor.

(Mr. MARKEY assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). The Senator from Massachusetts.

NOMINATION OF JULIA E. KOBICK

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to speak in support of the nomination of Ms. Julia Kobick to the United States Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Today, the Senate voted to invoke cloture on Ms. Kobick's nomination, and, soon, we will vote on her confirmation. With a successful vote, Ms. Kobick will become the 150th Biden nominee to be confirmed as a judge.

Julia Kobick is a rising star in Massachusetts legal circles. A Massachusetts native, she earned her bachelor's degree in government, with honors, from Harvard College. She began her career as a public schoolteacher to New York City's second and third graders. While teaching, she earned a master's in elementary education at Pace University. She went on to obtain her law degree, magna cum laude, at Harvard Law School.

Ms. Kobick then clerked at every level of the Federal judiciary—first, with Judge Dennis Saylor on the District Court of Massachusetts, then for Chief Judge Michael Chagares on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, and, finally, for the great Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 2013, following her clerkships, Ms. Kobick joined the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office. She worked there until 2021 as an assistant attorney general in the constitutional and administrative law division. Her practice spanned a range of substantive areas, including healthcare, child welfare, administrative law, and constitutional issues. Since the summer of 2021, Ms. Kobick has served as deputy State solicitor, where she has primarily handled civil and criminal appellate litigation.

Ms. Kobick has received support from a number of groups, including from Massachusetts trial and appellate judges, former Massachusetts attorneys general, and her clerk colleagues at the U.S. Supreme Court—clerks who worked for Justices nominated by Presidents of both parties. Many of Ms. Kobick's supporters cite her dedication and character, alongside her superior skill and judgment. Unsurprisingly, the American Bar Association has given her its highest rating of "well qualified."

Perhaps the best evidence of Ms. Kobick's fitness to serve on the district court is the enthusiastic support her nomination has received from her own opposing counsel. A cadre of attorneys who has litigated cases against parties Ms. Kobick represented has praised her "meticulous advocacy" across a variety of legal proceedings.

From oral arguments before State and Federal trial court judges to appellate arguments before the First Circuit Court of Appeals and the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, the very lawyers who faced off against her in court have said that "her legal abilities and intellect are first-rate as shown through the clarity and persuasiveness of her written and oral advocacy." They have lauded her preparedness and performance under pressure, her thoughtfulness as a colleague, and her skill in diffusing "any contentious situation."

Over the course of her career, Ms. Kobick has embodied the highest standards of the legal profession. True to her roots as a public schoolteacher, Ms. Kobick has mentored public interest-oriented law students at my alma mater, Boston College Law School, and has served as a mentor with The Appellate Project, an organization that matches attorneys with law students of color who are interested in appellate advocacy.

Senator WARREN and I are proud to have recommended Julie Kobick's nomination to President Biden, and we proudly speak in favor of her nomination before the full Senate today. She is a dedicated public servant of the highest caliber, and she will bring a rare level of legal talent to the bench. Her unquestionable integrity, her impeccable reputation, and her depth in both humility and skill make her uniquely suited for service as a Federal district court judge.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote yes on cloture and then on confirma-

tion. This will be a judge all of you will be proud you have voted for.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I think we are all aware that parts of our world are on fire. The world is on fire in Ukraine and in Eastern Europe, and the world is on fire in the Middle East. I wouldn't describe the world as being on fire in the Indo-Pacific, but there are certainly embers, and they are smoldering.

I think it is clear to most Americans that President Xi in China, that President Putin in Russia, and that the Ayatollah in Iran are working together, and their objective is to have Russia dominate Central and Eastern Europe and to have the Ayatollah in Iran dominate the Middle East. The Ayatollah, of course, is funding and supports Hamas.

There is no cause in the world—none—that can justify what Hamas did to the innocent people of Israel. The people of Hamas are so evil they will kill you and drink your blood out of a boot. And President Xi and President Putin and the Ayatollah in Iran are just fine with that.

The third objective of China, Russia, and Iran is to allow China to dominate the Indo-Pacific and be free to make moves in Sub-Saharan Africa and in South America.

Parts of the world are on fire. America is about to find out what it is made of because the world I just described is not a world safe for America.

But as we meet these challenges, Mr. President—and by God, we will meet them. We will meet them. While we are doing that, I don't want us to forget about our homeland. We have a lot of problems domestically, and I don't want us to lose sight of them. I think about them every day. I know you do, too, Mr. President.

We still have millions of Americans who are too poor to be sick despite the fact that we have the best quality of healthcare in America in all of human history. Notice I didn't say that we have the best way of delivering that healthcare. But we have the best quality of healthcare in all of human history, but we have people in this country—many of them are middle class—who are too poor to be sick. Since the Affordable Care Act passed, we were told that it was going to make our lives better, that it was going to make health insurance more accessible and cheaper. Since the Affordable Care Act was passed, health insurance premiums have tripled.

We also know domestically that our border is an open, bleeding wound. It is an open, bleeding wound, and it is within the power of this Congress to fix that.

But none of those domestic problems that I just described—and I could continue with others, as I know you could, too, Mr. President—is hurting the

American people as much as President Biden's inflation. Not a single one. President Biden's inflation is gutting the American people like a fish. It is a cancer—a cancer—on the American dream.

In my State alone, in Louisiana—we are not a wealthy State. My people are pretty middle class. They get up every day. They go to work. They obey the law. They try to do the right things by their kids, try to save a little for retirement. The median household income for a family of four in my State is \$55,000 a year. A lot of States are above us; some are below us.

President Biden's inflation, which is manmade—and that man's name is Joe Biden—is costing my people, the average Louisiana family, \$806—not a year, a month, \$806 a month. That is \$9,700 a year. Now, imagine if you were making \$55,000 a year, and you have to come out of pocket with an extra \$9,700 a year. You blow through your savings. You max out your credit card. You borrow from your children's college education plan. You borrow from relatives. And then what do you do?

I know what some of my colleagues are thinking: But, KENNEDY, we are doing better on inflation.

We are, and I am so thankful. A year ago, inflation in this country was 8.2 percent. Today, it is 3.7 percent. I am so happy, and I hope it continues to go down, but it is important for us to remember what that means.

A reduction of inflation from 8.2 percent to 3.7 percent—which is still, of course, too high—just means that inflation is rising less rapidly. We still have inflation. Prices are still high, and they continue to go up; they just are not going up as quickly as they were. That is a good thing, but it doesn't solve the problem. That is what we call disinflation. When inflation is rising and we stop it from rising so quickly, that is called disinflation. But that is not what most Americans care about, although that is important to them. What they care about is prices going down, and that is deflation. We do not have deflation.

The point I am trying to make is, we are stuck with these high prices. If they get inflation down to zero, those prices are not going down; they are going to remain the same. They are just not going to rise as quickly. We are stuck. The American people are stuck with these high prices because of the Biden administration.

I could cite you all the sterile statistics you would like, but I want to try to describe in specific terms what it is like for my people to go to the grocery store, to have to—this is an exaggeration but not by much—to have to think about, well, do I have to sell blood plasma today in order to go to the grocery store? Do I have to draw down on the second mortgage on my home in order to go to the grocery store?

Since President Biden has been in office, consumer goods in the United States of America are up 17 percent,

electricity is up 25 percent, eggs are up 29 percent. They are not going down, folks. Even if inflation goes to zero, those prices aren't going down. Potato chips, up 30 percent; bread, up 28 percent; coffee, 30 percent; rice, 26 percent. Flour is up 28 percent; milk, 18 percent; half a gallon of ice cream, 21 percent; chicken, 20 percent.

When you look at larger categories, this is what is happening to the American people. Since President Biden took office—since President Biden took office—all goods and many services in the wealthiest country in all of human history are up 17 percent. Food is up 20 percent. Housing is up 17 percent. Clothing is up 12 percent. Used cars and trucks are up 25 percent. New cars and trucks are up 20 percent. Mortgage rates are up 174 percent—174 percent.

Some may be saying: Well, but wages are going up too.

Thank goodness. In some cases, wages have gone up. But the average wage of the average American has gone down after inflation. The appropriate way to look at wage increases is not to look at the raw aggregate increase; it is looking at the increase after inflation. If you take all of the average wage increases in the United States of America and you looked at the average inflation in the United States of America, workers have actually lost ground. Workers today, in November of 2023, are actually making less per hour after inflation than they were in February of 2021. So don't let anybody tell you that wages have made up for this. They haven't kept up with inflation.

Don't let anybody tell you we are winning the war on high prices. We are getting inflation down, no thanks—no thanks—to the Biden administration and, quite frankly, the U.S. Congress. That is thanks to the Federal Reserve. They have tightened interest rates, which has hurt a lot of people, but they have gotten inflation down. They had to do it with one arm tied behind their backs because the other way you attack inflation and the only way we have ever successfully gotten it down is to have Congress do its part and reduce the rate of growth and spending and debt accumulation. But we haven't done that. We haven't done that. In fact, since 2019, the population of the United States of America is up 1.9 percent. Our country has grown 2 percent since 2019. Do you know how much our budget has grown? Fifty-five percent.

This inflation is manmade, and the man's name is Joe Biden, and we need to address it.

So as we fight a hostile world which day by day is becoming less safe for the American people, I don't want us to lose sight of another problem—an equally important problem—that is stealing the American dream, and it is called President Biden's inflation.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following Senators be permitted to speak prior to the scheduled rollcall votes: Myself for up to 15 minutes, Senator GILLIBRAND for up to 5 minutes, Senator COTTON for up to 5 minutes, and Leader SCHUMER for up to 5 minutes.

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

ISRAEL

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, 1 month ago today, Hamas launched its unprovoked attack on the State of Israel, on innocent men, women, and children, civilians all. Hamas entered the country by land, air, and sea, and they brutally murdered more than 1,400 Israelis. They also took hundreds of hostages, some of whom were American citizens. They abused and assaulted innocent civilians and left a trail of devastation in their wake.

In the face of Hamas's barbaric attack, Israel has done what any country would do and defended its citizens and its sovereignty, and it has every right to do so. This basic truth has somehow become a point of confusion in some circles, but we should not be confused.

Many on the far left—including at least one Member of the House of Representatives—have pointed to Israel's defense as an example of what she calls genocide. They act as though Israel was the aggressor here, not Hamas. They called on the President to speak out against the actions of the victim, not the aggressor. It is as though they think Israel is somehow the moral equivalent of the terrorist group Hamas.

It is especially disturbing to see this rhetoric spreading on social media because many people who were not familiar with the facts, the circumstances, and the history of Hamas and Israel, Iran, and Hezbollah—they may actually believe the disinformation and propaganda they see on social media. It is also very deeply disturbing to see how it is absorbed and embraced by many college campuses, and it is downright disturbing, of course, to see it repeated here in the Halls of Congress.

There should be no confusion. Hamas is the aggressor, and Hamas bears ultimate responsibility for the pain and suffering in Israel and in Gaza. Hamas's own tactics are the very reason for the loss of life in Gaza and that it has been so high, because these terrorists, who care nothing about the individuals, have a long history of using Palestinian civilians as human shields for their own benefit.

And then Hamas operates a vast network of tunnels underneath Gaza. The tunnels shield terrorists from the dangerous fighting above ground. They also store critical supplies like water, food, and fuel, which are being kept

from the Palestinian civilians. As many of us are concerned about the humanitarian disaster caused by Hamas's attack on Israel, it is Hamas itself that is exacerbating and making the humanitarian crisis worse.

It seems likely that the tunnels are also the hiding place for more than 200 hostages taken by Hamas last month. A video recently shared online of a Hamas gunman who was captured and interrogated by the Israeli officials was particularly revealing. He said that Hamas shelters in tunnels and basements under clinics, schools, and hospitals because they know the Israelis will not target those locations out of concern for the collateral damage or damage to innocent civilians. That is why Hamas deliberately places innocent Palestinians between its terrorist foot soldiers and incoming rockets.

As a result of Hamas's human shield strategy, the number of civilian casualties in Gaza is devastating. There is no denying that. It is important, though, to remember that the pain and suffering that is occurring throughout Israel and Gaza is directly attributable to Hamas, a U.S.-designated terrorist organization serving as a proxy for the No. 1 state-sponsor of terrorism, which is Iran. The blood of this war is clearly on Hamas's hands.

As the fighting continues, I am reminded of a saying that has been around for years: If Hamas laid down its weapons today, there would be no more violence. If Israel laid down its weapons, there would be no more Israel.

Hamas is not fighting for peace. It is trying to wipe Israel off the map—again, as a proxy for its sponsor, which is the Supreme Leader in Tehran. They all share a desire to wipe the Jewish State off the map entirely.

The United States cannot equivocate between good and evil. We must stand with Israel. There is no question that words are important. We have a responsibility to voice our support, speak out against Hamas, and call out dangerous anti-Semitic slander when we see it.

But words alone are not enough. America has a responsibility to come to the aid of our ally with the resources it needs not only to fight but to actually win this war. This includes air defense systems that safeguard Israeli people from rocket attacks. It includes intelligence support to stay one step ahead of the terrorists. And it includes military aid to find and eliminate the Hamas threat.

As part of that commitment, Congress has a big job to do. We need to pass a supplemental funding bill to ensure Israel has the tools it needs to defeat Hamas terrorists, and, last week, the House of Representatives did just that. They passed an Israel aid bill with bipartisan support. Their legislation would provide up to \$14.3 billion to ensure that Israel has the resources they need to defend themselves.

Our friends across the Capitol offset the spending by reallocating a portion

of the bloated IRS funding from the Democrats' massive so-called Inflation Reduction Act. I would add that that was \$14.3 billion out of an \$80 billion appropriation to the Internal Revenue Service, hardly the majority of that funding.

But if our colleagues on the other side of the aisle don't like those pay-fors, then they are free to come up with an alternative. But the truth is, they don't believe in paying for anything. And we saw, just this last year, about \$670 billion paid by the United States to our bond holders to help finance this national debt, and that is not getting any better by the day. Certainly, if we were to pass another supplemental appropriations bill to aid Israel or Ukraine, or for any other purpose, and actually make our national debt worse, it would put us on a perilous path.

Well, President Biden, who said, "We stand with Israel; we will do anything that they need us to do," has actually threatened to veto the \$14.3 billion supplemental appropriations bill that was passed by the House. How he can reconcile his stated support for Israel and his threat to veto a supplemental appropriations bill escapes me.

Then there is the majority leader here in the Senate—the Senator from New York, Senator SCHUMER—who said that the House bill is dead on arrival in the Senate, and he took his opposition a step further, blasting this legislation as "stunningly unserious" and "a joke."

Well, I have to respectfully disagree with the majority leader. There is nothing funny about denying Israel the assistance it needs in defending itself against this terrorist threat. It is no secret that America's national debt has put us in an extremely vulnerable position.

Thirteen years ago, Admiral Michael Mullen, who was Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, warned that "the most significant threat to our national security is our debt." That actually struck me as a little unusual at the time. But, at that time, the national debt was roughly \$13.5 trillion. Since then, it has more than doubled to \$33.6 trillion and counting.

So I think that what he was getting at is that the more we end up spending money that we are borrowing from subsequent generations and the more interest we have to continue to pay to people willing to buy our debt, we are going to have a whole lot less financial resources and flexibility that we need when unexpected things occur, like the Russian invasion of Ukraine or Hamas's invasion of Israel. We simply won't have the money and the flexibility to do what we expect America to do, which is to always lead and be an agent for peace and stability.

If we continue at this pace, our children and grandchildren will have no chance of digging out from under this debt. There is an old saying that "the best time to start was yesterday; the

next best time to start is now." We have a responsibility to start chipping away at the national debt now and certainly not to make it any worse. Every single spending bill is an opportunity to make tough but necessary choices to achieve that goal.

I am disappointed that the majority of our Democratic colleagues don't seem to have any interest in addressing this threat to our national security. Over the last couple of years, they have spent, on a party-line basis, \$2.6 trillion without a single Republican vote, and now they blast an attempt to address the growing debt as "unserious."

Well, that \$2.6 trillion in spending that our Democratic colleagues did on a party-line basis was partly responsible for our 40-year high inflation rate that is eating up the standard of living of hard-working Americans across the country. I think the figure I saw indicates that, if this is broken down per capita, it is roughly worth slightly under \$1,000 in additional costs for the average family.

Our Democratic colleagues, if they didn't like the pay-for provided by the House of Representatives, they could have suggested different offsets. You can't tell me, given the amount of money the Federal Government spends, that it couldn't find offsets for \$14.3 billion. Or the majority leader could have simply put the bill on the floor and left room open for an amendment process. But, instead, he resorted to name-calling and trying to belittle the serious efforts that the House has undertaken, both to deal with the emergency in Israel and the national debt.

In the next couple of weeks, the Senate and the House are going to have to work together to address the major issues that are swirling in front of Congress right now, which include Israel, Ukraine, the border, and, yes, keeping the government funded. This is hardly the way to start off on a good foot.

Republicans and Democrats in Congress overwhelmingly support Israel. We agree that the United States needs to provide support for our ally. At the same time, we need to get serious about addressing another massive national security threat, which is our growing national debt and the crowding out of our ability to spend money on other necessary priorities instead of paying China and Japan, who own that debt.

Washington has a spending problem. That is the first thing we need to acknowledge. Unfortunately, many of my colleagues are unwilling to acknowledge it. We have to get it under control.

Today marks 1 month since Hamas attacked Israel, and I am disappointed that the Senate has yet to act on support—financial support—for our closest ally in the Middle East. I have no idea what Senator SCHUMER's plans are to actually process this supplemental appropriation. I don't know how long Israel will have to sustain the onslaught of Hamas's rockets and ter-

rorist attacks on its people before the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Government will respond, as President Biden said we would.

Under the leadership of Speaker JOHNSON, the House did its job. It passed legislation to provide \$14.3 billion for Israel with bipartisan support. So I come to the floor profoundly disappointed that Senator SCHUMER refuses to take up this emergency supplemental appropriations bill to aid Israel.

The United States has a responsibility to stand with Israel. I think that is the consensus position here in Congress on a bipartisan basis. But it takes more than just words. It takes action.

One month after the war began is too long to respond to the needs that the people of Israel have to defend their country and their way of life. I hope we can see movement on this aid package for Israel sooner rather than later.

I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF JULIA E. KOBICK

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Julia Kobick to the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Ms. Kobick is an accomplished litigator whose credentials and breadth of experience make her well-suited to serve on this court. After receiving her A.B. from Harvard College, her M.S. from Pace University, and her J.D. from Harvard Law School, Ms. Kobick began her legal career with prestigious clerkships for judges appointed by Presidents of both political parties: Judge F. Dennis Saylor IV on the District of Massachusetts, Judge Michael A. Chagares on the Third Circuit, and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the Supreme Court.

After her clerkships, Ms. Kobick joined the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General, serving first as an assistant attorney general and currently as the deputy State solicitor. During her tenure in that office, Ms. Kobick has practiced in Federal and State courts—handling cases defending State laws, regulations, and Agency actions, as well as affirmative cases brought by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Over the course of her career, she has argued more than 20 dispositive motions in trial courts and delivered oral arguments in 19 appeals.

Ms. Kobick has the strong support of her home state Senators, Ms. WARREN and Mr. MARKEY. In addition, she received a rating of "well qualified" from the American Bar Association. Ms. Kobick's credentials, breadth of experience, and deep ties to the Massachusetts legal community will serve the district court well. I urge my colleagues to support her nomination.

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

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

The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, last month, Iranian-backed Hamas terrorists slaughtered over 30 Americans and 1,400 Israelis. These depraved savages raped women, murdered children, and executed entire families, burning some of them alive. The dead are still being identified, and families are still grieving unbelievable heartbreak.

Yet, over the weekend, former President Barack Obama discovered complexity and ambiguity where there is none in these attacks. He said that we “have to admit nobody’s hands are clean, that all of us are complicit to some degree.”

What Barack Obama said over the weekend might pass for profound at cocktail parties on Martha’s Vineyard or on podcasts with sycophantic former staffers, but it is also delusional and morally obtuse. Put simply, it is the confession of a guilty man attempting to implicate others, because we are not all complicit with Hamas’s massacre of Jews, but Barack Obama sure is.

No American President did more to embolden and enrich Iran and its terrorist proxies than Barack Obama. Indeed, his entire Middle East policy was crafted to appease Iran. As President, he stayed quiet when Iranian protesters took to the streets in the Green Revolution. He sabotaged legislation in Congress sanctioning Iran. He cut and ran from Iraq, knowing that Iran and its proxies would fill the power vacuum. He refused to enforce a self-drawn redline and stood by as Syria disintegrated into a “geopolitical Chernobyl” because Bashar al-Assad is an Iranian puppet. He consistently undermined Benjamin Netanyahu—Iran’s chief nemesis in the region—and even refused to veto a United Nations Security Council resolution condemning Israel. And, of course, he negotiated the disastrous Iran nuclear deal, handing the ayatollahs over \$100 billion in sanctions relief. Barack Obama single-handedly saved the Iranian economy and harmed diplomatic relations with our allies in Saudi Arabia and Israel. When he left office, the Middle East was in flames, and Iran was on the march.

Tragically, Barack Obama’s coterie of Iran appeasers, apologists, and accomplices have returned to the White House. His understudy, Joe Biden, is now President. The man who helped to secretly negotiate the Iran nuclear deal, Jake Sullivan, is now National Security Advisor. His Treasury Secretary, who served as a de facto investment banker for the ayatollahs, is now Ambassador to Israel. Barack Obama’s legacy is alive and well in this administration, and it certainly shows.

Within days of taking office, the Biden administration removed the Houthis—another Iranian proxy—from

the list of terrorist organizations without any concessions. And how did the Houthis reward Joe Biden? By firing dozens of missiles and attack drones towards Israel just days after Hamas’s rampage.

In his first hundred days, the Biden administration announced that it would send hundreds of millions of dollars to Iran’s friends in Gaza, Judea, and Samaria. They claimed it would foster peace and stability in the region. How did that work out? The next month, Iranian-backed militias launched 4,000 rockets into Israel.

Since taking office, Joe Biden has enriched the ayatollahs with over \$90 billion through his lax enforcement of oil sanctions and his unfreezing of Iranian assets. Tehran has predictably used this Biden bonus to strengthen its military and arm its proxies.

Just last year, Iran doubled the budget of the Revolutionary Guard Corps—the shock troops of its terror regime—and it more than tripled its support for Hamas’s military brigades.

The very same month that Biden agreed to unfreeze \$6 billion in Iranian assets, the Revolutionary Guard Corps reportedly started to assist with the planning of the October 7 attacks that killed, I say again, over 30 Americans and more than 1,400 Israelis.

This is the nature of the regime that Barack Obama coddled for years. It is the nature of the regime that has dispatched its proxies to attack American servicemembers over 110 times since Joe Biden took office. Let me say that again. Iran’s proxies have attacked American troops in positions in the Middle East over 110 times since Joe Biden took office. What have Joe Biden and his gang of Obama acolytes done in return? They fired a few missiles at empty proxy warehouses, merely validating Iran’s proxy strategy.

The ayatollahs are laughing at Joe Biden, just like they laughed at Barack Obama.

Barack Obama is the last person who should pontificate on this issue. The only thing we should hear from him is an admission that he was wrong and an apology. Maybe he can include it in his upcoming fourth memoir due out later this year.

My message to the former President is simple: Don’t try to excuse your own failures by blaming the rest of us. The people “complicit” in the attack on Israel are the terrorists who committed it, the Iranian regime that funded it, and the Obama and Biden administrations that appeased them. The responsibility for the events of October 7 rest squarely on their shoulders and their shoulders alone.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, today, I want to tell you about a story of love, a love between two people that is beautiful and deep. It is the story of a couple known as Judy and Gad, two people in their seventies who believe in humanity and in peace.

Judy is a native New Yorker who teaches English literature and mindfulness. Gad is a chef and a jazz musician who friends describe as funny and authentic. The couple raised four children and have welcomed seven grandchildren. They inspire those around them with their big hearts and their open minds.

On the morning of October 7, they were walking near a kibbutz, Nir Oz. When rockets rained down overhead, they hid face down in nearby fields. At one point, Judy called an ambulance because the couple had been shot, but the ambulance couldn’t reach them, and now they are both missing.

Judy and Gad are just two of the hundreds of people held hostage by the terrorist organization Hamas. They are peaceful, loving people who don’t deserve to suffer. But since October 7, their family hasn’t heard from them, and as the war in Gaza grows, they are concerned about the couple’s safety and well-being.

Another family in Nir Oz was also taken by the terrorists. Their cousin, a New Yorker, has been working with my office. She says they are “six of the human beings she loves most in the entire world.” She says she won the lottery as a member of their close-knit family. According to Alana, the New Yorker we have been working with, Danielle is like her sister, a natural nurturer who gives great hugs.

Danielle was with her 5-year-old daughter when they were taken hostage by Hamas. They were visiting Danielle’s sister Sharon, her brother-in-law David, and their 3-year-old twin girls. When the attack began, the family hid in their bomb shelter as Hamas set fire to their neighbor’s house. The shelter filled with smoke and forced them out to face the terrorists. The last time they were heard from was on a phone call with a relative. Sharon said, “I don’t think we can survive this, I love you” and hung up.

While these horrors can test our resolve, the love within these families should be an inspiration to all of us. It should strengthen our commitment to keep fighting for their safety. In this darkness, we must never lose that strength. To quote from an inscription written in defiance of the Holocaust, we must “believe in the sun even when it is not shining.” We must “believe in love even when feeling it not.”

NOMINATION OF RAMON ERNESTO REYES, JR.

I would now like to speak about the vote we are about to have on the floor. I would like to stand in support of Judge Ramon Reyes, an accomplished jurist and dedicated public servant whose breadth of experience on and off the bench will make him an outstanding addition to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

On February 9, 2023, Reyes was voted out of committee by a vote of 11 to 10. All committee Democrats voted aye. Reyes was unanimously rated “well qualified” by the ABA.

This nominee was born in Brooklyn. He earned a B.S. from Cornell, a J.D. from Brooklyn Law School, and his L.L.M. from New York University Law School. In addition to an Eastern District clerkship, Reyes had a varied legal practice over the course of 13 years, representing corporate defendants in a large firm, helping draft legislation from the New York City Council, handling both civil and criminal matters, and assisting a U.S. attorney in the Southern District of New York.

Reyes was appointed in 2006 to serve as the Federal magistrate judge for the Eastern District of New York. Since taking the bench, Judge Reyes has presided over 33 trials—15 jury trials and 18 bench trials. They cover a range of cases that come before this district court, including criminal matters, employment issues, and civil rights cases.

With his significant trial experience and depth of knowledge of the district to which he has been nominated, Judge Reyes will be a tremendous asset to the Eastern District of New York, and I urge my colleagues to support him.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

NOMINATION OF JULIA E. KOBICK

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, in a few moments, the Senate will confirm Julia Kobick as district judge for the District of Massachusetts.

I have great news: The Senate is about to confirm the 100th woman and the 150th judge overall to the Federal bench since we took the majority.

One judge at a time, this Democratic majority is making the Federal bench look more like America, and that is why the confirmation of the 100th woman to the court is so important. It is not only double the amount confirmed by President Trump in all his 4 years, it is also considerably more women than any full first term of any President. In fact, two-thirds—two-thirds—of all the judges we have confirmed under President Biden are women, and we have confirmed more women of color to the bench than any other President's entire time in office.

These hundred women are historic taken together, but they also include many who are historic in their own right. They include, of course, the first Black woman confirmed to the Supreme Court, Ketanji Brown Jackson. They include the first Muslim-American woman on the Federal bench. They include the first Navajo Federal judge, and much more. We are getting the bench to look like America. It has been long overdue, but it is happening and happening in large steps under this Senate Democratic majority.

Now, I want to let America know we are proud to have reached this historic milestone, but we are not slowing down. Confirming more women on the bench is long, long overdue. The Senate, which has made strides more than any year to make that a reality, will continue to keep working to confirm more judicial nominations in the weeks and months to come.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON KOBICK NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Kobick nomination?

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 297 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	Kelly	Shaheen
Butler	King	Sinema
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Smith
Cardin	Luján	Stabenow
Carper	Markey	Tester
Casey	Menendez	Van Hollen
Collins	Merkley	Warner
Coons	Murkowski	Warnock
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warren
Duckworth	Murray	Welch
Durbin	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Padilla	Wyden
Gillibrand	Peters	
Hassan	Reed	

NAYS—46

Barrasso	Grassley	Ricketts
Blackburn	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	Manchin	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Vance
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Young
Fischer	Mullin	
Graham	Paul	

NOT VOTING—2

Britt	Scott (SC)
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The nomination was confirmed.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

CLOTURE MOTION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 38, Ramon Ernesto Reyes, Jr., of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Tim Kaine, Margaret Wood Hassan, Ben Ray Lujan, Raphael G. Warnock, Tammy Duckworth, Jack Reed, John W. Hickenlooper, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Christopher Murphy, Tina Smith, Debbie Stabenow, Sheldon Whitehouse.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Ramon Ernesto Reyes, Jr., of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 298 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schatz
Booker	Kelly	Schumer
Brown	King	Shaheen
Butler	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cantwell	Luján	Smith
Cardin	Manchin	Stabenow
Carper	Markey	Tester
Casey	Menendez	Van Hollen
Coons	Merkley	Warner
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warnock
Duckworth	Murray	Warren
Durbin	Ossoff	Welch
Fetterman	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	

NAYS—46

Barrasso	Grassley	Ricketts
Blackburn	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Tuberville
Cruz	McConnell	Vance
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Mullin	Young
Fischer	Murkowski	
Graham	Paul	

NOT VOTING—4

Britt	Hickenlooper
Cassidy	Scott (SC)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KELLY). On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 46.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Ramon Ernesto

Reyes, Jr., of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that Senators BLUMENTHAL, HIRONO, WELCH, and myself be allowed to engage in a colloquy on the Senate floor.

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

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, the subject of our colloquy is going to be the enormous, secret gifts that have recently been disclosed going into the pockets of certain Supreme Court Justices.

The first thing that is remarkable about these gifts is how magnificent they are—luxury trips on private jets, luxury trips on superyachts, paying for a Justice's mother's home, paying for private school tuition of dependents, \$500,000 donations to organizations that the spouse worked for, \$25,000 fees into a spouse's consulting firm, jet and fishing trips across the country. So it is all pretty rich stuff.

In Rhode Island, if you want to take a gift from somebody—let's say you are a municipal employee, and they want to take you to lunch across the street from city hall. It is 25 bucks. That is your limit, and you have to disclose it. You get to do that three times, and then you are all done. Then you can't even take the \$25 lunch if you disclose it. So in Rhode Island, people are really upset about these multi-hundred-thousand-dollar gifts.

It gets worse. It is not just the size of the gifts. It is the network. It is the web. The billionaires who are involved in giving these gifts overlap with an array of front groups that are involved with the billionaires and with the gifts, and there is a common "fixer" who ties many of these threads together. The trips very often involve the fixer and the Justices and the billionaires, and the whole mess is interwoven. The donations go through the front groups to the Justice from the fixer over and over. This thing is a web, and we are working hard in the Judiciary Committee to try to untangle it.

On Thursday, we will be taking up the question of subpoenas to the billionaires and the front group corporations that have participated in these different gifts to find out what really went on. How bad, really, was it? What we know already is bad enough, but there is more to discover.

With that, let me yield to my colleague Senator BLUMENTHAL, and then I will wrap up after Senator HIRONO and Senator WELCH have had their chance to speak as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I want to thank Senator WHITEHOUSE for his leadership on this issue—persistent, consistent, constant in seeking the truth; very simply, seeking the facts.

We are here about the authorization of a subpoena to three individuals—Harlan Crow, Leonard Leo, and Robin Arkley—who have engaged in, we know for sure, a pattern of gift-giving, including lavish vacations, private jet flights, school tuition, and even a luxury RV. These wealthy political activists have given those gratuities, we know for sure, but we know very little else because the Supreme Court has no code of ethics.

The U.S. Supreme Court could defuse a lot of the degrading rumor and speculation if it were simply to do as every other branch of government, as every other judge except for the U.S. Supreme Court does and impose a code of ethics. Its refusal to adopt a code of ethics lies at the core of our reason for being here today.

But, in my view, these subpoenas are part of an effort to save the Court from its own self-inflicted ethical crisis. It is an ethical conflagration of its own making. The Supreme Court Justices are the only Federal judges who are not subject to a binding and enforceable ethical code, and that leads to the next point.

The Judicial Conference is a creation of this body, the U.S. Congress. We are looking into what the Judicial Conference should be doing and what it may know and should be held accountable for knowing. Our investigative effort directly concerns a creation legislatively of the Congress. It is perfectly proper. It raises no constitutional issues.

All this stuff about the independence of the Supreme Court—yes, it is an independent branch of government, but it is not nonaccountable. Funds for it are appropriated. Rules of evidence are created. There are numerous ways that it, in effect, is held a part of an overall and overarching Government of the United States of America.

The small circle of individuals here who have engaged in these gifts—all of them far-right, wealthy donors; some of them having cases before the Court—raises issues that are profoundly important to the credibility of the Court itself. So, again, we are seeking to save the Court, in a sense, from its own potentially self-inflicted continuing degrading and diminishing.

The fact that the polls show the Supreme Court has plummeted in public opinion is not the reason for us to investigate, but they reflect a secrecy, combined with these potentially improper gifts, that is undermining the Court as an institution.

I say it sadly because I was a law clerk on the U.S. Supreme Court to Justice Harry Blackmun—who, by the way, would not even go to dinner with someone who might at some point in the future have a case before the Court. I have argued cases before them, before the U.S. Supreme Court. I have real reverence for the Court as an institution. So I am especially sad but also particularly angry that the Court is failing—totally failing—to take action

that it owes the American people and itself, because the Supreme Court as an institution will be diminished by its continued refusal to create an ethics code and the refusal to disclose the truth about these financial relationships. These twin refusals bring us here today.

Authorizing a subpoena is not a step that I take lightly. None of my colleagues do. But the weight of the Court's ethical crisis makes it necessary.

The American people deserve a Supreme Court that is ethical, impartial, and accountable. The highest Court in the land is not higher than the law. It is not above accountability. It may be independent, but it is not unto its own, as it seems to believe it is.

We are past Halloween. All of the charades and shams that have been offered as arguments are about as valid as the costumes people were wearing the other day, October 31.

The Supreme Court has a commitment and a promise under our Constitution. It has to deliver on that promise or its credibility will be further diminished, and the Supreme Court as a pillar of justice—and it must be a pillar of justice—will be eviscerated in the eyes of the American people.

I look forward to authorizing these subpoenas and helping to restore the reputation of our United States Supreme Court.

I yield to my colleague from Hawaii, Senator HIRONO.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today because I, like the majority of Americans, am increasingly concerned about the legitimacy crisis at the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Court consists of nine members who have lifetime appointments and can make decisions regarding the quality of the air we breathe; the exercise of free speech on the internet; the autonomy and control of our bodies; protection of our homes, cars, and cell phones from government intrusion. These are just a few ways the Supreme Court's decisions impact the lives of every single American every single day.

These individuals with immense power, shouldn't they be held to the highest level of ethical accountability—not because we disagree with some of the Court's decisions but because its legitimacy depends on Americans having faith that those decisions are arrived at fairly and objectively, not influenced by money or special interests. Yet, instead of having the strongest ethical rules—or any binding ethical rules, for that matter—the Supreme Court purports to follow a "collection of principles" that are both nonbinding and weaker than the rules for government workers, for Members of Congress, and for many private sector employees.

As we have seen, the Supreme Court's honor system for financial disclosures and recusals is woefully inadequate. This is not a partisan issue. Justices appointed by both Democrat and Republican Presidents have had ethical lapses.

The public is paying attention, and now it appears there are sitting Justices approved by both Democratic and Republican Presidents who are publicly supporting an official code of conduct for the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court could have adopted such a code decades ago and could do so today if it wanted to; however, if the Supreme Court will not adopt a code of conduct for itself, then Congress has the constitutional power and responsibility to impose a code of conduct on it.

This brings me to the topic of subpoenas. For months, my colleagues and I on the Judiciary Committee have worked in good faith to gather information about gifts of luxury travel and other gifts made to certain Justices to understand whether ethical violations occurred and how and when. We sought information from the millionaires and billionaires who made those gifts about the kinds of access they may have gained as a result.

Despite lengthy negotiations, we have hit an impasse in our efforts with two of these individuals and their related corporations. Their refusal to provide the committee with relevant information leaves us no choice but to authorize subpoenas. We need information from these individuals to understand the extent to which Supreme Court Justices have failed to disclose gifts from parties with interests before the Court.

Congress has a responsibility to craft and strengthen effective, comprehensive Supreme Court ethics legislation going forward.

Some of my Republican colleagues say that issuing subpoenas to people who paid for luxury travel and gifts for Supreme Court Justices somehow undermines democracy. Those claims are preposterous. What undermines our democracy is Justices accepting gifts and appearing to use their office for personal gain.

If the Court had done the right thing decades ago and adopted a comprehensive code of conduct, we likely would not be issuing subpoenas.

We have a responsibility to ensure that the highest Court in the land adheres to at least—at least—the same ethical standards that apply to the other two branches of government and to pass appropriate legislation if it has failed to do so. Therefore, the committee should continue to exercise its constitutional oversight authority and authorize subpoenas.

I yield to Senator WELCH.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. I thank my colleagues tonight, and I thank Senator WHITEHOUSE for his work on this.

You know, the question that is facing, I think, all of us and is troubling Americans is an erosion of confidence in our institutions. We are seeing that with a lot of erosion of confidence in the legislature, which is here to serve the interests of the people we all represent. It is also sometimes with the Executive—huge battles there. And, of course, January 6 was an indication that the norms that have guided us throughout our history—that is, the peaceful transfer of power after the people of this country make a decision about who shall be their elected leader—have all been challenged.

And now we have the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has an incredibly important role in the preservation of our democracy because it has the capacity to make decisions about legislative actions and whether what the legislature did fits within the parameters of the Constitution, and it is an awesome responsibility.

As my colleagues have said, I have an enormous amount of reverence for the institution of the judiciary, and I have an enormous amount of reverence for the particular role of the U.S. Supreme Court.

I have immense respect for the individuals who have achieved that status of being a member of the U.S. Supreme Court. They serve an important institution. They have a very important job. But they are not more important, as individuals, than any other American. They are not. They have more responsibility. They have a special obligation as Justices of the Supreme Court, but they are not above the law.

This is not exactly about whether there are legal questions involved. It is about whether they accept the responsibility that goes with representing an institution that must maintain credibility for the American people in order to have the people whom they serve respect their decisions.

We have a situation in the Supreme Court now. Within our judiciary, we have 850 judges at all different levels. Every single one of those judges is subject to rules that are designed to try to instill public confidence. Those rules require those judges to make financial disclosures. That includes whether they have been the beneficiary of gifts. There are nine people in this country who are in the judiciary who don't adhere to those rules, who don't believe it is their burden to share and disclose with the American people what gifts they have received, and those are the nine Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court. That is outrageous.

You know, when I talk to Vermonters about this and I say: Do you think that a justice of the Vermont Supreme Court or a Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court should be required to let you know—let the public know—if they got private jet travel to a location to get on a private yacht to take a private vacation? They have an obligation to disclose that.

And Vermonters look at me in dismay and they say: Peter, are you serious? They can do that?

This is not about disclosure. This is astonishment that somebody in a position of authority who they know—and every Vermonter knows—is getting that offer of a free jet travel, who is getting that offer of a free yacht trip and vacation in the Indonesian islands. It has nothing to do with who they are as persons. It has to do with who they are because of their responsibility and role as U.S. Supreme Court Justices. Vermonters can't believe it.

So this question of gifts and the bare minimum of having to disclose it, how is it even a question?

You know, I served in the House, as you know, and, in 2011, I and several of my colleagues wrote a letter inquiring about these gifts and why is it that they didn't have to be disclosed. This has been going on for far too long.

There is another matter of personal respect. The Supreme Court Justices, all of them, have the highest position in the judiciary, and all of those other 850 judges under them, are they not entitled to expect that what is required of them will be accepted by those nine members?

I have to confess enormous dismay that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who is in the position to bring those other eight Justices together and say, "Hey, let's deal with this; why are we creating this problem when it does so much to undercut public confidence in what it is we are trying to do?" hasn't done it—hasn't done it.

So we have to do it. I believe that the judiciary—not just the 850 members of the judicial branch but 859 members of the judicial branch—should all be subject to the same disclosure rules. And let me tell you, if they disclose these gifts, maybe they won't take these gifts—because, actually, what is the point? I mean, really?

This is where I go back to the Vermonters I talked to who say: Peter, what is the deal? You literally can take an all-expense-paid vacation, and this person thinks it is not going to influence them? And they want to know what I have been smoking—seriously.

So what we are doing here is pretty modest, bare bones, but even if it is bare bones and modest, it is absolutely essential to the first step that we take in our effort to restore confidence to the people of this country—Republicans, Democrats, Independents—that our judiciary is all about serving them, not benefiting individually by their positions.

I yield to my colleague from Rhode Island, Senator WHITEHOUSE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, first, let me thank my three colleagues for joining me on the floor today. A word that came up repeatedly was "reverence," and I want to start with that word because I think we all do share a reverence for the institution of

the Supreme Court. And that is what makes it so bitter, to see how badly the Supreme Court is failing us now and to see the paths that billionaire influence has led it down.

It has to correct, and if it is not going to correct itself, then Congress is going to have to correct it.

As Senator BLUMENTHAL said, the problem here is that there is no ethics process for the Supreme Court. There is a perfectly good code of ethics for all of the Justices and for all of the Federal judges, but there is no way to enforce it for the Supreme Court.

If you have a complaint about a Supreme Court Justice, there is nowhere to file it. There is not even an inbox, and if there were an inbox and complaints came through, there is nobody on the other side of the inbox to screen out the nutty ones from the legitimate ones. And once you have a pile of legitimate ones, there is no staff attorney to do the basic research into what are the facts here. At the end of the day, when you have the facts determined and the judge or Justices have their say, then you have the factual predicate to compare with the ethics standard and a neutral decider to decide whether or not it comports. That is the basic structure of U.S. due process, and the Supreme Court will not allow that for itself. That is the problem that we have.

So none of the questions that deserve to be answered about all of these secret gifts and about all of this billionaire influence—none of them—have even been asked over at the Supreme Court, let alone answered. So we have an absolute obligation to go forward with answers.

And we have tried. We have asked very nicely. We have sent lists of questions. We have gone forward with the people who would know about all of this.

And we have received two answers. One was that this is unconstitutional, and so we are not going to participate with you at all. You get nothing. You don't get a single answer.

That, as Senator BLUMENTHAL said, we believe to be a complete sham and a complete charade because the disclosure rules—right? We are talking about disclosure of gifts to Justices. They went undisclosed.

So the question is, Should they have been disclosed? And there is a rule about disclosure that just happens to be a law passed by Congress. And there is a related law passed by Congress that relates to recusal, and recusal relates to gifts because, if you take big enough gifts from someone, you then have to recuse yourself as a judge from their cases. And the recusal rule is also passed by Congress.

So you have a disclosure law passed by Congress, and you have a recusal law passed by Congress, and you have what Senator BLUMENTHAL described—the Judicial Conference, which is the administrative body that oversees the administrative side of the judicial

branch, and that body was also created by Congress.

So the argument that is being made to us is that Congress has no authority to oversee how an Agency that Congress created is implementing laws Congress passed. That argument is, on its face, preposterous, and that, in turn, suggests that there is a lot to look at when we get a chance to look under the hood of all this mischief.

And they really don't want us to see it, and they are going to manufacture completely preposterous arguments just to try to throw us off the trail.

Another recipient of our questions said: OK, it is unconstitutional, but I will offer you a few things. You know, in good faith, I will offer you a few things, but you can only go back 5 years.

Well, we happen to know, with respect to this billionaire, that they were giving gifts to Justices way more than 5 years ago. So they are not even allowing us to ask into the known gift-giving conduct between the billionaire and the Justice, which, by the way, was undisclosed at the time.

So the 5-year rule is just nonsensical, just picked out of the air—picked, actually, out of a criminal statute, as if that had a bearing on a congressional investigation.

Then they said: We will only give you documents that you already have. For everything else, we will just give our lawyers narratives about what took place.

Well, anybody who has ever tried a case knows perfectly well that if you rely on the other side's lawyer's narrative, you are getting no place.

Discovery means you see the documents. You do your real homework like lawyers do. So for one lawyer to suggest to another: No, we are not going to show you the documents; we have them, but we are not going to show them to you; we are just going to give you a narrative of them—there isn't a lawyer in this country who would accept that as a condition in discovery in a case.

The third one is that, once we have answered your first round of questions and given you our phony-baloney narrative for the 5 years that is all we will let you inquire about, no more questions. You waive your right to ask us any more questions forever.

Again, there is not a lawyer in the country who would accept that as a condition of a discovery order. You get to ask the second question. "One and done" is not a thing when you are doing an investigation.

So all of these theoretical accommodations that were offered were just completely fake. We cannot proceed that way—not with any kind of professionalism and not with any kind of ability to get to the truth, which is, at the end of the day, what we really need to do here.

I will conclude by going back to where I started. The reason that we need to follow this process of getting

subpoenas so we get answers to our questions is because of two failures: one, the failure of the Supreme Court to even ask these questions itself. If there were a viable process going forward, using the basic due process investigation standards that everybody in government has to face for ethics, except these nine Justices, we wouldn't need to do this. But the Supreme Court won't allow questions to be asked about itself. So we can't go to them for a proper investigation. They refuse to do it.

When we asked the participants in this gift scheme what they were up to, they told us, as the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, I think, rather artfully summarized, to go pound sand. Well, when Congress has a legitimate inquiry into how an Agency that it created is implementing statutes that it passed, "go pound sand" is not a legitimate answer. So the next step is to move to authorize these subpoenas, and we are going to do that.

This business of the Court not answering obvious questions is really a problem. The question of whether Justice Thomas should have recused himself from the January 6 cases depends on a single fact: what he knew about his wife's involvement in insurrection activities. If he knew absolutely nothing at all, OK. Then it is probably OK for him to recuse himself—maybe a little bit of appearance of impropriety. But if he actually knew of her involvement in those matters, then he absolutely should have recused himself.

The question "Justice Thomas, what did you know, and when did you know it?" has never been asked and never been answered. That is not a tenable way for a Court that purports to represent due process and enforce due process to conduct itself with respect to a conflict of interest.

It is the same thing with these gifts. There is no Federal judge in the country who is receiving multihundred-thousand-dollar vacation gifts, who is getting huge half-million-dollar checks sent in to a spouse's small private company out of which she takes money. This behavior of free private jet travel—at beck and call, it seems—nobody else does that. It is not OK. But looking at it to find out what actually took place and why and when is a basic responsibility of the Judiciary. In any other court, these claims, these charges, these circumstances would be properly investigated. We would know the facts, and we are entitled to know the facts.

The last is that, in the context of our investigation, one of these lawyers made up what I consider to be a sham argument that we can't ask any questions because it is unconstitutional. I have addressed that. It is a congressionally established entity applying congressionally established laws. Yes, we do get to inquire about that kind of job. Because, perhaps, that argument is so weak, so sham, that lawyer actually recruited a Supreme Court Justice to

go into the editorial page of the Wall Street Journal and offer an extrajudicial opinion—not an opinion of the Court, just his own personal opinion—that we had no business investigating.

That violates a ton of stuff. That violates the rule that they are not supposed to offer opinions on matters that might come before the Court. That violates the rule that you shouldn't be engaging as a Justice in an ongoing dispute, sort of like a de facto expert witness for a party in an ongoing dispute. In this case, the dispute is over access to information.

The lawyer's client in that is one of the people involved in this scheme, Leonard Leo. Leonard Leo has a personal relationship also with Justice Alito. He is described as his friend. None of that is disclosed. He just offers his opinion on behalf of the lawyer for his friend.

At the end of the day, the inquiry looks at free gifts, undisclosed, received by Justice Alito. At the end of the day, the lawyer for Leonard Leo was able to recruit a member of the Supreme Court, Justice Alito, to offer a private—I should say a public opinion but a nonofficial opinion, a personal opinion, in the Wall Street Journal editorial page to prop up the argument that says we can't look into gifts that Leonard Leo, the client, organized for Justice Alito, the recipient. That is a tangled mess of ethics violations, and nobody can look at that. Nobody will look at that. That can't be.

So, with the Court looking at none of this scandalous behavior, it is entirely incumbent upon the Congress to do its job and get to the bottom of what went on. That is what, under the leadership and guidance of our Judiciary chairman, DICK DURBIN, we will do.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR ANDREA L. MAY

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a great American and an exceptional member of the U.S. Air Force, Maj. Andrea May.

As an Air Force Senate legislative liaison officer, from June 2021 to May 2023, Andrea performed her duties with exceptional professionalism during the 117th and 118th U.S. Congresses. Andrea distinguished herself through her pro-

fessional character and dedication by serving this Nation in uniform, leading the division's collaboration with the Senate Space Force Caucus, coordinating six events critical to educating Members and their staff on the Department of Defense's newest service, and helping to advocate for Space Force priorities. Her efforts helped solidify the establishment of the U.S. Space Force, ensured the confirmation of the 26th Air Force Secretary, and secured the Department of the Air Force's support of the national defense strategy in our return to Great Power Competition.

A motivated leader and thoughtful relationship builder, Andrea expertly conveyed Department of the Air Force positions on the Air Force Future Design that included the future bomber, tanker, and fighter force. Andrea's direct support provided the U.S. Senate critical information necessary for two National Defense Authorization Acts. Additionally, Andrea served as a liaison between the Department of the Air Force and 19 U.S. Senate offices, including mine. When I had concerns, she was the airman with whom I spoke to address them. Andrea helped ensure that the airmen and guardians of North Dakota were well cared for and that their concerns and interests were known to the leadership of the Department of the Air Force.

In her role as a liaison for the Air Force, she also coordinated responses to more than 200 requests for information and led delegations for 70 Senators, Representatives, and congressional staff on visits to showcase Department equities across the United States and abroad, to include the bicameral Reagan National Defense Forum. Andrea's significant efforts led to successful engagements between this governing body and senior Department of Defense officials, including the Secretary of the Air Force. All of these engagements helped U.S. Senators understand defense equities and their impact on national security. Due to her direct involvement and stewardship, Members of Congress were able to make informed decisions and ensured the Department of the Air Force was properly resourced and funded.

Lastly, Major May was also responsible for helping prepare the Secretary of the Air Force, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, the Chief of Space Operations, and other senior leaders for more than 80 engagements with Senators and their staff and three Senate Armed Services Committee hearings. After serving in this crucial role and becoming a fixture on Capitol Hill, Andrea recently moved on to serve as a pilot in the 89th Airlift Wing at Joint Base Andrews.

I am thankful for Andrea's service and her work with my office and the Senate over the past 2 years on issues of vital importance to the United States. I salute this American patriot whose selfless work has kept our country safe and strong. I join countless others in thanking her for her service.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DR. PETER JENSEN

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Peter Jensen, an AARP 2024 Purpose Prize honoree. This national honor recognizes individuals who are using their life experience to make a positive difference.

Seeing a problem with mental health care access for children, Dr. Jensen founded the REACH Institute in 2006. This nonprofit organization ensures effective and scientifically proven care reaches children and their families. REACH trains primary care providers, therapists, and other health professionals to diagnose and treat young patients.

As a result of this innovative way to connect providers and patients, more than 6,000 pediatricians and physicians in all 50 States have been trained to be "first responders" to children with mental health needs.

Dr. Jensen's health challenges as a child shaped an interest in psychology and inspired him to pursue a career in medicine. He earned a medical degree from George Washington University School of Medicine and has served in leading research and education roles including for Child and Adolescent Research at the National Institute of Mental Health, the Mayo Clinic, and a professor at Columbia University and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

Arkansas is fortunate to have an exceptional, selfless leader like Dr. Jensen who identified a problem and implemented a solution to improve patient care and outcomes. His passion and commitment offer an excellent example for others to follow.

I applaud AARP for recognizing Dr. Jensen's work to build a better future. Dr. Jensen demonstrates what it truly means to go above and beyond for others. I congratulate him on this well-deserved honor and his positive impact. His remarkable achievements offer a model of success that will help patients for generations to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MASTER SERGEANT BOB AMMONS

• Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, most servicemembers come from a military family like MSgt Bob Ammons of Ozark, AL. Born on an Air Force base to a career airman, Bob decided to follow in his dad's footsteps. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force as an air freight specialist.

Bob did 14 assignments in 32 different countries during his 24-year-career. His skills in developing safety strategies ensured many American airmen returned home safely from their missions overseas. Bob climbed the ranks to becoming a senior munitions inspector and missile inspector, where he was in charge of ensuring all missile systems were ready for combat.

After retiring from the military in 1998, Bob decided to make Alabama his

home. Now, he uses his time volunteering across our State. He started by volunteering as a volleyball, softball, and basketball coach in Dora, AL. Now, he volunteers with veterans and faith groups in the Wiregrass. Bob and his wife are actively involved in Post Oak Baptist Church in Ozark. Bob helps fix donated appliances for the Dale County Baptist Association's thrift store. He also serves as a service officer for Chapter No. 94 of the Disabled American Veterans, where he helps veterans with benefits and medical appointments.

Bob is also very involved with Friends of Army Aviation, helping inspire future generations of aviators and supporting aviator veterans. Friends of Army Aviation President Doc Holladay says that Bob "works tirelessly and consistently on any job that he is assigned. There is no hill too high for a climber like Bob."

Alabama is fortunate that Bob chose to use his talents to make our State a better place to call home. I am proud to recognize Bob Ammons as the November Veteran of the Month.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, one of his secretaries.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12170 OF NOVEMBER 14, 1979, WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—PM 30

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 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

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 prior to 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 this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979, is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 2023.

Our relations with Iran have not yet normalized, and the process of implementing the agreements with Iran,

dated January 19, 1981, is ongoing. Therefore I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12170 with respect to Iran.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, November 7, 2023.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:05 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, 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. 359. An act to establish Fort San Gerónimo del Boqueron in Puerto Rico as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1318. An act to authorize the location of a monument on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the women's suffrage movement and the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1607. An act to clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3448. An act to amend chapter 3081 of title 54, United States Code, to enhance the protection and preservation of America's battlefields.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:41 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 366. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to treat certain individuals who served in Vietnam as a member of the armed forces of the Republic of Korea as a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States for purposes of the provision of health care by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

At 6:27 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4821. An act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 359. An act to establish Fort San Gerónimo del Boquerón in Puerto Rico as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1607. An act to clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3448. An act to amend chapter 3081 of title 54, United States Code, to enhance the protection and preservation of America's

battlefields; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES DISCHARGED PETITION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 38, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to "Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers", and, further, that the joint resolution be immediately placed upon the Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

Marco Rubio, Mike Braun, John Barasso, Chuck Grassley, John Thune, Rick Scott, Tommy Tuberville, Bill Hagerty, Cynthia M. Lummis, Ron Johnson, Mike Rounds, Katie Boyd Britt, Shelley Moore Capito, John Cornyn, Mitt Romney, John Hoeven, Roger Marshall, Tom Cotton, Lindsey Graham, Eric Schmitt, Ted Budd, Josh Hawley, Kevin Cramer, James Lankford, Thom Tillis, J.D. Vance, John Kennedy, Mitch McConnell, Ted Cruz, John Boozman.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c), and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 38. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to "Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers".

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3774. An act to impose additional sanctions with respect to the importation or facilitation of the importation of petroleum products from Iran, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6126. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the attacks in Israel for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 4821. An act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

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-2702. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Management, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act"

(RIN0412-AA97) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2703. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Management, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Implementation of the HAVANA Act of 2021” (RIN0412-AB11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2704. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Management, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “USAID Grant Regulations: Removing the Program Income Restriction on For-Profit Entities” (RIN0412-AB01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2705. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Israel in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-023); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2706. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 40(g) (2) of the Arms Export Control Act, the report of proposed exports to Syria (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-056); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2707. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to plans to provide Ukraine up to \$125,000,000 in Department of Defense articles and services, and military education and training, under drawdowns previously directed under section 506(a) (1) of the FAA, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2708. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Final Regulations: Financial value transparency and gainful employment” (RIN1840-AD57) received in the Office of the President pro tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2709. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Community Services Block Grant Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 2018” and includes a report entitled “Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Performance Measurement Report”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2710. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order that takes additional steps to deal with the national emergency with respect to significant malicious cyber enabled activities declared in Executive Order 13694 of April 1, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2711. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Elimination of Mandatory Roth Distributions” (5 CFR Part 1650) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2712. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the agencies’ use of student loan repayments as a strategic tool for the purposes of recruitment and retention during calendar year 2021; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2713. A communication from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2023 Civil Monetary Penalties Inflation Adjustments for Ethics in Government Act Violations” (RIN3209-AA66) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2714. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-261, “District of Columbia Housing Authority Stabilization and Reform Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2715. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-262, “Tenant Payment Plan Phasing Continuation Temporary Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2716. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-263, “Voluntary Agreement Moratorium Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2717. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-264, “Buzzard Point Park and Trails National Park Service Grant Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2718. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-288, “River East at Grandview Condominiums Assistance Tax Exemption Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2719. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-289, “Office of Administrative Hearings Jurisdiction Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2720. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-290, “Sign Regulations Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2721. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-282, “Public Health Emergency Credit Alert Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2722. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-282, “Alexander Crummell Way Designation Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2723. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-284, “William R. Spaulding

Way Designation Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2724. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-285, “Sterling A. Brown Way Designation Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2725. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-286, “Rayford Logan Way Designation Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2726. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-287, “Industrial Safety Act Clarification Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2727. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2728. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2729. A communication from the Marine Mammal Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Testing and Training Operations in the Eglin Gulf Test and Training Range” (RIN0648-BL77) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2730. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters; Amendment 39-22512” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1506)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2731. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace: Cedartown, GA” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1186)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2732. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch Western Aleutian District in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC379) received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2733. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC393) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2734. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modification of the West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Actions #37 Through #45” (RIN0648-XC370) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2735. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XC366) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2736. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sable Fish in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC393) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2737. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC381) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2738. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Central Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC380) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2739. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Atka Mackerel in the Central Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC383) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2740. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fisheries; 2023 Fishing Quotas for Atlantic

Surfclams and Ocean Quahogs; and Suspension of Atlantic Surfclam Minimum Size Limit” (RIN0648-XC516) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2741. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; 2023 Specifications” (RIN0648-XC422) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2742. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revisions to Framework Adjustment 63 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan and Sector Annual Catch Entitlements” (RIN0648-XC472) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2743. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Electronic Monitoring Program Regulations for Bottom Trawl and Non-Whiting Midwater Trawl Vessels in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Trawl Catch Share Program” (RIN0648-BH70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2744. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan; Amendment 30; 2023-24 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures” (RIN0648-BL48) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2745. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Amendment 22 to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan” (RIN0648-BL43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2746. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Inflation Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties” (RIN3072-AC94) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2747. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Delegations to Bureau of Enforcement, Investigations, and Compliance” (RIN3072-AC97) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2748. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Update of Existing

User Fees” (RIN3072-AC96) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2749. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Civil Penalty Amendments to Rules of Practice and Procedure” (RIN3072-AC95) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2750. A communication from the Deputy Division Chief of Competition Policy, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Numbering Policies for Modern Communications; Telephone Number Requirements for IP-Enabled Service Providers; Implementation of TRACED Act Section 6(A)—Knowledge of Customers by Entities with Access to Numbering Resources; Process Reform for Executive Branch Review of Certain FCC Applications and Petitions Involving Foreign Ownership” ((RIN3060-AK36) (WC Docket Nos. 13-97, 07-243, 20-67) (IB Docket No. 16-155)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-82. A memorial adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of New Mexico supporting Ukraine against Russian aggression; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE MEMORIAL NO. 55

Whereas, the post-war international security order, led by the North Atlantic treaty organization, relied upon diplomacy, peace and communication rather than armed conflict to ensure prosperity and stability for more than seventy years; and

Whereas, following the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Ukrainian people voted overwhelmingly to form a nation independent from Russia and built a thriving democratic country grounded in the rule of law; and

Whereas, more than thirty years ago, Ukraine declared its independence, and in 1994, the United States, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom signed an agreement whereby each country pledged to respect the independence and sovereignty of Ukraine’s borders in return for its nuclear disarmament; and

Whereas, in 2014, the pro-western Euromaidan protest movement in Ukraine led to the resignation of authoritarian president Victor Yanukovich, a brutal ally of Russian president Vladimir Putin, and ushered in democratically elected leaders who have sought closer ties to the United States, the European Union and Great Britain; and

Whereas, Ukraine is recognized as a peaceful and honorable democratic republic that is governed by democratically elected President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal; and

Whereas, in order to manufacture a pretext to invade and occupy Ukraine, Vladimir Putin and his surrogates lied to the people of Russia and the global community, falsely claiming that Ukraine posed a threat to Russians and that he was launching a crusade against “Ukrainian Nazis”; and

Whereas, on February 24, 2022, Vladimir Putin launched an unjust, unwarranted and

unprovoked full-scale war of choice and aggression upon the peaceful nation of Ukraine; and

Whereas, the Russian Federation violated international peace and security agreements that provided peaceful alternatives; and

Whereas, since February 24, 2022, Russian soldiers and surrogates have brutally inflicted violence and terror upon Ukrainian civilians of every age, including children and the elderly, and committed atrocities throughout Ukraine; and

Whereas, since February 24, 2022, Russian soldiers and surrogates have cruelly killed Ukrainian citizens' pets, domestic animals and wildlife; and

Whereas, since February 24, 2022, Russian soldiers and surrogates have attacked Ukrainian farms, environment, cultural institutions, religious sites and heritage; and

Whereas, since February 24, 2022, Russia has used targeted and indiscriminate aerial strikes to destroy residential structures, hospitals, schools, businesses and critical infrastructure that supports life including water systems and energy grids, plants and pipelines; and

Whereas, Russia has attacked and damaged nuclear power facilities in Ukraine captured and tortured workers from the facilities and subjected Ukraine and its neighbors to risks of radioactive releases; and

Whereas, as Russia's military struggled on the battlefield, Putin resorted to relying on the brutal PMC Wagner group to inflict his war of aggression and choice; and

Whereas, the PMC Wagner group is a Russian mercenary organization that was founded and is led by a Russian oligarch with close ties to Putin; and

Whereas, the PMC Wagner group has been designated as a significant transnational criminal organization pursuant to United States executive orders and by the United States department of the treasury; and

Whereas, Russian soldiers and the PMC Wagner group are credibly alleged to have committed violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by targeting children, the elderly, women and civilians through acts of cruel violence, torture, rape, abduction and forced mass displacement of Ukrainian children in Russian filtration camps to erase their Ukrainian identity and place them with Russian citizens; and

Whereas, Russia's war on Ukraine has severely disrupted Ukrainian and international economies, resources, food supplies and environments; and

Whereas, the brutality of Russia's war on Ukraine is an affront to international law, decency and humanity; and

Whereas, a threat to the sovereign borders of Ukraine is a threat to all western democracies; and

Whereas, Ukraine has been a bulwark against Russian military aggression in Europe and the world; and

Whereas, in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the United States and the international community have imposed sanctions on Russia and provided Ukraine with equipment and resources it needs to defend its territory and people; and

Whereas, the leaders, military and citizens of Ukraine continue to valiantly stand up and fight against Russia's unjust and heinous invasion of their country; and

Whereas, Ukraine deserves the continued support of every American and the international community as Ukraine defends itself from Russia's invasion, which is the largest attack in Europe since World War II; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the State of New Mexico that the members of the house of representatives proudly stand in solidarity with Ukraine, its people and its

leaders, and commend them for their resiliency, courage and relentless fight to protect their right to self-determination and self-governance; and condemn, in the strongest possible terms, Vladimir Putin's attack on the people of Ukraine and endorse continued economic sanctions and export controls on Russia and continued provision of military and humanitarian resources to Ukraine; and be it further

Resolved, That members of the house of representatives wholeheartedly support the United States and international efforts to swiftly aid Ukraine in defending Ukrainian borders, end Russia's war on Ukraine and hold Russia accountable for its actions; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this memorial be transmitted to the president of the United States, the senate of the United States, the house of representatives of the United States, members of New Mexico's congressional delegation and the Ukrainian embassy in the United States.

POM-83. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Ohio condemning the terrorist attacks against the state of Israel and expressing support for Israel's people; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 214

Whereas, On October 7, 2023, Hamas terrorists carried out an unprovoked attack on the state of Israel; and

Whereas, The members of the Senate of the 135th General Assembly share Israel's grief for the hundreds of civilians who have been killed or captured in this horrific act of terrorism; and

Whereas, Ohio is home to many Israeli citizens, Ohioans of Jewish faith, and countless other Ohioans who support the people of Israel; and

Whereas, Israel is a staunch ally of the United States and is deserving of our nation's unequivocal support as they defend themselves against this unjustifiable attack; now therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the Senate of the 135th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, declare our support for the Israeli people; and be it further

Resolved, That we condemn the actions of Hamas and their allies, including Iran, and their attack on Israel and its people; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., for transmission to the proper authorities in the State of Israel, and the news media of Ohio.

POM-84. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Ohio expressing Ohio's unwavering support for the people of Israel and condemning the recent attacks against the state of Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 292

Whereas, Israel is the strongest ally to the United States of America in the Middle East; and

Whereas, The safety and security of Israel is of paramount importance to stability and peace in the Middle East; and

Whereas, Ohio has long been a partner in trade and civil exchange with Israel; and

Whereas, Ohio is home to many Israeli citizens, Ohioans of Jewish faith, and countless other Ohioans who support the people of Israel; and

Whereas, On October 7, 2023, Iran-backed Hamas extremists carried out heinous and

unprecedented attacks against the people of Israel and their rightful homeland; and

Whereas, The deaths of more than 700 Israeli citizens represent a terrorist attack at an unprecedented scale and have been caused by brutal, unthinkable attacks on children, families, and other defenseless civilians; and

Whereas, The inhumane actions of the Iran-backed terrorists against the children, mothers, fathers, grandparents, sons, and daughters of Israel were unprecedented and cowardly; now therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 135th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, express our unwavering support for the people of Israel and their desire for a safe, secure, and free Israel; and be it further

Resolved, That we unequivocally condemn the cowardly actions of Hamas and their unprecedented attack on Israeli citizens; and be it further

Resolved, That we offer our prayers for peace and the protection of innocent lives during this conflict; and be it further

Resolved, That we commit to steadfastly supporting Israel and its citizens as they strive for peace and to prevent Hamas from harming Israeli citizens in the future; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., for transmission to the proper authorities in the State of Israel, and the news media of Ohio.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. BROWN for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Jennifer L. Fain, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

*Mark Toshiro Uyeda, of California, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2028.

*Claudia Slacik, of New York, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2026.

*William Brodsky, of Illinois, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2026.

*Spencer Bachus III, of Alabama, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2027.

*Tanya F. Otsuka, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board for a term expiring August 2, 2029.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. KAINE):

S. 3232. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the standards for accreditation of an institution of higher education to assess the institution's adoption of admissions practices that refrain from preferential treatment in admissions based on an applicant's relationship to alumni of, or donors to, the institution, to authorize a feasibility study on data collection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 3233. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce the occurrence of diabetes in Medicare beneficiaries by extending coverage under Medicare for medical nutrition therapy services to such beneficiaries with pre-diabetes or with risk factors for developing type 2 diabetes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. LEE, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. TESTER, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. MARKKY):

S. 3234. A bill to implement reforms relating to foreign intelligence surveillance authorities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 3235. A bill to require a strategy to counter the role of the People's Republic of China in evasion of sanctions imposed by the United States with respect to Iran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 3236. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare coverage of ambulance services that do not include transportation; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TILLIS:

S. 3237. A bill to amend the Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 to ensure claimants are adequately informed regarding filing a Federal cause of action; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 3238. A bill to make a supplemental appropriation to the Secretary of State to carry out the mission and activities of the United States Security Coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian Authority; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. DAINES, Ms. ERNST, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. LEE, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. VANCE, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 3239. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to fingerprint noncitizen minors entering the United States who are suspected of being victims of human trafficking, to require the Secretary to publicly disclose the number of such minors who are fingerprinted by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials and the number of child traffickers who are apprehended by CBP, to impose criminal penalties on noncitizen adults who use unrelated minors to gain entry into the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HAGERTY (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 3240. A bill to require senior Department of State officials to maintain security clear-

ances and to require the Secretary of State to notify Congress when the security clearances of such officials are suspended or revoked; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH:

S. 3241. A bill to establish the Grand Village of the Natchez Indians and Jefferson College as affiliated areas of the Natchez Historical Park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAMER, and Ms. ERNST):

S. 3242. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to revise the shareholder threshold for registration under that Act for issuers that receive support through certain Federal universal service support mechanisms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. RICKETTS:

S. 3243. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude all military retirement and related benefits from Federal income tax; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 3244. A bill to amend the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 to extend funding outreach and assistance for low-income programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 3245. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct surveys of non-retail pharmacy drug prices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FETTERMAN:

S. 3246. A bill to provide for consideration of all modes of transportation and all road users in certain highway and transit programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 453. A resolution celebrating the 150th anniversary of the founding of Texas Christian University; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 133

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 133, a bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project.

S. 134

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 134, a bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act.

S. 146

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr.

WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 146, a bill to reduce the price of insulin for patients.

S. 582

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to make daylight saving time permanent, and for other purposes.

S. 704

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 704, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for interest-free deferment on student loans for borrowers serving in a medical or dental internship or residency program.

S. 1227

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1227, a bill to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing at its sources globally.

S. 1300

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1300, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of the late Prime Minister Golda Meir and the 75th anniversary of the United States-Israel relationship.

S. 1538

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1538, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants for outdoor learning spaces and to develop living schoolyards.

S. 1542

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1542, a bill to improve services provided by pharmacy benefit managers.

S. 1800

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1800, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and extend the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Prevention and Services program, and for other purposes.

S. 1860

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1860, a bill to direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a grant program to fund youth fishing projects.

S. 1906

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) and the Senator

from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 1906, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish a time-limited provisional approval pathway, subject to specific obligations, for certain drugs and biological products, and for other purposes.

S. 2003

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2003, a bill to authorize the Secretary of State to provide additional assistance to Ukraine using assets confiscated from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and other sovereign assets of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

S. 2145

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2145, a bill to support educational entities in fully implementing title IX and reducing and preventing sex discrimination in all areas of education, and for other purposes.

S. 2317

At the request of Mr. FETTERMAN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 2317, a bill to amend the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 and the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to direct the Agricultural Research Service to expand organic research, and for other purposes.

S. 2337

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2337, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to promulgate certain limitations with respect to preproduction plastic pellet pollution, and for other purposes.

S. 2386

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2386, a bill to require health insurance coverage for the treatment of infertility.

S. 2477

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2477, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide pharmacy payment of certain services.

S. 2641

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2641, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the publicly traded partnership ownership

structure to energy power generation projects and transportation fuels, and for other purposes.

S. 2647

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2647, a bill to improve research and data collection on stillbirths, and for other purposes.

S. 2695

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2695, a bill to amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, and for other purposes.

S. 2790

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 2790, a bill to reform rural housing programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2817

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2817, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit employers from paying employees in the garment industry by piece rate, to require manufacturers and contractors in the garment industry to register with the Department of Labor, and for other purposes.

S. 3094

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3094, a bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing a proposed rule with respect to emissions from vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 3187

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3187, a bill to require the Department of Homeland Security to publish various publications and reports regarding the number of aliens seeking entry along the southern border of the United States.

S. 3193

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3193, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow for the use of telehealth in substance use disorder treatment, and for other purposes.

S. 3225

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3225, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to any foreign person that the President determines engages in or has

engaged in a significant transaction or transactions, or any dealings with, or has provided material support to or for a military or intelligence facility of the People's Republic of China in Cuba, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 43

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 43, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Improving Income Driven Repayment for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program".

S.J. RES. 47

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 47, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Justice relating to "Office of the Attorney General; Home Confinement Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act".

S. RES. 106

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 106, a resolution condemning Beijing's destruction of Hong Kong's democracy and rule of law.

S. RES. 186

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 186, a resolution seeking justice for the Japanese citizens abducted by North Korea.

S. RES. 408

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 408, a resolution condemning Hamas for its premeditated, coordinated, and brutal terrorist attacks on Israel and demanding that Hamas immediately release all hostages and return them to safety, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 434

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 434, a resolution commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Monroe Doctrine.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 453—CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 453

Whereas, in 2023, Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas, is celebrating the sesquicentennial, or 150th anniversary, of the founding of the University;

Whereas Texas Christian University was established by the brothers Addison and Randolph Clark with the opening of the AddRan Male and Female College in 1873, which opened with an enrollment of 13 undergraduate students and was one of the first co-educational institutions west of the Mississippi River;

Whereas, in 1902, the college was renamed Texas Christian University, and, in 1926, a division of graduate studies was added;

Whereas, in 1910, a major fire destroyed the main building of Texas Christian University, and in the wake of that disaster the college accepted the city of Fort Worth's offer of 50 acres and \$200,000 to relocate to the city where the institution flourished on its new campus;

Whereas the end of World War II marked the beginning of a long period of significant growth for Texas Christian University, evidenced by its purchase of a 106-acre golf course adjoining campus;

Whereas, by 1965, Texas Christian University had added more than 25 buildings, expanded advanced study offerings, and approved Ph.D. programs;

Whereas Texas Christian University has award-winning academic programs, including programs in the AddRan College of Liberal Arts, the Bob Schieffer College of Communication, the College of Education, the College of Fine Arts, the College of Science and Engineering, the Harris College of Nursing & Health Sciences, the John V. Roach Honors College, and the Neely School of Business;

Whereas, in recent years, Texas Christian University inaugurated the Anne Burnett Marion School of Medicine, which serves the Fort Worth area, the State of Texas, and beyond;

Whereas Texas Christian University has distinguished itself by earning an R2 Doctoral Universities: High Research Activity designation by the Carnegie Foundation;

Whereas faculty members and students of Texas Christian University have received more than 80 Fulbright Awards and over the past 5 years have received 42 awards from the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and National Endowment for the Humanities, totaling more than \$22,000,000;

Whereas, in 2023, Texas Christian University serves more than 12,000 students and offers 117 undergraduate, 61 master's, and 39 doctoral programs across 9 schools and colleges;

Whereas Texas Christian University's over 100,000 alumni include multiple members of the United States Congress and State legislatures, stars of theater, cinema, and music, and leaders and captains of industry, science, engineering, agriculture, and more;

Whereas Texas Christian University takes great pride in the 22 varsity sports teams that represent the University and in the University's membership in the Big 12 Conference;

Whereas, across all sports, the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs have won 12 regular season Big 12 Conference titles and 8 Big 12 Conference Tournament titles;

Whereas alumni of Texas Christian University are counted among Olympians and Super Bowl champions;

Whereas, since 2010, the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs rifle team has won 3 national championships and is the only all-female team to win a national championship in this coed sport;

Whereas the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs men's basketball team has made 3 NCAA tournament appearances in the last 6 seasons;

Whereas the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs have excelled in baseball, making 6 College World Series appearances in the past 14 years;

Whereas the 2022 Texas Christian University Horned Frogs football team became the first team in the State of Texas to earn the opportunity to compete for the national championship in the College Football Playoff;

Whereas Texas Christian University has become a world-class university with a reputation for academic excellence, strong traditions, a vibrant student experience and campus culture, and support for student-athletes; and

Whereas, since the founding of the University 150 years ago, Texas Christian University has provided generations of Texans with a strong foundation for achievement, and in so doing, the University has contributed significantly to the prosperity and vitality of the Lone Star State and the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate commemorates the 150th anniversary of Texas Christian University and extends to all those associated with this noteworthy institution sincere best wishes for the future.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MARKEY. Madam President, I have six requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a subcommittee hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent, on behalf of Senator HIRONO, that Sitara Kedilaya be granted floor privileges until November 30, 2023.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent, on behalf of Senator DURBIN, that the following law clerks of the Senate Judiciary Committee be granted floor privileges until November 16, 2023: Evan Zepeda, Durva Trivedi, Christopher Daffin, Timothy Laderach, and James Starke.

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

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR EN BLOC—H.R. 3774 and H.R. 6126

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the second time.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3774) to impose additional sanctions with respect to the importation or facilitation of the importation of petroleum products from Iran, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 6126) making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the attacks in Israel for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. In order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, November 8; that following

the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Reyes nomination postcloture; further, that all time on the nomination be considered expired at 11:30 a.m. and that if cloture has been invoked on the Burrows nomination, all time be considered expired at 2:20 p.m. and that if cloture has been invoked on the McMillion nomination, the vote on confirmation be at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader; further, that notwithstanding rule XXII, following the cloture vote on the McMillion nomination, the Senate resume legislative session and pro-

ceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 238, S.J. Res. 38; that at 5:30 p.m., the joint resolution be considered read a third time and the Senate vote on the passage of the joint resolution; further, that upon disposition of the joint resolution, the Senate resume executive session and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Almadani nomination and that if cloture is invoked, the vote on confirmation be at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 9; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:55 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate November 7, 2023:

THE JUDICIARY

KENLY KIYA KATO, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

JULIA E. KOBICK, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MONICA M. BERTAGNOLLI, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE JAMES H. QUILLEN VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER FOR 120 YEARS OF PROVIDING HEALTHCARE TO OUR NATION'S VETERANS

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the James H. Quillen Veterans Affairs Medical Center, known locally as the Mountain Home VA, as they celebrate 120 years of providing unparalleled healthcare and support to our Nation's brave veterans. This facility, located in the heart of Johnson City, Tennessee, opened its doors to its first veteran patient in 1903, marking the inception of over a century of dedication to those who have valiantly served our Nation.

Throughout its history, Mountain Home VA has stood as a pillar of medical excellence and constant support for veterans from all service branches. As our Nation has advanced to a new global military landscape, this facility has always offered a sanctuary, providing critical, compassionate, and comprehensive care to our Nation's heroes.

Our veterans deserve nothing but the utmost care and respect upon returning to civilian life. For 120 years, the Mountain Home VA has done just that, creating a space that not only attends to the physical well-being of our service members but also provides resources to navigate the oftentimes complex journey of post-service life.

Through generations, the dedicated staff of Mountain Home VA have exemplified an unwavering commitment to ensuring that those who have defended America's freedoms are afforded the dignity, respect, and care they have so rightfully earned. From innovative medical treatments, rehabilitative services, to mental health and wellness initiatives, Mountain Home has been at the forefront of advocating for and addressing the needs of our veterans.

As we commemorate this monumental 120-year legacy, let us pay tribute not only to the institution, but to every nurse, doctor, specialist, administrator, and support staff member who has contributed to making Mountain Home VA a beacon of hope and healing for veterans. Your dedication and service have improved the lives of our veterans and their families, and for that, we owe you a debt of gratitude.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Director Dean Borson and the entire staff of Mountain Home VA. We remain steadfast in our commitment to honor the sacrifice and service of our military men and women, who are forever remembered, valued, and supported.

RECOGNIZING THE UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA'S CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize the important work and legacy of the United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern Pennsylvania on its 100th anniversary. For a century, this organization has been an integral part of the region, dedicated to supporting and empowering low-income families, seniors, youth and immigrants through a wide range of community-based programs.

The United Neighborhood Centers was chartered in 1923, and since then its members have worked to provide services and create opportunities that empower individuals and build strong, interdependent communities. The organization is known for its "wraparound approach," a strategy of ensuring that their care is so thorough that every emerging need of the community is met. This is achieved through the offering of a comprehensive set of community programs, such as emergency assistance programs, work programs and more, all to guide those in need from their lowest to their highest.

The United Neighborhood Service Development Company creates properties to be used for affordable housing, as well as providing no-cost housing counseling. The organization provides free childcare services, free summer camp opportunities and manages several programs for youth and teens throughout Northeast Pennsylvania. The organization also has undertaken a revitalization project for the town of Pine Brook, dedicating itself to improving the neighborhood through many physical, social and economic projects. Additionally, it provides aid to seniors throughout the region, offering services such as in-person fitness activities as well as grab-and-go meals.

Some of the most significant contributions of the organization to the community are its community education programs. These programs, which include the Citizenship Education program, the Readiness in Skilled Employment Program and the Leaders in Training program, provide youth and adults with the skills needed to help them meet their own goals, secure their independence and transform their communities.

For 100 years, the United Neighborhood Centers has been steadfast in its support for all in the community. Its commitment to the development of Northeast Pennsylvania is an inspiration to all. I am honored to recognize this organization's many achievements and congratulate its members on this momentous milestone.

RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY ISRAEL HOUGHTON AHEAD OF HIS LOS ANGELES "REUNION TOUR" PERFORMANCE

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary Israel Houghton, a man who has devoted his career to creating music to inspire people and transform their lives. Israel Houghton, credited as Israel & New Breed, is a faith-based singer, songwriter, producer, and worship leader. The city of Los Angeles is fortunate to welcome Israel & New Breed to perform at the Crypto.com Arena tonight alongside his fellow distinguished gospel artists Kirk Franklin, Tamela and David Mann, the Clark Sisters, and Tye Tribbett.

Israel has been actively pursuing a music career since 1997. His immense contributions and dedication to Israel & New Breed have not gone unnoticed, having received six prestigious Grammy Awards. He has also received several other awards and nominations, such as recognitions from the Gospel Music Association (GMA) Dove Awards and the Stellar Awards.

Israel has embraced writing songs from the heart. In his music, he discusses the value of focusing not only on ourselves but on a higher purpose, which stems from his belief in how we should worship. That perspective continues to be a motif woven through his songs and has recently been captured in his song "Blessing and Honor," featuring fellow artist Anna Sailors.

Israel remains focused on igniting the soul through song and prioritizes this grounding philosophy over superficial successes.

In addition to building his legacy through his music, Israel has also launched "Faith and Familia," a video series with his wife, Adrienne Eliza Bailon-Houghton, discussing their journey to start their family and the role of faith during challenging times.

Israel has opened up about his faith and how it helped him through difficulties in his childhood and ministry as a worship leader. As a music enthusiast grounded in my own faith. I understand the healing power of music and applaud Israel for the lives he has touched through his work.

Israel continues to be a champion in music ministry and will soon be embarking on his upcoming 2024 "Decades" tour.

I am honored to commemorate the work of Israel Houghton, a fellow Angeleno, and am excited to continue seeing the profound impact music can have on people's lives.

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

RECOGNIZING THE 2023 AMERICAN
AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION
STARS OF LIFE HONOREES

HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of the emergency medical services (EMS) profession who are on the frontlines of providing vital emergency 9–1–1 and interfacility ambulance services. These individuals dedicate their lives to providing often lifesaving medical care and transport services to patients as well as entire communities.

I would like to highlight a very special group of EMS professionals or “Stars of Life” who are being honored this week by the American Ambulance Association. These Stars of Life will be meeting with their members of Congress today and tomorrow and I strongly encourage my colleagues to take the time to chat with these exceptional individuals.

For the past thirty years, the American Ambulance Association has honored those paramedics, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), dispatchers and other ambulance service personnel who exemplify what is best about the EMS field. The American Ambulance Association has appropriately designated these individuals as “Stars of Life”. Past Stars of Life have included paramedics and EMTs who were part of evacuation and response efforts to natural disasters, acts of terrorism and public health emergencies.

Every year, the dispatch of an ambulance is the first response to millions of medical emergencies. Often, the survival of a patient is enhanced by the prompt medical attention provided by paramedics and emergency medical technicians prior to the arrival at an emergency department. As a result of the selfless acts of these courageous and devoted professions, the lives of thousands of Americans are saved each year. While these professionals do not expect to receive recognition for their work, they deserve our outmost gratitude.

Of equal importance, this program also pays tribute to those ambulance service personnel whose heroic acts or community service activities may not have made the news, but were just as meaningful to the people they aided. They are truly America’s health care safety net.

I am especially proud of the six Stars of Life from Oregon being recognized this year who work for five different ambulance service organizations and serve Oregonians with pride. They are Carol Boies, Sean Fuller, Victor Hoffer, Daniel Lee, Kristina Ploeger, and Don Thomas. I had the opportunity to meet with Kristina Ploeger from Baker City today and can tell you firsthand that she is an exceptional individual and a fantastic representative of the EMS profession.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2024

SPEECH OF

HON. LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Chair, today I rise in support of my amendment to H.R. 4821, Amendment No. 34.

This amendment highlights the pressing need to address the affordable drinking water crisis afflicting over a million American women, children, and families. Water is a foundational building block for healthy and thriving lives, yet far too many people struggle to afford this basic and essential need. Providing robust funding for the Environmental Programs and Management account will enable the establishment of the much-needed federal low-income water program pilot authorized in section 50108 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and bring us closer to affordable clean water for every American.

For decades, there have been federal assistance programs to help low-income individuals afford essentials such as housing, food, and home energy bills. But no such equivalent program exists for access to water. State-level low-income water assistance has therefore become a critical lifeline for vulnerable families struggling to pay bills and maintain access to water services, yet the lack of federal support hamstringing state efforts to assist all those with limited access to clean drinking water. To address this glaring programmatic gap, IIJA authorized the creation of a rural and low-income water assistance pilot program upon completion of an accompanying needs assessment at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). To date, this needs assessment has not been completed. This needs assessment is critical to the establishment of the water assistance program because it will give the EPA and Congress the insight they need to better understand this important issue and take steps towards the creation of a nationwide, permanent low-income assistance program.

Water bills have become increasingly expensive, placing greater burdens on families that already struggle to afford their water bills. A 2019 survey found that U.S. households in the bottom fifth of the economy spent 12.4 percent of their disposable income on water and sewer services. In recent years, this statistic has increased steadily. No one should have to decide between paying their water bill or buying groceries to feed their family. Historic investments were made in IIJA and it is the duty of Congress and our federal government to ensure these dollars are reaching the people and households it was intended to help. I look forward to working with my colleagues and the Administration to help our communities access critical support systems.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF
MONICA BIBBS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the critically important and remarkable work of Monica Bibbs, who recently stepped down as Director of School Strategies & Logistics at the W.B. Patterson Elementary School, a public school in the District of Columbia.

At W.B. Patterson Elementary School, Ms. Bibbs delivered high-quality work on time, prioritized tasks and managed her time well and demonstrated excellent organizational skills.

Ms. Bibbs began her teaching career in 1987 at H.D. Woodson Senior High School as a mathematics teacher. In 2007, she went to work in central administration as a secondary school numeracy coach and mathematics content specialist.

In 2014, she went to work at W.B. Patterson Elementary School as an Assistant Principal, where she worked collaboratively to achieve team goals and contributed positively to team dynamics, fostering a positive work environment. In 2016, she began serving as Director of School Strategies & Logistics, a role she performed with dedication and a strong work ethic until her retirement this year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Monica Bibbs and her nearly 35 years of incredible service to public schools in D.C.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF OMER
BALVA

HON. DAVID J. TRONE

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of dual-American and Israeli citizen—Omer Balva—who made the ultimate sacrifice while defending Israel from terrorism.

Omer grew up in Rockville, Maryland, where he lived until he was 18. Every summer, he traveled to Israel to visit relatives, and quickly fell in love with the beautiful country, where his parents came from. After graduating high school from the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, he moved to Israel to join the Israeli military—ready and willing to step up and defend his new home, his family, and his friends. He finished his three-year IDF service and then enrolled in college. A few weeks ago, Omer traveled to America with his girlfriend to vacation and visit friends—including his best friend, Ethan Missner, and Ethan’s father, Jonathan Missner, whom I consider a friend.

After the heinous terrorist attacks against Israel on October 7th, Omer was recalled from his vacation in America to his unit in order to mobilize and deploy to the Lebanese border to protect against ongoing attacks. On Friday, October 20th—just three days after being deployed—he was killed in action. He was 22 years old.

Omer had big life plans. He was soon to get married, start a family, work at his father’s

business, and teach his future children to love Israel as much as he did. He had his whole life ahead of him, and today we mourn the life he lost.

His commitment to the greater good, his unwavering bravery, and his altruism were a guiding light for all who knew him. And although we can never repay Omer or his family for his courageous efforts, may his memory be a blessing.

We must honor Omer Balva for his service and strength to fight back against terrorism as we hope for peace in Israel and beyond. May his memory be a blessing.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF COOKEVILLE

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate First Baptist Church of Cookeville on 150 years of spreading the gospel throughout Middle Tennessee. I was raised at First Baptist Church. I came to know my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, was baptized, and was a member for many years at First Baptist. My wife Chelsea and I were married in this church so, needless to say, I received many blessings from this congregation.

The church was organized in 1873 as the Cookeville Baptist Church of Christ. The church's first Pastor, Patrick Moore, led a congregation of 34 members. Together, they agreed to a church covenant, which reads in part, "the purpose of this body is to advance the church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort promoting prosperity and spirituality." They continue to fulfill that commitment 150 years later.

Today, the church enjoys a membership of more than 1,300 members and an average attendance of more than 450. But their story isn't one of instant success. It's one of persistence and faith.

There were long periods of time when the church stopped meeting for worship. In fact, with 20 members at the time, the church underwent a reorganization in 1892. And it wasn't until 21 years after the church's founding that the congregation was able to secure their own House of Worship.

Like so many churches, First Baptist Church of Cookeville was impacted by the Great Depression in the 1930s, which led to the church opting to discontinue their pastor's salary through the end of the year. But that decade was about more than loss for the church. It was also in the 1930s that the Women's Missionary Union was formed, along with the Young Women's Auxiliary and Girl's Auxiliary for the women and girls of the church. The church also formed groups for the boys and men of the church, including the Royal Ambassadors and Baptist Brotherhood.

This is a common theme of this church's story. Through difficult times, they stood firm in their faith and found ways to continue being a blessing to others. First Baptist Church of Cookeville started several missions over the years, missions that later became standalone congregations.

The church began reaching out to students at the nearby Tennessee Polytechnic Institute,

now known as Tennessee Tech University, as early as 1926. They even built a Baptist Student Center, which continues to be a resource for young people to this day.

First Baptist Church of Cookeville was also a pioneer in broadcasting sermons on tv, which they began doing in 1973. The church continues to broadcast their services today, bringing the Word of God to homes throughout the Upper Cumberland.

Whether it be serving their local community through missions like Operation Christmas Child or the Family Life Center, or a mission overseas, the folks making up the church embody what it means to have a servant's heart.

Again, I want to congratulate First Baptist Church of Cookeville on continuing to fulfill that covenant written all those years ago. I wish Pastor Scott McKinney the best of luck as he continues to guide the church in the years ahead. I pray they will continue to be a blessing to their community, and to the region, for another 150 years.

RECOGNIZING THE HEROIC SERVICE OF KADRI CAKRANI DURING THE HOLOCAUST

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to recognize the humanitarian efforts of Albanian Commandant General Kadri Cakrani.

On Saturday, November 11, 2023, the Albanian and Southeastern European Studies Program at DePaul University will host an event entitled, The Cakrani Family of Albania: Repairing the Fabric of History, that will honor the work of General Cakrani in protecting Jews during the Holocaust and advancing Democracy in Albania. Illinois is the home of many relatives of General Cakrani, including my constituents Elizabeth Cakrani Vrato, Evan Metaj, and Abigail Vrato—his granddaughter, great-great grandson, and great-great granddaughter, respectively.

During the German occupation of Albania, Commandant-General Cakrani led the protection of over 600 Jewish refugees and residents in the Berat region from Nazi capture during the Holocaust. At risk of death, General Cakrani lied to Nazi officials about the whereabouts of Jews hiding in Albania and guided efforts to shelter Jews in safe hiding locations, including his own home. His courage and leadership contributed to Albania being the only European country that ended World War II with more Jewish residents than at the start of the war. Further, General Cakrani sheltered three American Army nurses and secretly returned them to Allies after their plane crashed in Albania.

In 1951, General Cakrani moved to the United States after President Harry Truman granted him political asylum. He worked with the U.S. Intelligence to try to bring Democracy to Albania for the remainder of his life. The lives and safety of families and individuals depended on General Cakrani's silence about his efforts during his lifetime. The DePaul event is a step to recognize his humanitarian work during and after the war.

The Auschwitz Memorial Museum, the United States Holocaust Museum, the Illinois

Holocaust Museum, the Jerusalem Post, and the Israel Hayom have all recognized General Cakrani's service and bravery. Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker recently issued an executive proclamation recognizing November 11, 2023, as Kadri Cakrani Day in Illinois.

I wish to add my voice to those recognizing the service and bravery of Commandant-General Kadri Cakrani in the protection of Jews during the Holocaust and his work to promote Democracy in Albania. I wish his family well as they honor his work this week at the DePaul event on Kadri Cakrani Day in Illinois.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 570 and No. 571, I inadvertently voted Aye. I oppose the Perry Amendments, and both votes should be recorded as Nay.

COMMEMORATING THE 2023 RANGERS WORLD SERIES

HON. COLIN Z. ALLRED

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. ALLRED. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commemorate a historic achievement by the Texas Rangers.

The Texas Rangers won the World Series for the first time in franchise history despite many setbacks and injuries along the way.

On Friday, November 3, 2023, Arlington, TX hosted a well-deserved Championship Parade.

As a Congressman for North Texas and a lifelong Rangers fan, I am excited to celebrate this hard-fought victory with the Rangers and my fellow fans.

Achievements such as this don't happen overnight, and they take the support of families, friends, coaches, fans, staff and crew. It really does take a community. And the Metroplex should be proud.

As a former professional athlete myself, I know the hard work it takes, day in and day out, to practice and work to win as a team. All while forging ahead in the face of adversity.

They have shown that North Texans are champions, and we couldn't be prouder of what they all have accomplished together.

Go Rangers.

GRAND OPENING OF EMERGENCE HEALTH NETWORK VETERANS ONE STOP CENTER IN EAST EL PASO

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Emergence Health Network Veterans One Stop Center for their continuous innovation to expand mental and behavioral health services to El Paso veterans and active-duty military and their families.

Emergence Health Network (EHN), the local mental health authority in El Paso, has a dedicated facility focusing on behavioral needs and services. The Veterans One Stop Center (VOSC) in Northeast El Paso provides behavioral health services and additional support to veterans, active-duty military, and their families. Recovery-oriented care is offered to meet the needs of veterans, thus promoting hope and encouragement.

EHN's partnership with Fort Bliss has proved to be a tremendous benefit as an additional resource and support system for these individuals to solve the wait and intervention times for care. EHN's Veteran's One Stop Center has the capability and resources to expedite these services to a much-needed population and can provide care to service members anywhere from two to five days of initial contact.

Today, it is my privilege to honor Emergence Health Network's Veterans One Stop Center for the grand opening of their new facility in East El Paso and thank them for their ongoing efforts to help our veterans, active-duty military, and their families.

RECOGNIZING FRANK ROMANO

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an individual whose unwavering dedication to providing exceptional care to the most vulnerable in our society, Frank Romano.

For over four decades, Frank Romano has been creating and nurturing several successful enterprises that provide essential services to elderly and disabled individuals. His notable portfolio includes skilled nursing, assisted living residencies, adult day health programs, as well as home care services and senior transportation.

A graduate of Merrimack College and the Harvard Business School Program in Entrepreneurship, Frank embarked on his entrepreneurial journey at IBM in Boston where he worked for six years, interspersed with a two-year leave of absence to honorably serve our nation in the Vietnam War. Upon his return, he channeled his passion and expertise into establishing his first healthcare facility in 1972, laying the foundation for what has been a long career synonymous with dignity, care, and deep-rooted respect for the care of our elders.

Frank has served on the Board of Governor's for the American Health Care Association, the largest association in the United States representing long term and post-acute care providers. His contributions have not gone unnoticed, as he was honored with the Joe Warner Patient Advocacy Award, acknowledging his unparalleled commitment to senior care.

On Thursday, November 16th the Massachusetts Senior Care Foundation will honor Frank at its annual breakfast. Today, Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the many years of service Frank has dedicated to his profession, which will undoubtedly continue to inspire and uplift our community for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING WWII U.S. ARMY
VETERAN SERGEANT JOSEPH
DRAKE

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the bravery and valor of U.S. Army Veteran Sergeant Joseph Drake, recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal and one of only 12 remaining WWII Army Rangers. Born on October 24, 1924, Sgt. Drake recently celebrated his 99th birthday with family and friends at his home in Hawley, PA, where he currently resides.

As the member of the U.S. House representing Hawley, in Wayne County, I am grateful to have this opportunity to recognize the courage, dedication and selfless service that Sgt. Drake offered in support of our Nation during WWII in April of 1943 at just 19 years old.

Sgt. Drake honorably served with Company A of the U.S. Army Ranger Battalion and after training in Mississippi, Louisiana and England he fought in five battles in the European Theater, including the Battle of the Bulge and Central Europe. His outfit spearheaded the invasion of Europe by climbing the cliffs of Pointe du Hoc on D-Day on June 6, 1944.

Sgt. Drake proudly recalls Company A moving to relieve a Battalion from the PA National Guard's 28th Infantry Division in Ardennes, France, during the initial German attack that led to the Battle of the Bulge. Sgt. Drake and his Company fought through Luxemburg, Belgium, Germany and Czechoslovakia until the end of WWII in 1945.

Sgt. Drake's distinguished service has earned him many medals, including this institution's highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions—the Congressional Gold Medal.

Upon returning to the United States in October of 1945, Sgt. Drake was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in December and started a family with his late wife, the former Lydora LaTourmous, in Hawley. They were married on September 23, 1950, and raised two daughters and one son. Life gifted them with many grand and great-grandchildren.

Shortly after arriving back home, Sgt. Drake joined the U.S. Postal Service and worked there for 34 years, 15 of which he was the Hawley postmaster. He's proud to be the first person from Hawley, and without a political appointment, to have served in this position.

Sgt. Drake was active in his community, serving as Quartermaster and Treasurer with the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 5823 in Hawley, founded by his late brother Robert J. Drake. He worked with the Mayor of Hawley and others to plan parades and carnivals. After the post disbanded in 2008, he made arrangements to have the post headquarters on Park Place turned over to the County of Wayne, for the Hawley Senior Center.

Sgt. Drake's devotion to our Nation is evident in his exemplary military career, and I thank him for his service while wearing, and after hanging up his uniform. He truly embodies what it means to be one of the few remaining members of the "Greatest Generation."

Sgt. Drake is a true American hero whose commitment to duty and service distinguishes him as an individual whose character represents the very best of Pennsylvania's 8th Congressional District, and I am proud to be his Representative in Washington.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to participate in voting on H.R. 1607 and H.R. 359. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 599, and YEA on Roll Call No. 600.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF KELLIE RUETSCH

HON. MIKE CAREY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. CAREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Kellie Ruetsch, a constituent from Plain City, Ohio.

Kellie is a regional operations manager for Superior Air-Ground Ambulance Service of Ohio Inc. She was recently recognized as one of Superior Ambulance's "Stars of Life." Every year, Superior Ambulance recognizes a handful of its EMTs for their exceptional leadership skills. An EMT since 1997, Kellie has devoted her life to helping others.

Apart from being an EMT, Kellie is also a paramedic and a firefighter. Despite volunteering countless hours to her community and raising two children, Kellie has also found time to advance her skills and professional growth.

In 2016, Kellie was offered a leadership position in which she immediately excelled. In 2017, Kellie obtained her EMS instructor license and completed Ambulance Service Manager training in 2022. Kellie's colleagues and superiors say, that she's someone who leads by example, never seeing a task as below her station.

Plain City and central Ohio are better places to live because of people like Kellie Ruetsch. I salute her service to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT GARCIA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unfortunately unable to be present at votes on November 6 due to travel reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 599, and YEA on Roll Call No. 600.

RECOGNIZING THE PLEASANT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE AHSAA CLASS 2A STATE TITLE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pleasant Valley High School volleyball team for being undefeated and winning the AHSAA Class 2A state title.

On November 1, 2023, Pleasant Valley High School defeated Sand Rock for the 2A state championship in straight sets at Bill Harris Arena in Birmingham.

Pleasant Valley's volleyball squad won its sixth state championship in program history led by head Coach Dana Bryant, who notched her 559th and final victory as a coach.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Coach Bryant, the Pleasant Valley High School volleyball team, students, faculty and all the fans. Go Raiders.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAKE AUCHINCLOSS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent from votes on November 6, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 599, and YEA on Roll Call No. 600.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, due to events in California, I was unable to cast my vote for legislation considered on the House floor. Had I been able to be present, I would have voted as follows: YEA on Roll Call No. 599, H.R. 1607—To clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, and for other purposes, as amended, and YEA on Roll Call No. 600, H.R. 359—Fort San Geronimo Preservation Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, due to events in my Congressional District in

Kentucky, I missed votes the evening of November 6, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 599, and YEA on Roll Call No. 600.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on Roll Call vote No. 599, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass as Amended H.R. 1607, To clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, and for other purposes, I would have voted YEA; and on Roll Call vote No. 600, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 359, the Fort San Geronimo Preservation Act, I would have voted YEA.

HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF WJHL-TV

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and acknowledge a cornerstone of our community and a leading source of news and information in Northeast Tennessee and surrounding regions, WJHL-TV. This year marks the 70th anniversary of WJHL's dedication to broadcasting excellence.

On October 26, 1953, WJHL made its debut, serving as the first voice of television in Northeast Tennessee and the second station to sign on in our great state. It was the vision and determination of founders Hanes Lancaster, Jr., Hanes Lancaster, Sr., and Jay Birdwell that brought this dream to fruition. Nestled in the heart of downtown Johnson City, WJHL has since been a familiar presence, illuminating our homes with news, information, and entertainment each day.

Over the decades, WJHL has been dedicated to informing, educating, and entertaining over 300,000 households, spanning not just our Tennessee counties of Washington, Sullivan, Carter, Greene, Unicoi, Johnson, and Hawkins, but also extending its reach to into Virginia and Kentucky. The expansive reach of WJHL's signal is a testament to its leadership and trust within the region.

Under the leadership of General Manager Paula Jackson, the station has maintained its commitment to broadcasting excellence. Paula and her team of over 80 employees—writers, producers, reporters, technicians, and staff members—all play a crucial role in ensuring that our region stays connected and informed. Their commitment to integrity, fairness, and

community service is more than admirable. For seven decades, the dedicated staff of WJHL has been firm in their mission to report accurate local news that is vital to our region. Their creed is simple: news that matters to you and your family.

Throughout its history, WJHL has seen numerous milestones. For many decades, they have proudly operated as a CBS affiliate. And in February 2016, they expanded their broadcasting network, adding ABC to their second channel, further adding to the content available to their viewers. However, it wasn't just in content where WJHL sought change. In the Fall of 2019, the station embarked on a new chapter, unveiling a state-of-the-art studio, certainly fitting for a station of its legacy. As part of the Nexstar Media Group, WJHL, which encompasses News Channel 11 and ABC Tri-Cities, is poised for continued growth and success.

As they celebrate their 70th anniversary this year, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Paula and the entire WJHL team on 70 years of broadcast excellence. May they continue to shine brightly, informing and uniting our communities for many more years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend this afternoon's votes as I had a longstanding, immovable commitment that necessitated I not be in Washington, D.C. today.

Had I been present for the vote to order the Previous Question, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call No. 601.

Had I been present for the vote on H. Res. 847, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call No. 602.

Had I been present for the vote on the Escobar #5 amendment, I would have voted "aye" on Roll Call No. 603.

Had I been present for the vote on the Perry #20 amendment, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call No. 604.

Had I been present for the vote on the Perry #25 amendment, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call No. 605.

Had I been present for the vote on the Grotham #29 amendment, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call No. 606.

Had I been present for the vote on the Breechen #20 amendment, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call No. 607.

Had I been present for the vote to table H. Res. 845, I would have voted "aye" on Roll Call No. 608. I will vote "no" on the resolution to censure Representative RASHIDA TLAIB when it comes before the House.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5371–S5405

Measures Introduced: Fifteen bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3232–3246, and S. Res. 453. **Pages S5401–02**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979, with respect to Iran; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–30) **Page S5398**

Reyes, Jr. Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Ramon Ernesto Reyes, Jr., of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. **Pages S5393, S5393–97**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 50 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 298), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5393**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, November 8, 2023; that all time on the nomination be considered expired at 11:30 a.m., that if cloture has been invoked on the nomination of Charlotte A. Burrows, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, all time be considered expired at 2:20 p.m., that if cloture has been invoked on the nomination of Brandy R. McMillion, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, the vote on confirmation of the nomination be at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Republican Leader; that notwithstanding Rule XXII, following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Brandy R. McMillion, Senate begin consideration of S.J. Res. 38, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United

States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to “Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers”, that at 5:30 p.m., Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution; and that upon disposition of the joint resolution, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Monica Ramirez Almadani, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination, the vote on confirmation of the nomination be at 11:30 a.m., on Thursday, November 9, 2023. **Pages S5404–05**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 62 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. EX. 293), Monica M. Bertagnolli, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health. **Pages S5371–83**

By 51 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 295), Kenly Kiya Kato, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Pages S5383–84, S5384**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 50 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 294), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S5383–84**

By 52 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 297), Julia E. Kobick, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts. **Pages S5384–86, S5386–93**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 296), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S5384–86**

Messages from the House: **Page S5398**

Measures Referred: **Page S5398**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S5398, S5404**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5398–S5400**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S5400–01**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5401**

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S5402–03
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Page S5404
Additional Statements: Pages S5397–98
Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S5404
Privileges of the Floor: Page S5404
Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—298) Pages S5383–85, S5393

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:55 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, November 8, 2023. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S5405.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Tanya F. Otsuka, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board, Mark Toshiro Uyeda, of California, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Spencer Bachus III, of Alabama, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, Jennifer L. Fain, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and Claudia Slacik, of New York, and William Brodsky, of Illinois, both to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation.

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion concluded a hearing to examine sustainable tourism for a thriving economy, after receiving testimony from Julie W. Regan, Tahoe Regional Plan-

ning Agency, Stateline, Nevada; Jean Garris Hand, Hilton, McLean, Virginia; and Amy Allison, Made By Mountains Partnership, Asheville, North Carolina.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of J. Todd Inman, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, and Samuel H. Slater, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

ROADWAY SAFETY

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure concluded a hearing to examine causes of roadway safety challenges and possible interventions, after receiving testimony from Karin Mongeon, North Dakota Department of Transportation Highway Safety Division Director, Bismarck; Karina Ricks, Cityfi, LLC, Washington, D.C.; and Brenda Neville, Iowa Motor Truck Association, Des Moines, on behalf of the American Trucking Associations.

TEEN MENTAL HEALTH

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law concluded a hearing to examine social media and the teen mental health crisis, after receiving testimony from Arturo Bejar, Berkeley, California.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 30 public bills, H.R. 6253–6282; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 97; and H. Res. 849–850, were introduced.

Pages H5543–44

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H5545–47

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Strong to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H5469

Recess: The House recessed at 11:09 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. Page H5479

Recess: The House recessed at 1:17 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. Page H5489

Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2024—Rule for Consideration:

The House agreed to H. Res. 847, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4664) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, by a recorded vote of 217 ayes to 204 noes, Roll No. 602, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 217 yeas to 204 nays, Roll No. 601.

Pages H5482–89, H5489–90

Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress—Appointment:

The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following individual to the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress on the part of the House for a term of 6 years: Ms. Amy Kitchener of Fresno, California. **Page H5530**

Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy—Appointment:

The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Representative Bishop (GA). **Page H5530**

Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy—Appointment:

The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy: Representative Deluzio. **Page H5531**

Recess: The House recessed at 8:05 p.m. and reconvened at 9 p.m. **Page H5531**

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024:

The House considered H.R. 4820, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, November 8th.

Pages H5490–94, H5503–30, H5531–41

Agreed to:

Grothman amendment (No. 29 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that was debated on November 6th that increases and decreases Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer at the Department of Housing and Urban Development to express concern regarding the inherently divisive nature of the Diversity Council and the associated race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation-based Affinity or Employee Resource Groups (by a recorded vote of 213 ayes to 210 noes, Roll No. 606); **Pages H5491–93**

Strong amendment (No. 31 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that increases and decreases funding for tenant-based rental assistance to express

support for Public Housing Authorities to conduct drug testing as a condition of public housing benefits and affirms the importance of such testing as a means to ensure the safety of public housing communities and that taxpayer-funded resources are not being expended on individuals who break the law;

Pages H5503–04

Grothman amendment (No. 32 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that increases and decreases section 8 housing program budget to highlight the need for a GAO study on (a) the marital demographics of section 8 housing program beneficiaries, (b) the existence and effects of any marriage penalties for means-tested housing benefits administered by HUD, and (c) any recommendations and policy solutions for reducing marriage penalties within HUD-administered programs; **Page H5504**

Hageman amendment (No. 43 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits remote work agreements for HUD employees when the alternative worksite is located within a 50 mile radius of a HUD office; **Pages H5507–08**

Burlison amendment (No. 48 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits funds to the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program; **Pages H5510–11**

Cammack amendment (No. 49 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits funds from being used to finalize any rule or regulation that has resulted in or is likely to result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more; **Pages H5511–12**

Fry amendment (No. 50 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce any Federal law, rule, or regulation that would require an individual to wear a mask on public transportation conveyances and at transportation hubs; **Page H5512**

Gooden (TX) amendment (No. 52 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits the Department of Transportation from contributing funds to the National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to enforce any rules or regulation in relation to center high-mounted stop lamps, a type of rear brake light; **Page H5513**

Graves (LA) amendment (No. 53 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits the use of funds to promulgate new major rules if OMB determines that the regulation is likely to result in a significant impact on the economy, a major increase in prices for consumers, or adverse effects on American global competition; **Page H5514**

Greene (GA) amendment (No. 54 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that reduces the salary of Secretary Pete Buttigieg to \$1; **Pages H5514–15**

Greene (GA) amendment (No. 56 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits funding for the Department of Transportation’s Climate Change Center; **Pages H5515–16**

Hageman amendment (No. 58 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits the Department of Transportation from using funds for remote work agreements; **Pages H5517–18**

McCormick amendment (No. 61 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits funds from implementing Executive Orders 14037 of August 5, 2021 (relating to strengthening American leadership in clean cars and trucks), Executive Order 14057 of December 8, 2021 (relating to catalyzing clean energy industries and jobs through Federal sustainability), or Executive Order 14096 of April 21, 2023 (relating to revitalizing our Nation’s commitment to environmental justice for all); **Page H5521**

Norman amendment (No. 63 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits funds made available by this Act for the Federal Transit Administration’s Electric or Low-Emitting Ferry Pilot Program; **Page H5522**

Norman amendment (No. 65 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits use of funds for the consideration of the Social Cost of Greenhouse Gases (SC–GHG) in the development and implementation of budgets, federal procurement processes, or environmental reviews; **Pages H5523–24**

Norman amendment (No. 67 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits funds from being used to purchase or lease a vehicle for use by the Secretary of Transportation; **Pages H5524–25**

Norman amendment (No. 68 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits funds for air travel by the Secretary of Transportation other than in economy class on a commercial flight; **Page H5525**

Norman amendment (No. 69 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits funds to finalize, implement, or enforce the rule titled “Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards for Passenger Cars and Light Trucks for Model Years 2027–2032 and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Heavy-Duty Pickup Trucks and Vans for Model Years 2030–2035”; **Pages H5525–26**

Perry amendment (No. 70 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits the use of any funds for transit-oriented development; **Pages H5526–27**

Perry amendment (No. 71 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits the use of funds to finalize, implement, or enforce the notice of proposed rulemaking related to Automatic Emergency Braking; **Page H5527**

Roy amendment (No. 72 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that prohibits funds from being

used to implement any of President Biden’s executive orders on climate change; and **Pages H5527–28**

Blunt Rochester amendment (No. 36 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that increases and decreases funding for the Community Development Fund to promote the identification and removal of barriers to affordable housing production and preservation (by a recorded vote of 238 ayes to 185 noes, Roll No. 610). **Pages H5505–06, H5531–40**

Rejected:

Escobar amendment (No. 5 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that was debated on November 6th that sought to increase and decrease the National Surface Transportation and Innovative Finance Bureau in recognition of the DOT Thriving Communities Program (by a recorded vote of 212 ayes to 214 noes, Roll No. 603); **Pages H5490–91**

Perry amendment (No. 20 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that was debated on November 6th that sought to strike National Network Grants (by a recorded vote of 125 ayes to 297 noes, Roll No. 604); **Pages H5490–92**

Perry amendment (No. 25 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that was debated on November 6th that sought to eliminate funding for Grants to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (by a recorded vote of 148 ayes to 277 noes, Roll No. 605); **Pages H5490–92**

Brecheen amendment (No. 30 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that was debated on November 6th that sought to reduce funding for the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity to FY19 levels (by a recorded vote of 174 ayes to 252 noes, Roll No. 607); **Pages H5491–94**

Davidson amendment (No. 34 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to decreased funding for the HOPWA program by \$505 million dollars and moves to Spending Reduction Account (by a recorded vote of ayes to noes, Roll No. 609); **Pages H5504–05, H5531–40**

Grothman amendment (No. 37 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to reduce funding for the community development block grant program by 50% (by a recorded vote of 106 ayes to 324 noes, Roll No. 611); **Pages H5506–07, H5531–40**

Schweikert amendment (No. 46 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to reduce total funding to match FY 19 levels (by a recorded vote of 133 ayes to 295 noes, Roll No. 612); **Pages H5508–09, H5531–40**

Schweikert amendment (No. 47 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to make a 57 percent reduction on each amount of discretionary budget authority provided by the bill (by a recorded vote of 104 ayes to 325 noes, Roll No. 613); **Pages H5509–10, H5531–40**

Hageman amendment (No. 57 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to prohibit funds made available by this act from being used for the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program (by a recorded vote of 191 ayes to 238 noes, Roll No. 614); **Pages H5516–17, H5531–40**

Massie amendment (No. 59 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to prohibit any funds may be used to conduct a competition analysis of mergers (by a recorded vote of 211 ayes to 220 noes, Roll No. 615); **Pages H5518–19, H5531–40**

Massie amendment (No. 60 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to prohibit funds from being used to implement Sec. 24220 of the IIJA, which mandates new vehicles include a kill switch to monitor diver performance and prevent vehicle operation (by a recorded vote of 201 ayes to 229 noes, Roll No. 616); **Pages H5519–21, H5531–40**

Norman amendment (No. 62 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to reduce the salary of Ann E. Carlson, Acting Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, to \$1 (by a recorded vote of 164 ayes to 264 noes, Roll No. 617); **Pages H5521–22, H5531–40**

Norman amendment (No. 64 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to reduce the salary of Julia Gordon, Assistant Secretary for Housing and the Federal Housing Commissioner, to \$1 (by a recorded vote of 155 ayes to 272 noes, Roll No. 618); **Pages H5522–23, H5531–40**

Norman amendment (No. 66 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to prohibit funding for the implementation of the rule entitled “Equal Access in Accordance With an Individual’s Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs” (by a recorded vote of 212 ayes to 217 noes, Roll No. 619); **Pages H5524, H5531–40**

Santos amendment (No. 73 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to reduce the salary of Polly Trottenberg, Deputy Secretary of Transportation, to \$1 (by a recorded vote of 112 ayes to 318 noes, Roll No. 620); and **Pages H5528–29, H5531–40**

Self amendment (No. 74 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–261) that sought to prohibit funds to be used towards implementing, administering, or enforcing the Equity Action Plan of the Department of Housing and Urban Development established pursuant to Executive Order 13985 entitled “Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government” (by a recorded vote of 211 ayes to 219 noes, Roll No. 621). **Pages H5529–30, H5531–40**

H. Res. 838, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4821) and (H.R. 4820) was agreed to on Thursday, November 2nd.

Censuring Representative Rashida Tlaib for promoting false narratives regarding the October 7, 2023, Hamas attack on Israel and for calling for the destruction of the state of Israel: The House agreed to H. Res. 845, censuring Representative Rashida Tlaib for promoting false narratives regarding the October 7, 2023, Hamas attack on Israel and for calling for the destruction of the state of Israel, by a yea-and-nay vote of 234 yeas to 188 nays with four answering “present”, Roll No. 622. Earlier, the House rejected the Clark (MA) motion to table the resolution by a yea-and-nay vote of 208 yeas to 213 nays with one answering “present”, Roll No. 608.

Pages H5494–H5503, H5540–41

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, November 8th. **Page H5541**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the National Emergency with respect to Iran is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 2023—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 118–79). **Page H5531**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and nineteen recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5489–90, H5490, H5491, H5491–92, H5492, H5493, H5493–94, H5494–95, H5531–32, H5532, H5533, H5533–34, H5534, H5535, H5535–36, H5536, H5537, H5537–38, H5538, H5539, H5539–40, and H5540,

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:39 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE TANGLED WEB OF GLOBAL GOVERNANCE: HOW THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION IS CEDING AUTHORITY OVER AMERICAN FINANCIAL REGULATION

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Monetary Policy held a hearing entitled “The Tangled Web of Global Governance: How the Biden Administration is Ceding Authority Over American Financial Regulation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 4175, to authorize the Secretary of State to provide additional assistance to Ukraine using assets confiscated from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and other sovereign assets of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; H.R. 4723, to provide for the imposition of sanctions with

respect to foreign persons undermining the Dayton Peace Agreement or threatening the security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and for other purposes; H. Res. 149, condemning the illegal abduction of children from Ukraine to the Russian Federation; H.R. 5856, to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes; H.R. 4681, to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to illicit captagon trafficking; H.R. 5961, to freeze certain Iranian funds involved in the 2023 hostage deal between the United States and Iran, and for other purposes; H. Res. 683, expressing support for the diplomatic relations required to encourage the Government of Mexico to fulfill its water deliveries on an annual basis to the United States under the treaty between the United States and Mexico regarding the utilization of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande; H.R. 6119, to require the Secretary of State to notify Congress when the security clearances of certain senior members of the Department of State are suspended or revoked, and for other purposes; H. Res. 793, calling on Hamas to immediately release hostages taken during October 2023 attack on Israel; and H.R. 6087, to establish a comprehensive United States Government initiative to build the capacity of young leaders and entrepreneurs in Africa, and for other purposes. H.R. 4175, H.R. 4723, H. Res. 149, H.R. 5856, H.R. 4681, H.R. 5961 were ordered reported, as amended. H. Res. 793, H. Res. 683, H.R. 6119, and H.R. 6087 were ordered reported, without amendment.

OVERSIGHT OF THE BUREAU OF PRISONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Bureau of Prisons”. Testimony was heard from Colette S. Peters, Director, Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice.

VETERANS SERVING VETERANS: THE IMPACT OF AMERICA’S BUSINESSES ON VETERAN EMPLOYMENT AND OPPORTUNITY

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Veterans Serving Veterans: The Impact of America’s Businesses on Veteran Employment and Opportunity”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ENSURING THAT ‘WOKE’ DOESN’T LEAVE AMERICANS BROKE: PROTECTING SENIORS AND SAVERS FROM ESG ACTIVISM

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Ensuring That ‘Woke’ Doesn’t Leave Americans Broke: Protecting Seniors and Savers from ESG Activism”. Testimony was heard from

Marlo Oaks, State Treasurer, Utah; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: to hold hearings to examine the President’s supplemental request for the Departments of Health and Human Services and Homeland Security, 9 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine fairness and fiscal responsibility, 10 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine accessing clean water infrastructure assistance, focusing on small, rural, disadvantaged and underserved communities, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider an original bill entitled “Better Mental Health Care, Lower-Cost Drugs, and Extenders Act”, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine U.S. national security interests in Ukraine, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security, to hold hearings to examine policy considerations for Artificial Intelligence in health care, 2:30 p.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the philosophy of AI, focusing on learning from history and shaping our future, 9:30 a.m., SD–562.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine fentanyl in Native communities, focusing on Native perspectives on addressing the growing crisis, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold hearings to examine reforming the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, focusing on the PREVAIL Act and proposals to promote U.S. innovation leadership, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Education and Workforce, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5933, the “DETERRENT Act”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled “United Nations’ Bigotry Towards Israel UNRWA Anti-semitism Poisons Palestinian Youth”, 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Full Committee, hearing entitled “Friend and Ally: U.S. Support for Israel after Hamas’ Barbaric Attack”, 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1516, the “DHS Restrictions on Confucius Institutes and Chinese Entities of Concern Act”; H.R. 4403, the “Securing the Cities Improvement Act”; H.R. 5969, the “Improving Travel for Families Act”; H.R. 6174, the “DHS Biodetection Improvement Act”; and H.R. 6231, the “Department of Homeland Security Policy Issuance Review Act”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Free Speech on College Campuses”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1121, the “Protecting American Energy Production Act”; H.R. 4385, the “Drought Preparedness Act”; H.R. 6008, to prohibit the implementation of certain documents until the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service issues documents relating to the Rice’s whale; and H.J. Res. 96, the “Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2023”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Govern-

ment Innovation, hearing entitled “Advances in Deepfake Technology”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 6093, the “Weather Act Reauthorization”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Burdensome Regulations: Examining the Effects of Department of Energy Regulations on America’s Job Creators”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, legislative hearing on H.R. 1753, the “Jax Act”; H.R. 3790, the “Justice for ALS Veterans Act of 2023”; H.R. 4016, the “Veteran Fraud Reimbursement Act”; H.R. 4190, the “Restoring Benefits to Defrauded Veterans Act”; H.R. 4306, the “Michael Lecik Military Firefighters Protection Act”; H.R. 5559, the “Protecting Veterans Claim Options Act”; H.R. 5891, the “Veteran Appeals Decision Clarity Act”; H.R. 5870, the “Veteran Appeals Transparency Act of 2023”; H.R. 5890, the “Review Every Veterans Claim Act of 2023”; and H.R. 5938 the “Veterans Exam Expansion Act of 2023”, 12 p.m., 360 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, November 8

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Ramon Ernesto Reyes, Jr., of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Ramon Ernesto Reyes, Jr., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Charlotte A. Burrows, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:20 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Charlotte A. Burrows, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Brandy R. McMillion, of

Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

At 5:30 p.m., Senate will vote on passage of S.J. Res. 38, Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers. Following disposition of the joint resolution, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Monica Ramirez Almadani, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Wednesday, November 8

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Complete consideration of H.R. 4820—Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024.

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