



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2019

No. 162

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 15, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Almighty God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As Members return to the Capitol after 2 weeks of gatherings and work in their home districts, may they be renewed in energy to address the issues of these historic days.

May a sincere love for and dedication to our form of government prevail over partisan interests, that our experiment in republican democracy might perdure into a hopeful future.

May we all be forever grateful that our Nation was founded by gifted politicians, Founders who gave the world the great gift of representative government, having rights guaranteed by a Constitution truly inspired.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE 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.

HONORING THE CENTRAL WASHINGTON HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as National Hispanic Heritage Month comes to a close, to celebrate the Central Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, which is celebrating 10 years of service to central Washington communities.

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce was formed to support Yakima Valley's growing Latino business community. They work to develop a professional network that fosters a thriving business environment, encourages job development, and promotes business growth. Their diverse membership is a testament to the range of positive contributions Hispanic Americans and Latinos have on our central Washington communities.

Last month, the chamber hosted "Taco Fest," a celebration to mark the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month with our friends and neighbors throughout the Yakima Valley. They also, annually, hold the Estrella Awards, which honor exemplary local Hispanic leaders and professionals.

I am proud to represent the Central Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and its members, whose work strengthens and improves our local communities in the Yakima Valley. I

urge all of my colleagues to help me celebrate their 10-year anniversary, and I thank all who join me in celebrating the contributions of Hispanic Americans and Latinos during National Hispanic Heritage Month.

OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY IN MARRAKECH

(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. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, I participated as the ranking member with Co-Chairman Congressman ALCEE HASTINGS and Co-Chairman Senator ROGER WICKER of the Joint Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe—the Helsinki Commission—to attend the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Marrakech, Morocco, with fellow Congressmen EMANUEL CLEAVER and ANDY HARRIS.

We were warmly received into North Africa by President Mohamed Ennaceur of Tunisia in Tunis. We saw firsthand the vibrant democracy conducting parliamentary and presidential elections. We placed a wreath at the North Africa American Cemetery and Memorial, where over 6,500 Americans are memorialized for liberating North Africa from Nazi occupation.

In Jerusalem, we met with our dedicated U.S. Ambassador to Israel, David Friedman, who presented an update on the U.S.-Israeli Alliance. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu enthusiastically reviewed the ever-changing political situation. We were inspired with an audience with the Patriarch of Jerusalem, Theophilus III.

Chief of Staff Alex Johnson provided well-researched briefing materials for the assembly in Marrakech.

With parliamentarians from 57 nations, it was refreshing that opportunities were available for full participation, led by Assembly President

□ 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.



Printed on recycled paper.

H8115

Tsereteli of Georgia with Secretary General Roberto Montella of Italy.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th and the global war on terrorism.

SKILLSUSA RALLY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the organization SkillsUSA.

Last month, I had the pleasure of joining more than 550 students and advisers from 29 different States at SkillsUSA's annual Washington Leadership Training Institute program, which culminated in a rally at the Capitol.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry leaders working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce that is capable of closing our Nation's skills gap through career and technical education, otherwise known as CTE.

There are more than 7 million job openings in the United States today. Many of these jobs don't require a 4-year college degree, but they do require skills-based training in any number of fields, including STEM, nursing, information technology, cybersecurity, and so much more.

CTE is an investment in learners at every stage of life that empowers students to take control of their futures with valuable training that can lead to well-paying and rewarding jobs. SkillsUSA is a leader in this movement.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1531

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 3 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

RECOGNIZING HONG KONG'S BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 543) recognizing Hong Kong's bilateral relationship with the United States, condemning the interference of the People's Republic of China in Hong Kong's affairs, and supporting the people of Hong Kong's right to protest, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 543

Whereas the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-383) states—

(1) “[s]upport for democratization is a fundamental principle of United States foreign policy”;

(2) “the human rights of the people of Hong Kong are of great importance to the United States and are directly relevant to United States interests in Hong Kong [and] serve as a basis for Hong Kong's continued economic prosperity”; and

(3) “Hong Kong must remain sufficiently autonomous from the People's Republic of China to justify a different treatment than accorded to the People's Republic of China under United States law”;

Whereas the United States maintains substantial economic and political interests in Hong Kong, with more than 1,200 United States firms operating in the Special Administrative Region, due largely to Hong Kong's strong business environment, predicated on respect for the rule of law and an independent judiciary;

Whereas the United States supports Hong Kong's “high degree of autonomy” promised by the Joint Declaration between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of the Hong Kong (“Joint Declaration”) in accordance with the “One Country, Two Systems” framework through bilateral agreements, the promotion of trade and investment, and the bolstering of educational, academic, and cultural links;

Whereas the Department of State reported in its 2019 Hong Kong Policy Act Report, dated March 21, 2019, that the People's Republic of China has carried out a number of actions inconsistent with China's commitments in the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (“Basic Law”) and the Joint Declaration, which have diminished Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy;

Whereas China has increasingly constrained Hong Kong's freedoms in violation of the “One Country, Two Systems” framework by, among other actions, supporting the restriction of entry into Hong Kong for individuals critical of the Communist Party of China, instructing to the Hong Kong Government to refuse a United States extradition request in May 2018, and abusing the national security rationale to justify interference with matters related to Hong Kong politics and governance;

Whereas on April 3, 2019, the Government of Hong Kong introduced the Fugitive Offenders and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2019 (commonly known as the “extradition bill”) that would amend the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance by expanding the existing extradition arrangement to include mainland China, allowing for the handover of any persons in the territory of Hong Kong,

residents and non-residents, as well as any materials in their possession;

Whereas the Department of State issued a statement on June 9, 2019, warning that the lack of procedural protections in the bill could negatively impact Hong Kong's longstanding protections of human rights, fundamental freedoms, and democratic values;

Whereas on June 9, 2019, as many as 1,000,000 people protested against the bill, and on June 12, 2019, tens of thousands staged a protest near the Legislative Council building to express opposition to the bill;

Whereas on June 12, 2019, the Government of Hong Kong took advantage of the acts of a small group of protesters to classify the largely peaceful protest as an unlawful assembly and a “riot”, a charge that can result in a prison sentence of up to 10 years for those who were arrested;

Whereas the police's excessive use of force on June 12, 2019, as seen in video footage, to disperse the protestors, including the use of tear gas, bean bag rounds, rubber bullets, batons, and pepper spray, caused severe injuries to protestors;

Whereas the excessive use of force fueled tensions and contributed to the worsening of violence;

Whereas on June 16, 2019, as many as 2,000,000 people peacefully gathered in the Admiralty district, which is likely the largest protest in Hong Kong's history;

Whereas on July 21, 2019, a group alleged to be linked to organized crime violently attacked protestors, innocent bystanders, and journalists with sticks and metal bars in Yuen Long, which resulted in the hospitalization of forty-five people, with one person in critical condition;

Whereas the Hong Kong Police Force have been slow to take meaningful action against those who attacked the protestors on July 21, 2019, suggesting the police may be complicit in their actions;

Whereas the protestors' demands included—

(1) the complete withdrawal of the extradition bill;

(2) the implementation of universal suffrage in the election of the Chief Executive and all members the Legislative Council;

(3) the establishment of an independent commission to investigate police conduct during the protests;

(4) the declassification of the protests as a riots; and

(5) the dropping of all charges against persons who participated in any protests;

Whereas on July 27, 2019, nine people were injured when police fired rubber bullets at demonstrators in Yuen Long who were protesting the July 21 violent attacks against protestors and the lack of a police response to them;

Whereas on July 29, 2019, China's spokesman for the State Council's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office issued a statement referring to the protestors as “radical elements committing evil and criminal acts”;

Whereas on July 30, 2019, China's Foreign Ministry falsely claimed that the pro-democracy protests are the “work of the United States”, alleging that American officials have interfered in Hong Kong's internal affairs;

Whereas the Chinese Communist Party has called the protests “absolutely intolerable”, “terrorism”, and “terror atrocities”, raising fears that China may use the People's Liberation Army or the People's Armed Police to violently suppress the protestors;

Whereas on August 5, 2019, teachers, aviation workers, finance employees, and civil servants went on strike across seven districts, the largest citywide strike in decades, which evolved into a wave of demonstrations

and resulted in the police firing approximately 800 tear gas rounds to clear the protestors, almost as many as were used in the previous 8 weeks combined;

Whereas on August 5, 2019, a mob violently attacked demonstrators with sticks and metal bars in North Point after the demonstrators were dispersed by police from the Admiralty district, and again the police did not respond to the ambush;

Whereas on August 6, 2019, a Chinese Communist Party official threatened the demonstrators by stating, “those who play with fire will perish by it”, and “as for their [the demonstrators’] punishment, it’s only a matter of time”;

Whereas on August 7, 2019, Chinese state media began publishing articles accusing the Political Counselor to the United States Consulate General in Hong Kong of being “a black hand creating chaos in Hong Kong”, as well as publicly identifying family members of the Consulate General staff;

Whereas on August 11, 2019, Hong Kong police beat fleeing protestors with batons and fired pepper ball rounds at them at close range;

Whereas on August 11, 2019, it was reported that a young woman, allegedly a medic, who has since become a symbol for the protest movement, sustained a serious eye injury from a bean-bag round after the police fired a projectile into the crowd;

Whereas on August 18, 2019, as many as 1,700,000 Hong Kong people attended a peaceful rally against police brutality;

Whereas on August 31, 2019, Hong Kong Police Force Special Tactical Squad officers beat with batons protestors and train passengers at Prince Edward station; and

Whereas on September 4, 2019, Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam announced the Government would withdraw the extradition bill from the Legislative Council’s agenda when it reconvenes in October 2019: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) calls on the Government of Hong Kong to begin negotiations to address the demonstrators’ remaining demands, which include—

(A) the formal withdrawal of the bill from the Hong Kong Legislative Council;

(B) the implementation of universal suffrage;

(C) the establishment of an independent investigation into police conduct during the protests;

(D) the declassification of the protest as a riot; and

(E) the dropping of all charges against persons arrested during the protests;

(2) condemns—

(A) the Hong Kong police’s use of force against the demonstrators in ways that are inconsistent with international standards for the use of such equipment and in violation of citizens’ rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly; and

(B) the Hong Kong Government for tolerating the use of violent force against protestors by police;

(3) calls on the Administration to review the appropriateness of sales by United States firms of munitions and crowd-control equipment to Hong Kong, to ensure that they are not used to repress peaceful protests;

(4) condemns efforts by the Hong Kong and Chinese Governments to characterize the protests as “riots” and to falsely accuse the United States of orchestrating political instability that they alone created;

(5) shares the concerns of the people of Hong Kong that the Hong Kong Government’s proposed amendments to the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance, if adopted, would negatively impact the territory’s long-standing

protections of human rights, fundamental freedoms, and democratic values as enshrined in the Basic Law and the Sino-British Joint Declaration;

(6) recognizes that the “One Country, Two Systems” framework and the Basic Law require that Hong Kong is afforded a high degree of autonomy with respect to economic and trade matters and the rule of law;

(7) condemns Chinese state media for targeting staff and family members of the United States Consulate General in Hong Kong;

(8) calls on the Government of Hong Kong and all governments—

(A) to protect the rights of freedom of expression and peaceful assembly;

(B) to condemn all acts of violence against those seeking to further their democratic rights; and

(C) to refrain from the use of violence; and

(9) calls on the Government of Hong Kong and the Government of China to abide by the provisions of the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 543.

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

There was no objection.

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

The world is watching Hong Kong, and Hong Kong is watching the floor of the House of Representatives. People by the tens of thousands in Hong Kong have demonstrated in favor of bills we are considering here today. In doing so, they have taken great risk to themselves and showed tremendous courage. The least we could do is pass these bills.

I rise today to speak in favor of these bills on Hong Kong. I am proud to co-sponsor all of the legislation under consideration dealing with Hong Kong.

I want to first focus on a resolution I introduced with our colleagues, Mrs. WAGNER; Mr. CONNOLLY; and Mr. YOHO, the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation, my partner on the Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation Subcommittee.

This resolution demonstrates that the so-called extradition bill is an infringement on the rights of the people of Hong Kong, including their right to a high degree of autonomy, autonomy that was granted to Hong Kong when that city was returned to the control of Beijing.

This resolution also establishes that the House of Representatives stands with Hong Kong protestors and supports their five major demands. These demands are:

Complete withdrawal of the extradition bill;

Universal suffrage in the election of the chief executive and all members of the Legislative Council;

The establishment of an independent commission to investigate the police’s excessive use of force against the protestors;

The changing of the classification so these protests are not classified as riots and the participants are not classified as rioters; and, finally,

Having all charges against the people who participate in these protests dropped.

Many of us in Congress and around the United States have been inspired by the people of Hong Kong standing up for their fundamental rights over the last few months. One of the protests brought nearly 25 percent of the entire population of Hong Kong into the streets. That is simply unprecedented.

It would behoove Beijing to heed the protestors’ demands. Sadly, instead of recognizing their own role in causing these protests, the Chinese Communist Party has tried to characterize the demonstrations as the handiwork of the United States. We categorically reject this assertion.

These protests were motivated, first and foremost, in reaction to the effort by the People’s Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party to interfere in the autonomy that was promised to the people of Hong Kong. These protests were motivated by the policies of Beijing and the Hong Kong government that have increasingly reduced the city’s high degree of autonomy.

The state-run media has even gone so far as to accuse a particular State Department official by name of orchestrating the protests. That is an insult to the people of Hong Kong, who speak for themselves and act for themselves. Moreover, it has put that diplomat and her family in danger. This is simply unacceptable behavior, and the Stand with Hong Kong Resolution criticizes this egregious action by the Chinese Government.

Finally, let me reiterate my support for the other complementary bills that we are considering today on Hong Kong.

The first is the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019, which was introduced by our colleague Mr. SMITH, who will be managing time on the other side. This legislation will amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 to account for the changes that have taken place over the last 25 years.

The Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act also conveys to Beijing that it cannot undermine the city’s freedom while expecting America to still give that city preferential trade arrangements.

I am also a strong supporter of Congressman JIM MCGOVERN’S PROTECT Hong Kong Act, which would restrict U.S. firms’ ability to sell the Hong Kong police weapons to use against protestors.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOHO).

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Mr. SMITH and Mr. SHERMAN, whom I have the pleasure of serving with on the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation, for raising this important topic.

I rise today to bring attention to three very important and timely measures that the House will consider this afternoon. These bipartisan measures passed out of the House Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously, and they include H. Res. 543, by Representative SHERMAN; H.R. 3289, by Representative SMITH; and H.R. 4270, by Representative MCGOVERN. I am proud to say that I am a cosponsor of all three.

Over the past 5 months, mass civilian protests in Hong Kong have begun to shed light on the deterioration of the Chinese Communist Party's influence outside of mainland China. Rising resentment in Hong Kong is not simply a result of the ill-fated extradition law championed by Chief Executive Carrie Lam, but the continued encroachment on freedom and liberties by President Xi Jinping and the Chinese Communist Party.

Despite the 1997 Sino-British agreement, leaders in Beijing continued their high-intensity political pressure campaign to subdue dissent within Hong Kong, which has emboldened the people of Hong Kong to stand up against Beijing, but more for freedom. This is illustrated by the people of Hong Kong raising and waving the American flag while burning the Chinese flag.

The protestors now maintain five demands that Mr. SHERMAN already talked about: withdrawal of the extradition bill; drop charges against the protestors; launch an investigation into the police forces; and universal suffrage, which would allow voters to directly pick their leaders instead of hand-picked leaders of their chief executive by Beijing.

As the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation, I have been extremely outspoken against the continued deterioration of rights and freedoms in Hong Kong. The passage of these important pieces of legislation will send a strong message to President Xi Jinping and the Chinese Communist Party that these abuses will not be tolerated by the international community.

Keep in mind that China and Great Britain signed this international agreement in 1997, where it stated that Hong Kong would be an autonomous region, self-ruled, and have an independent judiciary system. Only 22 years into it, Xi Jinping has said, as far as he is concerned, that agreement is null and void, and so you see the people of Hong Kong standing up in protest. Because they have experienced freedom and liberty, they are willing to risk their life.

I just had a group of Hong Kong students come in. These are the people who are right in the forefront of the protests in Hong Kong, and they came to our office begging for help from the American people, from the American Government.

Now, granted, Hong Kong, we all know, is a province of China. But we also know there was an agreement, for 50 years, it was to be autonomously ruled with an independent judiciary committee that Xi Jinping and the Communist Party of China have canceled, and I think this is a message for all people of the intent of what China is doing.

We, as Members of Congress, have so much more that we represent. It is not a political body where we fight back and forth and discuss different things. What we represent here in America is what people around the world are willing to risk their life for and to stand up, in front of the face of adversity, to one of the emerging superpowers of the world and say: We do not accept your communist authority rule. We want you to honor liberty and freedom.

See, the people of Hong Kong, they have experienced freedom and liberties. Xi Jinping and the Communist Party can't understand that because they have never experienced freedom or liberty. As supposedly the greatest deliberative body on the planet, this transcends way beyond what we do here.

This is standing up for ideals that people around the world are willing to die for, and it is this body that can send a strong message to the Chinese Communist Party, to Xi Jinping that says we will not let liberties and freedom be taken away from people who have claimed that, who have known that all their life, and that that should be honored by those who are trying to take it apart.

Before they want to take it apart, I suggest Xi Jinping and the Communist Party try freedom and liberty: Try democracy for a while; you might like it.

I think these are three very important bills that should pass through this House unanimously and should pass through the Senate to show that we stand in solidarity with the folks, our friends in Hong Kong; and, if not, if we don't send a strong message, it will embolden China.

I hope manufacturers and all businesses around the world that do business in Hong Kong are paying attention to this, because they are the ones that are creating a business environment that feeds China so that they can continue these terrible acts of suppression of liberties and freedoms. I hope the business community will say: You know what, we stand with the American people.

It pains me when I see people like the NBA or other organizations, corporations that will bow down to China, and they do it for profit. It is time that we stand up not just as Americans, but people who are the bearers of liberty and freedom around the world that the rest of the world looks to.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from New Jersey very much for allowing me to speak on the subject of Hong Kong today.

I rise in support of all these bills before us today, particularly the bill from my friend from New Jersey, the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act, and I stand in solidarity with all freedom-loving people in Hong Kong.

For more than 4 months, we have witnessed Hong Kong citizens peacefully protest for the right to live in a free and fair political system.

Over my years, I have traveled to Hong Kong and witnessed their innovative spirit and work ethic. In fact, Hong Kong was the model for the post-World War II growth of the Asian Tigers in their prosperity and innovation.

□ 1545

In the 1980s, when a proponent of welfare statism queried pro-growth economist Melvyn B. Krauss:

“But how many Hong Kongs can the world have?”

Dr. Krauss replied, “As many as the world will allow itself.”

Freedom lovers should rally to that wisdom.

This summer, I had the opportunity to hear directly from leaders in Hong Kong dedicated to religious tolerance and democracy as promised in the one country, two systems agreement.

The people of Hong Kong continue to wave American flags during their protests as a symbol for the freedoms that they desire.

Rather than receiving support from all over our great land here in this country, they have had to witness the blatant hypocrisy that we have seen from U.S. companies, including the National Basketball Association, more worried about the bottom line and retribution from the PRC, rather than standing up for the basic human rights that we are so blessed with in this country and that we advocate for as a part of our foreign policy all over this globe.

The free world is looking to us for leadership, and that is why I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. SHERMAN for supporting these legislative efforts on a bipartisan basis, but more importantly, supporting the people in Hong Kong that they have the right to freedom of expression and democratic governance guaranteed under that 50-year arrangement agreed to in 1997 by both—by both, Mr. Speaker—the United Kingdom and the People's Republic of China.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support these measures today, and I thank their sponsors.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for

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

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume, and I will close.

Mr. Speaker, several years ago, I joined the then chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. Royce, in visiting Hong Kong. We had a chance to spend a lot of time with both young and more experienced leaders fighting for democracy and autonomy for Hong Kong. And this has, in fact, been the policy of the United States since the 1992 Hong Kong Policy Act, which establishes our support for democratization as a fundamental principle of U.S. foreign policy.

In recent days, we have seen demonstrators in Hong Kong asking the U.S. Congress to pass the three pieces of legislation that are before us. The protestors want to know if our support for democracy is merely rhetorical or if we are willing to take action to defend our principles.

By passing these three bills today, we will affirm that the U.S. Congress supports democracy, human rights, and appropriate autonomy for Hong Kong.

Mr. Speaker, as to all three bills, I want to thank Speaker PELOSI and Chairman ENGEL and many other colleagues for their leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, turning to the specifics of H. Res. 543, the specific matter before us at this moment, I want to thank my Foreign Affairs Committee colleagues for helping to introduce this measure, including Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. YOHO, who spoke just a few minutes ago.

H. Res. 543 recognizes our country's strong relationship with the people of Hong Kong. It is an important measure of solidarity at a time when protesters are facing police brutality and China is trying to take away the autonomy that it promised.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 543, a resolution "Recognizing Hong Kong's bilateral relationship with the United States, condemning the interference of the People's Republic of China in Hong Kong's affairs, and supporting the people of Hong Kong's right to protest."

As a senior member of the House Committee on the Judiciary, I support H. Res. 543 because it calls on the Hong Kong government to address the protesters' five demands, condemns police brutality against peaceful protesters, and condemns efforts to falsely accuse U.S. diplomats of fueling unrest.

On June 30, 1997, China resumed the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong, ending more than 150 years of British colonial rule.

Hong Kong is a customs territory and economic entity separate from the rest of China and is able to enter into international agreements on its own behalf in commercial, economic, and certain legal matters.

U.S. policy toward Hong Kong is stated in the U.S.-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 and grounded in the determination to promote

Hong Kong's prosperity, autonomy, and way of life.

The United States maintains substantial economic and political interests in Hong Kong.

The U.S. supports Hong Kong's autonomy under the "One Country, Two Systems" framework by concluding and implementing bilateral agreements; promoting trade and investment; broadening law enforcement cooperation; bolstering educational, academic, and cultural links; supporting high-level visits of U.S. officials; and serving the large community of U.S. citizens and visitors.

After 22 years, protests erupted over Carrie Lam's proposal to amend extradition laws to allow suspects to be transferred to mainland China for trial.

A few days after proposing the amendment to the extradition laws, Carrie Lam suspended the proposal, but the protests in Hong Kong continue as the people of Hong Kong demand the high degree of autonomy promised by the Sino-British Joint Declaration of 1984.

It is critical for the United States Congress to stand with the women and men advocating and speaking up for the autonomy and dignity of people of Hong Kong.

I applaud the efforts and sacrifices pro-democracy activists have made and they should know that the United States fully supports their desire for freedom and peace, and strongly condemns the violent and oppressive tactics of the Hong Kong police.

As a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, I support the bilateral relationship between Hong Kong and the United States and the promotion of international peace.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 543 to condemn the brutality faced by the people of Hong Kong and which poses a strong threat to the democratic values we work to protect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 543, as amended.

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

The title of the resolution was amended so as to read: "A resolution recognizing Hong Kong's bilateral relationship with the United States, condemning the People's Republic of China for violating their obligations to the people of Hong Kong, and supporting the people of Hong Kong's right to freedom of assembly and peaceful protest."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONG KONG HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2019

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3289) to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3289

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019".

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

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. Statement of policy.
- Sec. 4. Amendments to the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992.
- Sec. 5. Report on enforcement of United States export control and sanctions laws by Hong Kong.
- Sec. 6. Protecting United States interests with respect to Hong Kong.
- Sec. 7. Sanctions relating to undermining fundamental freedoms and autonomy in Hong Kong.
- Sec. 8. Sanctions reports.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(B) the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(D) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

(F) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.

(2) CHINA.—The term "China" means the People's Republic of China.

(3) SOCIAL CREDIT SYSTEM.—The term "social credit system" means a system proposed by the Government of China and scheduled for implementation by 2020 that would use existing financial credit systems, public records, online activity, and other tools of surveillance to aggregate data on every Chinese citizen and business and use that data to monitor, shape, and rate certain financial, social, religious, or political behaviors.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to reaffirm the principles and objectives set forth in the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-383), namely that—

(A) the United States has "a strong interest in the continued vitality, prosperity, and stability of Hong Kong";

(B) "[s]upport for democratization is a fundamental principle of United States foreign policy" and therefore "naturally applies to United States policy toward Hong Kong";

(C) "the human rights of the people of Hong Kong are of great importance to the United States and are directly relevant to United States interests in Hong Kong [and] serve as a basis for Hong Kong's continued economic prosperity"; and

(D) Hong Kong must remain sufficiently autonomous from the People's Republic of China to "justify treatment under a particular law of the United States, or any provision thereof, different from that accorded the People's Republic of China";

(2) to support the high degree of autonomy and fundamental rights and freedoms of the people of Hong Kong, as enumerated by—

(A) the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong, done at Beijing December 19, 1984 (referred to in this Act as the "Joint Declaration");

(B) the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, done at New York December 19, 1966; and

(C) the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, done at Paris December 10, 1948.

(3) to support the democratic aspirations of the people of Hong Kong, including the “ultimate aim” of the selection of the Chief Executive and all members of the Legislative Council by universal suffrage, as articulated in the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China (referred to in this Act as the “Basic Law”);

(4) to urge the Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Autonomous Region to uphold their commitment to the people of Hong Kong, including providing a high degree of autonomy for Hong Kong as articulated in the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law;

(5) to support the robust exercise by residents of Hong Kong of the rights to free speech, the press, and other fundamental freedoms as provided by the Basic Law and the Joint Declaration;

(6) to support freedom from arbitrary or unlawful arrest, detention, or imprisonment for all Hong Kong residents, as provided to them by the Basic Law and the Joint Declaration;

(7) to draw international attention to any violations by the Government of the People’s Republic of China of the fundamental rights of the people of Hong Kong and any encroachment upon the autonomy guaranteed to Hong Kong by the Basic Law and the Joint Declaration;

(8) to protect United States citizens and legal permanent residents living in Hong Kong as well as people visiting and transiting through Hong Kong; and

(9) to maintain the economic and cultural ties that provide significant benefits to both the United States and Hong Kong.

SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES-HONG KONG POLICY ACT OF 1992.

(a) CERTIFICATIONS.—Title II of the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 5721 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 205. SECRETARY OF STATE CERTIFICATION REGARDING THE AUTONOMY OF HONG KONG.

“(a) CERTIFICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall annually submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a certification, in conjunction with, and taking into consideration the contents of, the report required in section 301, regarding whether Hong Kong continues to warrant treatment under particular treaties, international agreements, and United States laws, or any provisions thereof, specified in paragraph (2) in the same manner as such treaties, international agreements, and laws were applied to Hong Kong as of the date of enactment of this section.

“(2) PROVISIONS SPECIFIED.—The treaties, international agreements, and United States laws specified in this paragraph are the following:

“(A) Commercial agreements.

“(B) Law enforcement cooperation, including extradition matters.

“(C) Nonproliferation commitments.

“(D) Sanctions enforcement.

“(E) Export control agreements, including enforcement of export controls with respect to dual use technologies.

“(F) Formal treaties and agreements between the United States and Hong Kong, including agreements related to taxation and currency exchange.

“(G) Other particular laws of the United States, or any provisions thereof, that accord to Hong Kong treatment different to

that accorded to the People’s Republic of China.

“(H) Other bilateral or multilateral agreements determined relevant by the Secretary.

“(3) CONTENTS.—Each assessment under paragraph (1) shall include an evaluation of the Government of Hong Kong’s autonomous decision-making within the executive, legislative, and judicial branches, with respect to—

“(A) upholding the rule of law; and

“(B) protecting the rights enumerated in—

“(i) the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People’s Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong, done at Beijing December 19, 1984 (the ‘Joint Declaration’);

“(ii) the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China (the ‘Basic Law’);

“(iii) the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, done at Paris December 10, 1948; and

“(iv) the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, done at New York December 19, 1966.

“(4) FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—In making a certification under paragraph (1), the Secretary of State should consider the terms, obligations, and expectations expressed in the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law.

“(5) ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS.—Notwithstanding the annual requirement for certifications under paragraph (1), the Secretary of State may issue additional certifications at any time if the Secretary determines that circumstances in Hong Kong warrant such.

“(6) FORM.—Each certification under paragraph (1) and any additional certifications under paragraph (5) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex if the Secretary of State determines such is necessary.

“(b) WAIVER.—The Secretary of State may waive the application of subsection (a), in whole or in part, if—

“(1) the Secretary determines that such a waiver—

“(A) is in the national security interests of the United States; or

“(B) would protect the autonomy of Hong Kong; and

“(2) on or before the date on which such a waiver takes effect, the Secretary notifies the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives of the intent to waive such subsection.

“(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The unclassified portion of the certifications required under subsection (a) shall be made available to the public, including through publication on the Department of State website.”

(b) VISA APPLICANTS.—Title II of the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 5721 et seq.), as amended by subsection (a), is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 206. TREATMENT OF HONG KONG APPLICANTS FOR VISAS TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES.

“It is the sense of Congress that applications for visas to enter the United States, including for work or study, which are submitted by otherwise qualified applicants from Hong Kong should not be denied solely on the basis of politically-motivated arrest, detention, or other adverse government action taken against such applicants as a result of the participation by such applicants in protest activities, and that the Secretary of State should make efforts to implement such policy, ensure consular officers make determinations in accordance with such policy, and coordinate with representatives of other countries to encourage the adoption of compatible policies.”

(c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Subsection (a) of section 301 of the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 5731) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), in the first sentence, by striking “2024” and inserting “2027”;

(2) in paragraph (7), by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(3) in paragraph (8), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(9) China’s ability to limit Hong Kong’s autonomy with respect to the treaties, international agreements, and United States laws specified in section 205(a)(2) as result of actions by the Government of the People’s Republic of China that are inconsistent with its commitments under the Basic Law or the Joint Declaration;

“(10) the limitations to Hong Kong’s autonomy with respect to the treaties, international agreements, and United States laws specified in section 205(a)(2) resulting from actions by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Autonomous Region that are inconsistent with its commitments under the Basic Law or the Joint Declaration;

“(11) the specific impacts to any areas of cooperation between the United States and Hong Kong as a result of limits, whether self-imposed or otherwise, to Hong Kong’s autonomy, including any failures of the Hong Kong Government to fulfill obligations with the United States under the treaties, international agreements, and United States laws specified in section 205(a)(2);

“(12) the specific actions taken by the United States Government to mitigate the negative impact to United States interests of limitations, whether self-imposed or otherwise, to Hong Kong’s autonomy or any failures to fulfill obligations with the United States under the treaties, international agreements, and United States laws specified in section 205(a)(2); and

“(13) whether the rescission of special treatment under any particular treaties, international agreements, or particular laws of the United States, or any provisions thereof would contribute to further erosion of Hong Kong’s autonomy.”

SEC. 5. REPORT ON ENFORCEMENT OF UNITED STATES EXPORT CONTROL AND SANCTIONS LAWS BY HONG KONG.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall transmit to the committees specified in subsection (b) a report that includes the following:

(1) An assessment of the policies and actions of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Autonomous Region to enforce the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (subtitle B of title XVII of Public Law 115-232) and other relevant provisions of United States law related to export controls.

(2) To the extent possible, an identification of the following:

(A) Any items that were transferred from Hong Kong in violation of such laws.

(B) The countries and persons to which such items were transferred.

(C) How such items were used.

(3) An assessment of whether United States origin items (including software, technology, and services) have been transferred from Hong Kong to China in violation of United States law and have been used by China for mass surveillance, predictive policing, or for the social credit system.

(4) An assessment of the policies and actions of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Autonomous Region to enforce sanctions imposed by the United States and the United Nations.

(5) A description of the types of goods and services transhipped or reexported through Hong Kong in violation of such sanctions to—

(A) North Korea or Iran; or
(B) other countries, regimes, or persons subject to such sanctions for engaging in activities—

(i) relating to—
(I) international terrorism, international narcotics trafficking, or the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; or
(II) corruption and violations of human rights; or

(ii) that otherwise present a threat to the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States.

(b) COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.—The committees specified in this subsection are the following:

(1) The Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(2) The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(3) The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(4) The Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

(c) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be transmitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 6. PROTECTING UNITED STATES INTERESTS WITH RESPECT TO HONG KONG.

(a) POLICY STATEMENTS.—It is the policy to the United States—

(1) to safeguard United States citizens and lawful permanent residents from extradition, rendition, or abduction to China from Hong Kong for trial, detention, or any other purpose;

(2) to safeguard United States businesses in Hong Kong from economic coercion and intellectual property theft;

(3) pursuant to section 103(7) of the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 5713(7)), to encourage United States businesses “to continue to operate in Hong Kong in accordance with applicable United States and Hong Kong law”; and

(4) pursuant to section 201(b) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 5721(b)), to evaluate as circumstances require the Government of Hong Kong is “legally competent to carry out its obligations” under treaties and international agreements established between the United States and Hong Kong.

(b) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—

(1) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary of State shall, with respect to any legislation proposed or enacted by the Government of Hong Kong, determine, not later than 30 days after such legislation is proposed or enacted, if such proposed or enacted legislation would—

(A) put United States citizens or lawful permanent residents at risk for rendition to China or other countries with which the United States Government does not have an extradition agreement; or

(B) otherwise have a significant negative impact on United States interests with respect to Hong Kong.

(2) NOTIFICATION.—If the Secretary of State makes a determination in the affirmative under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a notification relating thereto that includes the following:

(A) An assessment of the potential risks of the proposed or enacted legislation described in such paragraph to United States national interests, including risks to United States citizens or lawful permanent residents residing in, traveling to, or transiting through Hong Kong.

(B) A strategy for protecting United States interests in Hong Kong with respect to the

proposed or enacted legislation described in such paragraph.

SEC. 7. SANCTIONS RELATING TO UNDERMINING FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND AUTONOMY IN HONG KONG.

(a) IDENTIFICATION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR UNDERMINING FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND AUTONOMY IN HONG KONG.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees a report, in accordance with paragraph (2), that identifies each foreign person that the President determines, based on credible information, is knowingly responsible for any of the following:

(A) The actual or threatened rendition, arbitrary detention, torture, or forced confession of any individual in Hong Kong.

(B) Repeated acts or decisions which contravene the shared obligations of China and Hong Kong under the Joint Declaration and Basic Law and undermine the national interests of the United States in Hong Kong’s autonomy and the rule of law.

(C) Other gross violations of internationally recognized human rights in Hong Kong.

(2) TIMING OF REPORTS.—The President shall transmit—

(A) the report required under paragraph (1)—

(i) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(ii) not less frequently than annually thereafter in conjunction with the publication of the report required under section 301 of the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 5731); and

(B) an update to the report required under paragraph (1) not later than 15 days after any new credible information described in such paragraph becomes available.

(3) CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.—In preparing the report required under paragraph (1), the President shall consider the following:

(A) Information provided jointly by the chairperson and ranking member of each of the appropriate congressional committees.

(B) Credible information obtained by other countries or nongovernmental organizations that monitor violations of human rights abuses.

(4) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—The President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to each foreign person identified in the report required under subsection (a)(1).

(c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subsection are the following:

(1) ASSET BLOCKING.—The President shall exercise all of the powers granted to the President under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in property and interests in property of a foreign person identified in the report required under subsection (a)(1) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

(A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—A foreign person described in subsection (a)(1) and his or her immediate family members is—

(i) inadmissible to the United States;

(ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other documentation to enter the United States; and

(iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—A foreign person described in subsection (a)(1) is subject to revocation of any visa or other entry documentation regardless of when the visa or other entry documentation is or was issued.

(ii) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—A revocation under clause (i) shall—

(I) take effect immediately; and
(II) automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the alien’s possession.

(C) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.—Sanctions under this paragraph shall not apply with respect to a foreign person if admitting or paroling such person into the United States is necessary to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or other applicable international obligations.

(3) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a foreign person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of paragraph (1) to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of such section 206.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this section.

(e) WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of sanctions under this section with respect to a foreign person identified in the report required under subsection (a)(1) if the President determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that such a waiver is in the national interest of the United States.

(f) TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.—The President may terminate the application of sanctions under this section with respect to a foreign person if the President determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees not less than 15 days before such termination takes effect that—

(1) credible information exists that such person did not engage in the activity for which sanctions were imposed;

(2) such person has been prosecuted appropriately for the activity for which sanctions were imposed;

(3) such person has credibly demonstrated a significant change in behavior, has paid an appropriate consequence for the activity for which sanctions were imposed, and has credibly committed to not engage in an activity described in subsection (a)(1) in the future; or

(4) the termination of the sanctions is in the national security interests of the United States.

(g) EXCEPTION RELATING TO THE IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The authorities and requirements to impose sanctions under this section shall not include the authority or requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(2) GOOD DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “good” means any article, natural or man-made substance, material, supply or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment, and excluding technical data.

(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMITTED.—The term “admitted” has the meanings given such term in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

(2) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign person” means a person that is not a United States person.

(3) KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly” means, with respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result, means that a person has actual knowledge, or should have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the result.

(4) PERSON.—The term “person” means an individual or entity.

(5) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term “United States person” means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity.

SEC. 8. SANCTIONS REPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes the following:

(1) A list of each foreign person with respect to which the President imposed sanctions under section 7 during the year preceding the transmission of such report.

(2) A description of the type of sanctions imposed with respect to each such person.

(3) The number of foreign persons with respect to which the President terminated such sanctions during such year.

(4) The dates on which such sanctions were imposed or terminated, as applicable.

(5) The reasons for imposing or terminating such sanctions.

(6) A description of the efforts of the President to encourage the governments of other countries to impose sanctions that are similar to such sanctions.

(b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be transmitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The unclassified portion of the report required under subsection (a) shall be made available to the public, including through publication in the Federal Register.

(d) NONAPPLICABILITY OF CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENT WITH RESPECT TO VISA RECORDS.—The President shall publish the report required under subsection (a) without regard to the requirements of section 222(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1202(f)) with respect to confidentiality of records pertaining to the issuance or refusal of visas or permits to enter the United States.

SEC. 9. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3289.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to start by thanking Mr. SMITH for authoring the measure before us.

The Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act is a bill to advance our support for the people of Hong Kong. This bill updates the longstanding U.S. policy on Hong Kong so as to reflect what is happening on the ground today.

The foundation of our relationship with Hong Kong was laid back in 1992 when Congress passed the Hong Kong Policy Act. That is where we got the one country, two systems approach that paved the way for our strong partnership with Hong Kong.

But we are watching now the Chinese Communist Party trying to break down that system, trying to strip Hong Kong’s autonomy and bring it under full control of the government of the mainland. This has motivated millions of Hong Kongers to take to the streets and protest in defense of their rights. To support them, we need to make sure that our policy is brought up to date so it can match the challenges of the U.S.-Hong Kong relationship today.

The Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act does just that. It makes clear that the United States will stand up for Hong Kong’s autonomy and democratic aspirations of its people. It beefs up reporting so that we can track any efforts by China to interfere in Hong Kong’s affairs and to use Hong Kong to avoid U.S. export controls. It slaps sanctions on anyone responsible for undermining Hong Kong’s autonomy or violating Hong Kongers’ human rights.

This bill sends a strong message to China that the United States stands with the people of Hong Kong.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,

Washington, DC, October 8, 2019.

Hon. ELLIOT ENGEL,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing concerning H.R. 3289, the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019. In order to permit the H.R. 3289 to proceed expeditiously to the House Floor, I agree to forgo formal consideration of the bill.

The Committee on Financial Services takes this action to forego formal consideration of H.R. 3289 in light of the changes that have been made to the bill as introduced, which focuses the bill on matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. The Committee also does so with our mutual understanding that, by foregoing formal consideration of H.R. 3289 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this or similar legislation moves forward with regard to any matters in the Committee’s ju-

isdiction. The Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation that involves the Committee’s jurisdiction and request your support for any such request.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding, and I would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during Floor consideration of H.R. 3289.

Sincerely,

MAXINE WATERS,
Chairwoman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, October 10, 2019.

Hon. MAXINE WATERS,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN WATERS: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 3289, the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019. I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation.

I acknowledge that provisions of the bill fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Financial Services under House Rule X, and that your Committee will forgo action on H.R. 3289 to expedite floor consideration. I further acknowledge that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the matters contained in the bill that fall within your jurisdiction. I also acknowledge that your Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this or similar legislation moves forward, and will support the appointment of Committee on Financial Services conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation.

Lastly, I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. Thank you again for your cooperation regarding the legislation. I look forward to continuing to work with you as the measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

ELLIOT L. ENGEL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, October 10, 2019.

Hon. ELLIOT L. ENGEL,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ENGEL: This is to advise you that the Committee on the Judiciary has now had an opportunity to review the provisions in H.R. 3289, the “Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019” that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction. I appreciate your consulting with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee has no objection to your including them in the bill for consideration on the House floor, and to expedite that consideration is willing to forgo action on H.R. 3289, with the understanding that we do not thereby waive any future jurisdictional claim over those provisions or their subject matters.

In the event a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation is convened, the Judiciary Committee reserves the right to request an appropriate number of conferees to address any concerns with these or similar provisions that may arise in conference.

Please place this letter into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have

worked regarding this matter and others between our committees.

Sincerely,

JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, October 10, 2019.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 3289, the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019. I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation.

I acknowledge that provisions of the bill fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary under House Rule X, and that your Committee will forgo action on H.R. 3289 to expedite floor consideration. I further acknowledge that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the matters contained in the bill that fall within your jurisdiction. I will also support the appointment of Committee on the Judiciary conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation.

Lastly, I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. Thank you again for your cooperation regarding the legislation. I look forward to continuing to work with you as the measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

ELIOT L. ENGEL,
Chairman.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank so many people for working so hard on this piece of legislation: my good friend, JIM MCGOVERN, the principal cosponsor and just a great friend, on fighting tyranny in China. He chairs the China Commission. I am the ranking member. Previously, I have chaired it, and so we have gone back and forth in working that leadership. I want to thank him especially for that.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank, of course, Chairman ENGEL and Ranking Member MCCAUL, Chairman SHERMAN and Ranking Member YOHO for their strong support for this bipartisan legislation.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of staffers who I will speak about in a moment. No. I will do it now: Scott Flipse for his great work on this bill, it is landmark work going back to 5 years ago; Jon Stivers; Reva Price from the Speaker's office, who has been tenacious on this legislation; Jennifer Hendrixson-White; Bryan Burack; Janice Kaguyutan; Theresa Lou; Darrow Godeski Merton; Doug Anderson; Piero Tozzi; Sabrina Tsai. Just so many very good people who have all pulled together in a bipartisan way to make sure that this legislation comes to the floor and becomes law.

Mr. Speaker, since the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre 30 years ago, I have had the privilege of working with colleagues on both sides of the aisle, including Speaker PELOSI, on human rights, the rule of law and de-

mocracy for the People's Republic of China.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank KEVIN MCCARTHY, the minority leader here in the House, the Republican leader, who has put me on as his selection on the China Commission and for his strong support for this legislation as well.

We have always believed, Mr. Speaker, that every person in China deserves better than the brutality so many endure every single day and the systematic violations of their universally-recognized human rights.

Tragically, under President Xi Jinping, human rights abuses throughout China have significantly worsened, including the pervasive use of torture, religious persecution, and human trafficking.

Solemn promises made by Beijing are rarely kept, and far too many leaders of the free world are far too eager to blindly accept fiction over fact.

Broken promises are the rule, not the exception under Xi Jinping, and the people of Hong Kong are suffering because of it.

During the 2014 Umbrella Movement, the world saw the courageous people of Hong Kong demanding that Beijing not renege on promises made to ensure universal suffrage, basic rights, and authentic elections in 2017.

Despite President Xi Jinping's brutal crackdown on protesters then and now, triggered this time by an outrageous proposed policy to facilitate extradition, the resolve, the courage, the tenacity, and clarity of purpose of the people of Hong Kong shines through the darkness like the Sun.

Two days ago, Reuters reported that President Xi Jinping told leaders in Nepal, "Anyone attempting to split China in any part of the country will end in crushed bodies and shattered bones."

President Xi's government excels in crushing bodies, shattering bones, torturing dissidents, and filling concentration camps, massive crimes against humanity, for which there has been little or no accountability or sanctioning.

But today, Mr. Speaker, we are simply urging the Chinese President and the Hong Kong Chief Executive—and we have that obligation under our own laws—to faithfully honor the government's promises.

Honor the promises made in the 1984 Sino-British Joint Declaration that facilitated the conveyance of Hong Kong from the United Kingdom to China beginning on July 1, 1997, that autonomy, human rights, including press, assembly, association, and religion, would be exactly the same as before the handover for at least 50 years.

Honor the promises made in the "Basic Law" of Hong Kong adopted by China's National People's Congress in 1990, before the giveback of Hong Kong, that autonomy and rights would be protected.

Even before the latest round of protests, Mr. Speaker, the U.S. State De-

partment has noted that rights and liberties in Hong Kong have diminished. They are not living up to their solemn promises made in order for the Hong Kong conveyance to occur.

You know, the great young leader, Joshua Wong, reminded us that a fourth of the population of Hong Kong, about 2 million people, turned out for one of the peaceful protests. Mr. Speaker, where has that ever happened?

Five years ago, Mr. Speaker, in 2014, joined by Mrs. PELOSI, I introduced the bipartisan Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act. We did it again in 2015, in 2017, and again this year, again, with my good friend from Massachusetts.

Our new bill, the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act, is a blueprint for meaningful action. Specifically, the act directs the Secretary of State to certify to Congress annually whether Hong Kong continues to deserve special treatment under U.S. law different from mainland China in such matters as trade, customs, sanctions enforcement, law enforcement cooperation, and protection of human rights and the rule of law.

It encourages the State Department not to deny visas based on an applicant's arrest or detention for participating in nonviolent activities in Hong Kong.

It requires an annual report from the Commerce Department on whether the Hong Kong Government adequately enforces U.S. export controls and sanctions laws, including on those goods and services transshipped to North Korea, Iran, or other countries relating to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, violations of human rights, narcotics trafficking, and more.

□ 1600

It requires an assessment of whether U.S. origin items, including software, technology, and services, have been transferred from Hong Kong to China in violation of U.S. law and have been used by China for mass surveillance, predictive policing, or for the social credit system.

Now, some people might ask: What is this social credit system? Mr. Speaker, it is a ubiquitous, totalitarian "brave new world" system scheduled for implementation by 2020 that will use public records, online activities, and other tools of surveillance to aggregate data on every single, solitary Chinese citizen and business and use that data to monitor, shape, and rate financial, social, religious, or political behaviors.

It requires the Secretary of State to submit a strategy to Congress to protect U.S. citizens and businesses in Hong Kong from the erosion of autonomy and the rule of law because of actions taken by the Chinese Communist governments.

It requires the President to identify and sanction persons in Hong Kong or in mainland China responsible for the erosion of Hong Kong's autonomy and serious abuses of human rights.

It tracks the Magnitsky Act, which Mr. MCGOVERN and I worked so hard to enact into law, so that we deny visas and also deny the ability to do business here to the people who are responsible for these egregious abuses.

And it requires a waiver provision that helps ensure that our actions protect the great people of Hong Kong and enhance the autonomy rather than inadvertently harming it. So it gives real flexibility to the President and to the State Department to make the right call.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I have heard it said that the business of Hong Kong is business. It is that. But it is also clear to me, now, that the business of Hong Kong is freedom and democracy.

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

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I join with the gentleman from New Jersey in praising the staff members who helped create these bills, not only the one under consideration, but the other two that deal with Hong Kong.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), a great champion for human rights.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3289, the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman CHRIS SMITH for his incredible leadership in introducing this bipartisan legislation and for all of his work on human rights. I also thank Chairman ENGEL and Ranking Member MCCAUL, as well as Chairman SHERMAN, for their leadership and their support of this bill and bringing it before the House today for consideration.

Behind me is a photograph taken on Monday night in Hong Kong's Chater Garden. It is estimated that 130,000 people took part in this rally calling on the United States Congress to pass the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act.

The Hong Kong people need international support, and I am proud that the United States House of Representatives is standing in solidarity with Hong Kong in their struggle.

While the protests were sparked by the extradition bill, the heart of the discontent is that many of Hong Kong's political leaders do not represent the people. Instead, Hong Kong's leaders are beholden to the Chinese Government. Millions of Hong Kongers would not have to protest in the streets if they could freely choose their political leaders.

Since the 2014 umbrella movement protests, the "one country, two systems" framework has been rapidly eroding as free expression has been stifled and the space for democratic participation has been restricted. We have seen the prosecution and sentencing of prodemocracy leaders, the disqualification and removal of prodemocracy legislators, the abduction and arbitrary detention of booksellers, and the expelling of a Financial Times journalist.

Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy is enshrined in the legally binding 1984 Sino-British Joint Declaration and Hong Kong's Basic Law. The joint declaration is an international treaty, signed by the Chinese Government, and guarantees the protection of rights and a separate economic system for mainland China.

I believe it is time for the United States to reconsider its policies toward Hong Kong.

U.S.-Hong Kong relations are governed by the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 that commits the United States to treating Hong Kong as a separate customs territory from the rest of China as long as Hong Kong remains sufficiently autonomous. The Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act would require the Secretary of State to certify, on an annual basis, whether Hong Kong continues to warrant special treatment different from mainland China under U.S. law.

It is time we put the Chinese Government on annual notice that further erosion of autonomy or a crackdown will cause the city, which serves as an important financial haven for wealthy Chinese elites, to lose its special economic, financial, and trade arrangement with the United States.

Further, the legislation authorizes sanctions against individuals who violate human rights and states that Hong Kong visa applicants should not be denied entry to the United States based on politically motivated arrests based on their protest activities.

To be clear, we stand together with the people of Hong Kong and, indeed, all the people of China when we express our concerns about the human rights violations of the Hong Kong and Chinese Governments.

Over the years, Hong Kong has prospered and become the financial center of Asia because of its strong commitment to the rule of law, good governance, human rights, and open economic system. We must use our leverage to help the people of Hong Kong in their struggle to secure a democratic future that protects Hong Kong's autonomy and way of life.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support this legislation, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers on this side, so I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. SMITH for introducing this legislation.

Thirty years since Tiananmen Square and Chinese authorities are still turning to violence and intimidation to crush dissent and attack basic freedoms. With this important legislation, we send a clear signal that the United States stands with the people of Hong Kong.

Mr. Speaker, I hope all Members will join me in supporting the passage of

this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3289, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PLACING RESTRICTIONS ON TEARGAS EXPORTS AND CROWD CONTROL TECHNOLOGY TO HONG KONG ACT

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4270) to prohibit commercial exports of certain nonlethal crowd control items and defense articles and services to the Hong Kong Disciplined Services, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4270

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Placing Restrictions on Teargas Exports and Crowd Control Technology to Hong Kong Act" or the "PROTECT Hong Kong Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, along with human rights organizations, has called for an investigation of the use of crowd control tactics used in Hong Kong which fall short of international standards, including the United Nations Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms for Law Enforcement Officials.

(2) United States companies have reportedly provided the Hong Kong Police Force with munitions and non-lethal crowd control equipment that were reportedly used by the police.

(3) Hong Kong citizens and the international community have called for changes to the Hong Kong Police's crowd control tactics and these requests have gone unheeded by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to restrict the export of security assistance and crime control and detection instruments and equipment to any government that engages in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights, consistent with the requirements of section 502B(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304(a)); and

(2) to use export controls on crime control and detection instruments and equipment to deter the development of a consistent pattern of human rights abuses, distance the United States from such abuses, and avoid contributing to civil disorder in a country or region, in accordance with section 742.7(b) of part 774 of subtitle B of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON COMMERCIAL EXPORT OF COVERED DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES AND COVERED MUNITIONS ITEMS TO THE HONG KONG POLICE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Beginning on the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, except as provided in subsection (b), the President shall prohibit the issuance of licenses to export covered defense articles and services and covered munitions items to the Hong Kong Police.

(b) **WAIVER.**—The prohibition under subsection (a) shall not apply to the issuance of a license with respect to which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees, not fewer than 30 days before the date of such issuance, a written certification that the exports to be covered by such license are important to the national interests and foreign policy goals of the United States, including a description of the manner in which such exports will promote such interests and goals.

(c) **TERMINATION.**—The prohibition under subsection (a) shall terminate on the date on which the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(1) the Hong Kong Police have not engaged in gross violations of human rights during the 1-year period ending on the date of such certification; and

(2) there has been an independent examination of human rights concerns related to the crowd control tactics of the Hong Kong Police and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region has adequately addressed those concerns.

SEC. 5. REPORT ON COVERED DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES AND COVERED MUNITIONS ITEMS EXPORTED TO THE HONG KONG POLICE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that lists and provides a description of all covered defense articles and services and covered munitions items exported to the Hong Kong Police during the five-year period ending on such date of enactment.

(b) **FORM.**—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(2) **COVERED DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES.**—The term “covered defense articles and services” means defense articles and defense services designated by the President under section 38(a)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(a)(1)).

(3) **COVERED MUNITIONS ITEMS.**—The term “covered munitions items” means—

(A) items controlled under section 742.7 of part 742 of subtitle B of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to crime control and detection instruments and equipment and related technology and software); and

(B) items listed under the “600 series” of the Commerce Control List contained in Supplement No. 1 to part 774 of subtitle B of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations.

(4) **HONG KONG.**—The term “Hong Kong” has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 5702).

(5) **HONG KONG POLICE.**—The term “Hong Kong Police” means—

(A) the Hong Kong Police Force; and

(B) the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The **SPEAKER pro tempore**, Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. **SHERMAN**) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. **SMITH**) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. **SHERMAN**. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 4270.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. **SHERMAN**. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. **PELOSI**), Speaker of the House, a woman who has dedicated decades of her life to the fight for human rights.

Ms. **PELOSI**. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for his support of democracy and democratic freedom in Hong Kong.

I want to salute my colleague, Representative **SMITH** of New Jersey, with whom I have worked for decades on this subject, whether it is for religious freedom or freedom of expression in China.

I thank Mr. **MCGOVERN** for his important leadership as chair of the China Commission and as chair of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission.

Right now, we are on the **PROTECT Hong Kong Act**, as amended, by Mr. **MCGOVERN**, and I rise in support of that legislation and, indeed, the bills that are on the floor to support democratic freedom in Hong Kong.

Mr. Speaker, for 4 months, the young people of Hong Kong have sent a stirring message to the world that the dreams of freedom, justice, and democracy can never be extinguished by injustice and intimidation. The extraordinary outpouring of courage from the people of Hong Kong stands in stark contrast to a cowardly government that refuses to respect the rule of law or live up to the “one country, two systems” framework, which was guaranteed more than two decades ago.

In 1984, before the United Kingdom transferred Hong Kong to China, the Chinese Government promised a high degree of autonomy for the territory in the Joint Declaration on the Question of Hong Kong, providing for an independent executive, legislature, and ju-

diciary; ensuring the freedom of speech, press, assembly, and religion; prohibiting the central government, the Chinese Government in Beijing, from interfering in the affairs that Hong Kong administers on its own according to the Basic Law; and pledging a path to universal suffrage.

In 1997—that is when we were here doing this—when the handover occurred, America was hopeful that the people of Hong Kong would achieve this high degree of autonomy that they were promised, and this was a promise that was participated in by the U.K. Government. Today, we must sadly conclude that China has broken that promise.

For years, the people of Hong Kong have faced a barrage of unjust and harsh restrictions on their freedoms, and those who have stood up for their rights have been met with a cruel crackdown.

In Congress, Democrats and Republicans, in the House and in the Senate, stand united with the people of Hong Kong. If America does not speak out for human rights in China because of commercial interests, then we lose all moral authority to speak out for human rights anywhere in the world.

Since Tiananmen Square 30 years ago, many of us, in a bipartisan way, have been fighting this fight, and we have seen that commercial interests always win. It is always about the money.

I lost my innocence on human rights in America and China all those years ago when I saw that, while we talked a good talk, when it came right down to it, it was always about the money.

Again, to those who want to take the repressive government’s side in this discussion, I say to you: What does it profit a person if he gains the whole world and suffers the loss of his soul?

We do not want to lose the soul of our country for commercial interests, whatever those commercial interests may be.

It is interesting to hear people say we have to know both sides of the story. Do you want to hear both sides?

One side is a very repressive regime that is crushing democratic freedoms in Hong Kong at the same time that they have tried to destroy the culture, the language, and the religion, all at the same time as they incarcerate in reeducation camps more than 1 million—it could be 3 million—Uyghur Muslims in China, or they repress religious freedom there. The list goes on and on.

And the other side: young people speaking out for freedoms, democratic freedoms, in Hong Kong. They are so impressive.

Mr. **SMITH** and I have worked, as Mr. **MCGOVERN** has, with some three generations, starting after Tiananmen Square and tanks rolling over young people who spoke out for democratic freedoms in China; the next generation, a couple, 15 years later; and now this generation of young people, so impressive are they that even the more senior

freedom fighters in Hong Kong are impressed by their courage and their stick-to-itiveness.

Today, the House is proud to pass the bicameral and bipartisan Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act to reaffirm America's commitment to democracy. And that doesn't mean a democracy like this. It means democratic freedoms, human rights, and the rule of law in the face of Beijing's crackdown.

□ 1615

And Beijing thinks that they can rule because of money. It always comes down to that. I thank Chairman MCGOVERN and Congressman SMITH for their work to ensure an honest accounting of the situation in Hong Kong, and to ensure accountability for those responsible for the crackdown.

We are grateful to Chairman MCGOVERN for his leadership on this PROTECT Hong Kong Act which suspends sales of crowd control technology and other equipment to the Hong Kong Police Force, as Mr. SHERMAN pointed out earlier. I thank Mr. SHERMAN for his work on this and thank him for his resolution calling for the Hong Kong Government to address protestors' demands and condemning police brutality, in addition to China's efforts to falsely accuse U.S. diplomats of fueling unrest.

Last week, Martin Lee, the grandfather of Hong Kong democracy—we started working with him decades ago—said: "We fear Hong Kong will become just another Chinese city." That means one without any of the freedoms that they were guaranteed. The future of Hong Kong, the future of autonomy, freedom, and justice for millions is at stake.

America must stand with Hong Kong. It is very interesting that in the first weeks of the demonstration, the first months of the demonstration, 2 million people, mostly young people, were in the streets. And people were saying: Oh, my heavens, 2 million people turning out. And you remember that 2 million is 25 percent of the population of Hong Kong which is 8 million people. It is 25 percent of the population that was in the streets. And the beat goes on.

Hopefully, they will hear from this Congress our support for their human rights, and that we will not sell our souls for money at the expense of our values.

I also want to thank the distinguished chairman of the committee, Mr. ELIOT ENGEL, for his leadership on all of this over time. I urge an "aye" vote on all of the above to join in bipartisan, bicameral support for the people of Hong Kong.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), the author of this important bill, a stalwart supporter of human rights.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from California for his leadership.

I rise in support of H.R. 4270, the Placing Restrictions On Teargas Exports and Crowd Control Technology to Hong Kong Act, the PROTECT Hong Kong Act.

I am proud to have introduced this bipartisan legislation, along with my colleagues CHRIS SMITH and RO KHANNA, that responds to the excessive and unnecessary use of force by the Hong Kong police, targeting those engaged in peaceful protest. I want to thank the chairman and ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee for bringing this bill so quickly before the House for consideration.

The PROTECT Hong Kong Act prohibits U.S. exports of defense articles, munitions, and police equipment to Hong Kong. Specifically, it stops U.S. exports of teargas, pepper spray, grenades, rubber bullets, guns, semiautomatic rifles, and such defense articles and munitions to the police.

Let's be clear about what is happening in Hong Kong right now. Millions of people from all walks of life, including: young people, students, women, seniors, entrepreneurs, teachers, civil servants, and workers are standing up to the most powerful, authoritarian government in the world. Protesters have inspired the world as they risk their lives, their health, their jobs, and their education to fight for the future of Hong Kong. They are savvy and strategic. They are using technology to mobilize, stay anonymous, and organize. They are capturing and extinguishing teargas containers.

They have taken down, taken apart, and shown the world increasing surveillance cameras that monitor everyday Hong Kongers. They are using art, music, laser pointers, and the projection of messages on building to highlight their struggle.

They organized a human chain of 200,000 people spanning 37 miles. Tenants in Hong Kong's residential buildings organize the shouting of slogans from their windows every night with calls and responses echoing throughout the city. The people of Hong Kong have made their voices loud and clear.

But instead of listening to them, the Chinese and Hong Kong Governments have mishandled the situation at every turn. The world has now seen eyewitness evidence compiled by journalists and the media showing that police have used excessive force and used equipment in violation of manufacturer guidelines and international standards.

We have seen the police firing rubber bullets and bean bag rounds at peaceful protesters at close range. We have seen them launching teargas canisters, from high buildings and directly at individuals, into crowded and enclosed areas.

We have seen them failing to give demonstrators visible and audible warning before firing, and we have seen them use batons to beat and subdue demonstrators and disperse journalists.

In fact, the situation has been so bad that in June, the British Government

suspended export licenses for the sale of teargas and crowd control equipment until concerns about human rights abuses are addressed.

On August 13, the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights called for an investigation of the use of crowd control tactics in Hong Kong.

Enough is enough. It is time for American companies to stop selling weapons that are being used to suppress peaceful protests. Instead of heeding international calls to stop the crackdown, the Hong Kong Government continues to make matters worse.

On October 1 alone, 269 arrests of protesters, spanning the ages of 12 to 71 were made. Two teenage protesters had been shot with live ammunition, and the uptick of violence against journalists has further served to inflame public anger against the government and the police.

Instead of establishing an independent commission of inquiry on police conduct to deescalate the situation, the Hong Kong Government has formally invoked the Emergency Regulations Ordinance to ban the use of masks during public assemblies. This is an impractical and draconian step to move the city closer to martial law.

The Hong Kong Government should repeal this regulation and refrain from bypassing oversight and scrutiny by the legislative council in making ad hoc regulations. An intensified crackdown will only escalate and promote violence, and further tarnish the reputation of Hong Kong and its police force.

At a minimum, it is beyond time for Congress to send a clear message that the United States supports the people of Hong Kong, and that we will no longer provide assistance to crack down on pro-democracy protesters. I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 4270, the PROTECT Hong Kong Act.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me say, I appreciate and respect the eloquent remarks of the Speaker just a few moments ago. We are united on Hong Kong. I think that is very clear, and we have been working together, along with a number of other Members, including some former Members, like Frank Wolf from Virginia, who are united in believing that freedom, and democracy, and respect for human rights is everybody's business, and everybody is entitled to it. These are God-given rights. So, again, I want to thank the Speaker for her wonderful remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4270, the PROTECT Hong Kong Act, sponsored by Chairman JIM MCGOVERN, and I am very proud to be a cosponsor on it. The PROTECT Hong Kong Act mandates export restrictions on defense articles and munitions to the Hong Kong police.

As the largest protest movement Hong Kong has ever seen continues into its fifth month, major concerns have arisen about the Hong Kong police's independence and professionalism. The people of Hong Kong are rightfully furious about well-documented cases of excessive force, brutal tactics, and the tolerance of violence against protesters and journalists by the government.

The Hong Kong police's actions are now a cause in and of themselves of protest. There has been widespread police misuse of crowd control equipment and less lethal weaponry, including incidents that have seriously injured journalists. Police have used teargas, rubber bullets, water cannons, sponge grenades, pepper spray, and batons against demonstrators, some of which, indeed, are American-made equipment. In recent weeks two protesters have been shot with live rounds.

Meanwhile, while we discuss a move to ban the sale of such offensive equipment, the Hong Kong Government, via executive fiat, has simultaneously moved to ban the use by demonstrators of defensive equipment used to protect themselves against police attacks; namely, gas masks and face masks.

The PROTECT Hong Kong Act will prohibit the issuing of licenses for the export of munitions and crowd control equipment to the Hong Kong police. The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and other relevant Federal agencies, will also be required to issue a report on what has been sold to the Hong Kong police over the past several years.

These prohibitions will remain in effect until these incidents are independently examined and the Hong Kong police have demonstrated truly professional conduct.

In sum, the U.S. should not be complicit in any way, shape, or form in violence being used to squash the legitimate demands guaranteed to the Hong Kong people by international treaty. That is unacceptable, and it is contrary to U.S. interests, and it is contrary to U.S. law.

I strongly support unanimous support for this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), the chair of the full Foreign Affairs Committee, a stalwart supporter of human rights.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding to me. He is a valued member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Let me start by thanking Mr. MCGOVERN for his hard work on this legislation.

The relationship between the United States and Hong Kong is rooted in our shared values. Among them are a fierce belief in the freedom of speech, and the right to assemble. That is why the American people are so troubled by the images coming out of Hong Kong lately.

Hundreds of thousands of protesters who have taken to the streets have

been met with increasing violence by the Hong Kong Police Force. These pro-democracy activists faced teargas, pepper spray, and rubber bullets by the police force sworn to supposedly protect them.

I remember when China took over Hong Kong from the U.K. and said that they would adhere to a system of two systems in China, and that the people of Hong Kong would have freedom like they had before to speak their mind. And here it is, probably about 20 years later, and that is already being eroded, taken away, and the people of Hong Kong see that they were promised something which isn't being brought forth from the Beijing regime.

Mr. MCGOVERN's measure would ensure that American companies are not contributing equipment for the Hong Kong police to use against protesters. This bill also calls on the police to take the steps needed to address those issues from within. When there are instances of police brutality, there must be prompt, independent investigations and proper accountability.

The PROTECT Hong Kong Act shows the people of Hong Kong that the United States stands with them in their fight for their freedoms. It makes sure that American companies are not facilitating violence against brave Democratic protesters.

It is a shame that it has come to this, but it is really uplifting to watch people possess enormous courage in the wake of having their lives threatened. In the wake of having their society destroyed, they stood up and they are standing up to the Beijing regime and to the people who would try to strip them of their basic freedoms.

I think that we all, no matter where we are on this planet, have to admire the brave people of Hong Kong. We had the good fortune of meeting a number of the protesters when Speaker PELOSI called a press conference a few weeks ago, and we talked about this bill. It was really heartening to be able to speak to these young people one-on-one. These are young people who have shown just enormous amounts of courage. And they should know that the United States will always support them, will continue to support them, and we won't stop until the people of Hong Kong have their democracy and the freedom they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4270.

□ 1630

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, so I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

The people of Hong Kong have the right to peaceably assemble without fear of violence. They need to know that their friends in the United States are not providing tools of the violent repression being used against them.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 4270, and I urge all Members of the House to do likewise. I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4270, the "PROTECT Hong Kong Act."

H.R. 4270 calls for the President to prohibit the issuance of export licenses for nonlethal crowd control items and defense articles to the Hong Kong police.

This prohibition will be terminated once the Hong Kong police have stopped engaging in a pattern of gross human rights abuses, and there has been an independent investigation conducted on policy brutality.

During the 2019 anti-extradition bill and pro-democracy protests, the Hong Kong Police Force used non-lethal crowd control articles such as water cannon trucks, tear gas, rubber bullets, sponge grenades, beanbag rounds, batons, pepper spray, pepper balls, and projectile launchers.

Hong Kong citizens and the international community have called for changes to the Hong Kong Police's crowd control tactics and these requests have gone unheeded by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government.

I applaud the efforts and sacrifices pro-democracy activists have made and they ought to know that the United States fully supports their desire for freedom and peace, and we strongly condemn the violent and oppressive tactics of the Hong Kong police.

When enacted, H.R. 4270 will prohibit the issuance of licenses to export covered defense articles and services and covered munitions items to the Hong Kong Disciplined Services.

As a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security I find it important to increase bilateral relations with allies and abroad to help eliminate the injustices of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4270 to confront the pattern of gross human rights abuses which pose a strong threat to the democratic values we work to protect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4270, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to prohibit commercial exports of certain nonlethal crowd control items and defense articles and services to the Hong Kong Police, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Miss Kaitlyn Roberts, one of his secretaries.

COMMENDING GOVERNMENT OF CANADA FOR UPHOLDING RULE OF LAW AND EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER ACTIONS BY GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 521) commending the Government of Canada for upholding the rule of law and expressing concern over actions by the Government of the People's Republic of China in response to a request from the United States Government to the Government of Canada for the extradition of a Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd., executive.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 521

Whereas, on December 1, 2018, Canadian authorities detained Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd., chief financial officer Meng Wanzhou based on an arrest warrant issued pursuant to a request made by the United States under the Extradition Treaty Between the United States of America and Canada, signed at Washington December 3, 1971;

Whereas, on January 24, 2019, the United States filed a superseding indictment in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York against Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. ("Huawei"), Huawei Device USA Inc., Skycom Tech Co. Ltd. ("Skycom"), and Meng Wanzhou;

Whereas the January 24, 2019, indictment charges two counts of bank fraud, two counts of conspiracy to commit bank fraud, one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, one count of wire fraud, one count of conspiracy to defraud the United States, two counts of conspiracy to violate the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, two counts of violations of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, one count of money laundering conspiracy, and one count of conspiracy to obstruct justice;

Whereas the January 24, 2019, indictment charges that "Huawei operated Skycom as an unofficial subsidiary to obtain otherwise prohibited U.S.-origin goods, technology, and services, including banking services, for Huawei's Iran-based business while concealing the link to Huawei";

Whereas the United States Government is seeking the extradition of Meng Wanzhou;

Whereas Canadian authorities granted Meng Wanzhou access to Chinese consular officials, and she was able to engage a lawyer of her choice and was released on bail pending the outcome of the extradition hearing;

Whereas the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs strongly urged Canada "to immediately release" Meng Wanzhou and threatened that otherwise "it will definitely have grave consequences, and [Canada] will have to bear the full responsibility for it";

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China detained Canadian diplomat Michael Kovrig and Canadian executive Michael Spavor on December 10, 2018, in apparent retaliation for the arrest of Meng Wanzhou;

Whereas Michael Spavor and Michael Kovrig have faced harsh conditions while in detention that include limited consular access, no access to a lawyer, being unable to turn off the lights at night, and lengthy interrogations, including in the case of Mr. Kovrig, about his official activities during his previous tenure as an accredited diplomat in the People's Republic of China, po-

tentially in violation of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, done at Vienna April 18, 1961;

Whereas, on January 14, 2019, a third Canadian, Robert Schellenberg, in Chinese custody for drug smuggling, had his case reviewed and his 15-year sentence changed to the death penalty;

Whereas the Department of State's Country Report on Human Rights Practices for 2018 stated that "[a]rbitrary arrest and detention remained serious problems" in China and that Chinese judges "regularly received political guidance on pending cases, including instructions on how to rule, from both the government and the CCP [Chinese Communist Party], particularly in politically sensitive cases"; and

Whereas while neither Michael Kovrig nor Michael Spavor has been formally charged with any crime under Chinese law, the Government of the People's Republic of China formally arrested them on May 6, 2019, following their detention on December 10, 2018: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the Government of Canada for upholding the rule of law and complying with its international legal obligations, including those pursuant to the Extradition Treaty Between the United States of America and Canada, signed at Washington December 3, 1971;

(2) commends the Government of Canada for providing consular access and due process for Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd., chief financial officer Meng Wanzhou;

(3) expresses concern over the Government of the People's Republic of China's apparent arbitrary detention and abusive treatment of Canadian nationals Michael Spavor and Michael Kovrig in apparent retaliation for the Government of Canada's detention of Meng Wanzhou; and

(4) joins the Government of Canada in calling for the immediate release of Michael Spavor and Michael Kovrig and for due process for Canadian national Robert Schellenberg.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 521.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is a good, bipartisan resolution, and I was glad to join Ranking Member MCCAUL as a cosponsor of this bill. This measure deals with something that we have all seen lately—how China responds to those who go against the Chinese Communist Party's agenda. Whether we are talking about individuals, private companies, or countries, China doesn't hesitate to extort, coerce, and punish those who challenge it.

Right now, our neighbor to the north, Canada, is experiencing this firsthand.

Back in December, Canada arrested and extradited the chief financial officer of Chinese company Huawei for her role in violating American sanctions law. The Canadians were completely in the right here. They were upholding the rule of law.

China launched an outrageous response, arresting two innocent Canadian citizens on trumped-up charges. These men are still languishing in China's detention and legal process limbo, deprived of their freedom and denied basic consular rights—rights that all countries should honor—solely because China wanted to use them in a political bullying tactic. Their rights went out the window.

This is an outrageous affront to the rule of law, and we must condemn it.

H. Res. 521 denounces this practice by China and sends a clear signal that the United States Congress stands with Canada in demanding the immediate release of their innocent citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this good measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this resolution commending the Government of Canada for upholding the rule of law and expressing concern about China's use of hostage diplomacy.

I thank Chairman ENGEL for cosponsoring this resolution with me. As always, we work in a very bipartisan way on this committee.

This resolution recognizes Canada's help with the extradition of Huawei Technologies' chief financial officer, Meng Wanzhou. It also expresses concern with China's retaliatory and hostile actions against Canadian citizens detained in China.

China's hostage diplomacy is abhorrent. As retaliation for Canada's arrest of Ms. MENG, Canadian citizens Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor have been detained in China since last year. They have been denied due process and have been subjected to harsh conditions, such as limited consular access, no attorney representation, and lengthy interrogations. Meanwhile, Ms. MENG has received proper treatment in Canadian custody and is currently released on bail.

The cases show the stark contrast between Canada's commitment to the rule of law and China's.

I commend Canada and regret that Canadian citizens are paying the price of China's malfeasance. Canada's citizens must be released immediately.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I thank the people of Canada for standing with us to uphold the rule of law and assist in the extradition of Huawei's CFO, who is accused of willfully violating United States sanctions to proliferate technology to Iran. It is unacceptable that the Chinese Communist Party is punishing innocent Canadian citizens to interfere in this criminal process.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this and stand in solidarity with Canada. Huawei is creeping around the world with 5G technology. Everywhere we see One Belt, One Road, we see 5G being planted down in these countries. They literally steal data from these countries, now covering half of the globe.

We are in a race with China, and we need to combat their espionage and intellectual property theft.

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank Ranking Member MCCAUL for his leadership in introducing this measure and his hard work in seeing its passage.

China is flouting the international rule of law, targeting anyone who goes against them. And now, they have our ally Canada in their crosshairs.

This is a commonsense resolution that shows the United States condemns this behavior and stands with our ally and with the families of those unjustly detained.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support it, and I urge my colleagues to do the same. I thank Mr. MCCAUL for introducing it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 521.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ESTABLISHING A GRANT PROGRAM FOR CEMETERY RESEARCH AND PRODUCING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2385) to permit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program to conduct cemetery research and produce educational materials for the Veterans Legacy Program, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2385

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

SECTION 1. GRANTS FOR CEMETERY RESEARCH AND THE PRODUCTION OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS.

(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may establish a grant program to conduct cemetery research and produce educational materials for the Veterans Legacy Program.

(2) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary may award a grant under this section to any of the following entities:

(A) An institution of higher learning.

(B) A local education agency.

(C) A non-profit entity that the Secretary determines has a demonstrated history of community engagement.

(D) Another recipient the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(3) USE OF FUNDS.—A recipient of a grant under this section may use the grant amount to—

(A) conduct research related to national, State, or Tribal veterans' cemeteries;

(B) produce education materials that teach about the history of veterans interred in national, State, or Tribal veterans' cemeteries; and

(C) promote community engagement with the histories of veterans interred in national, State, or Tribal veterans' cemeteries.

(4) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—A grant awarded under this section may not exceed \$500,000.

(b) REGULATIONS.—If the Secretary establishes a grant program under this section, the Secretary shall prescribe regulations regarding—

(1) the evaluation of applications for grants under the program; and

(2) administration of the program.

(c) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than two years after the Secretary establishes a grant program under this section, the Secretary shall submit to the committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report regarding the determination of the Secretary whether the grant program is a financially effective means to promote the purposes in subsection (a)(3).

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term "Veterans Legacy Program" means the program of the National Cemetery Administration that is responsible for providing engagement and educational tools and opportunities to the public regarding the service and sacrifice of veterans interred in national, State, or Tribal veterans' cemeteries.

(2) The term "institution of higher learning" has the meaning given that term in section 3452(f) of title 38, United States Code.

(3) The term "local educational agency" has the meaning given that term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID P. ROE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 2385, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2385, as amended. This bill was introduced by Representative CONOR LAMB, vice chair of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. It would permit the Secretary of the VA to use grants rather than Federal contracts to fund cemetery research programs and produce educational materials as part of the Veterans Legacy Program. Switching to a grant program would ease many administrative burdens associated with Federal contracts, allow for more timely payment, and broaden the reach of the program to smaller organizations.

The Veterans Legacy Program was launched by VA's National Cemetery Administration in order to resurrect the stories of veterans interred at national cemeteries, to educate future generations, and to honor the legacy of our Nation's heroes.

This program is a broad collection of public history materials that tell the story of America's veterans buried in national cemeteries. It supports the National Cemetery Administration's mission to honor and memorialize our veterans by creating educational materials that local educators can use to teach their students and others about the veterans buried in local cemeteries.

Currently, the National Cemetery Administration awards Federal contracts to colleges, universities, and other institutions to support the Veterans Legacy Program. These contract awards are used to develop specific curricula.

Eligible recipients of these contracts include institutions of higher learning, local education agencies, nonprofit entities the Secretary determines have a demonstrated history of community engagement, or any other recipient the Secretary deems appropriate.

Contract funds can also be used to conduct research related to national, State, or Tribal veterans' cemeteries and produce educational materials about or promote community engagement with the history of the veterans interred at those cemeteries. The maximum contract amount is \$500,000. Presently, 16 separate contracts have been awarded, which have produced an impressive array of digital and nondigital resources.

Cemetery directors say that they are pleased to see students visiting the cemeteries as part of their studies. This renewed interest, by the young and old alike, revives the lives and stories of American veterans.

However, the National Cemetery Administration and the institutions of higher education that most often receive and utilize these contracts tell us that working with grants is much more efficient and easier for them to administer than contracts.

For instance, grants allow an award cycle that more closely aligns with the academic calendar of schools and colleges. Administrators of the Veterans Legacy Program said grant programs would help increase the reach of the program beyond large universities to smaller groups that want to become involved.

A grant program also allows for faster funding. Contracts involve a one-time payment for work at the end of the project. A grant configuration, however, would allow for fluid and regular payments throughout the course of the work.

Memorializing veterans is a primary responsibility of this committee, and we need to support innovative ideas for bringing energy and interest into national veterans' cemeteries. The Veterans Legacy Program is just that.

Those currently working with the program at the National Cemetery Administration, in institutions of higher learning, and in community groups tell us that a grant program, as opposed to a Federal contract program, would solve most, if not all, of the administrative problems related to accessing funds in a consistent and flexible way.

H.R. 2385 does that by simply allowing the VA to provide grant funding to the Veterans Legacy Program.

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

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2385, as amended. This bill, which is sponsored by Congressman CONOR LAMB from Pennsylvania, a United States Marine Corps veteran, would authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs to award grants instead of contracts to educational organizations that research the lives of those who are interred in our Nation's cemeteries.

I thank Chairman TAKANO for the amendment he offered during the committee markup of this bill to include report language to ensure that Congress has the information needed to determine whether this grant program is financially sound.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2385, as amended, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1645

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. LAMB), my good friend and vice chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, a veteran himself and author of H.R. 2385.

Mr. LAMB. Mr. Speaker, I begin by thanking Chairman TAKANO and Ranking Member ROE for their support getting this bill through committee, and my Republican colleague, BRIAN FITZPATRICK, for cosponsoring it with me.

I rise tonight in support of H.R. 2385. Mr. Speaker, we are here on the 75th anniversary of D-Day, and it always struck me, an American general who said, if anyone ever needed proof that the United States of America fought for a cause and not for conquest, it is that when we invaded another continent halfway around the world, the only soil we ever asked to maintain was enough to bury our own dead.

It has been true, throughout generations, that veterans ask very little recognition or very little thanks for their service. I have it on good authority that, when they built the monument to World War II here in Washington, D.C., throughout that whole year, there were a number of veterans who approached the construction site after hours or early in the morning, and they handed their dog tags to the people who were working there and just asked them to throw them down in the pit underneath those big stone pillars that they were putting in the monument.

Anyone who has ever served understands that feeling, that total commitment to the cause and lack of desire for recognition. But we do programs like the Veterans Legacy Project because we need to communicate that same spirit of sacrifice to the next generation, and that is what this project can do.

The graves in these national cemeteries and the memorials that we find there cause young people, especially, to slow down in a world that is speeding up, and they express a confidence in the thing it is that they memorialize. They tell young people that there are things that are permanent in this world, as hard as that is to believe, and that there is nothing more permanent than the sacrifices that these men and women have made.

They also tell them that there is one thing that is not permanent, which is the freedom that we all live under every single day, and that it has to be refreshed and renewed with the sacrifices of people in each generation.

So by expanding this program, making it more accessible to more high schools and more colleges and more community groups, we can spread that spirit of sacrifice, of permanence, of total commitment to the cause of freedom throughout the next generation, and I can't think of any time when that has been more needed.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for supporting this bill.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Mr. Speaker, I once again encourage all Members to support H.R. 2385, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

In closing, I do want to mention a couple of important stories related to the Veterans Legacy Program.

Earlier this year, Professor Hedge Coke of the University of California, Riverside presented testimony supporting H.R. 2385, as amended.

Her research on the veterans buried at the Riverside National Cemetery—by the way, the largest national cemetery in terms of its geography in my district. She developed teaching curricula for local teachers. She has remarkable energy in the remarkable attention that she has brought to the cemetery. Her students use her educational programs to revitalize the stories of the men and women buried there.

And, Mr. Speaker, at our hearing, Professor Hedge Coke told us that the Veterans Legacy Program doesn't just bring students and community members to the cemeteries; it takes the history of the cemeteries back to the classrooms. Undergraduates, graduate students, and recent alumni of UC Riverside go to local classrooms, from kindergarten through high school, to foster this programming.

She said that in almost every classroom, a good third of the students have

significant ties to the cemetery they didn't know anything about. This allows discovery of family and neighborhood ties and encourages cultural development within the community.

To date, her program has produced dozens of lesson plans, and she has worked with over 2,700 students in local public schools, including the Sherman Indian High School.

I also want to say that one of the heroes that is buried at that cemetery, Riverside National Cemetery, is Ysmael "Smiley" Villegas from Casa Blanca, who earned the Medal of Honor by charging enemy foxholes in World War II. He was killed 1 day short of his 21st birthday.

Smiley Villegas' neighborhood, Casa Blanca, is a small neighborhood of about 225 families; yet this neighborhood of 225 families sent 254 troops to serve in World War II.

Mr. Speaker, the Veterans Legacy Program helps to memorialize veterans like Smiley and the enormous contributions of minority communities like Casa Blanca.

The program recently created an interactive web app and digital mapping of Riverside National Cemetery. It includes gravestone tributes from local students, along with information about the cemetery's construction, history, and notes of interest, such as Native American and indigenous American veterans buried there.

In Professor Hedge Coke's words: "The Legacy Program delivers this terrific meeting of story and culture to the university, K-12 schools, and the surrounding cultures and communities that make up our region."

Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly encourage all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 2385, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2385, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

VA WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY ACT OF 2019

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1199) to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study regarding the accessibility of websites of the Department of Veterans Affairs to individuals with disabilities.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1199

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “VA Website Accessibility Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. STUDY REGARDING THE ACCESSIBILITY OF WEBSITES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) **STUDY.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall examine all websites (including attached files and web-based applications) of the Department of Veterans Affairs to determine whether such websites are accessible to individuals with disabilities in accordance with section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d).

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after completing the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress regarding such study. The report shall include the following:

(1) A list of each website, file, or web-based application described in subsection (a) that is not accessible to individuals with disabilities in accordance with section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d).

(2) For each website, file, or web-based application identified under paragraph (1), a description of the barriers to bringing such website, file, or web-based application into compliance with the requirements of such section, including barriers relating to staffing.

(3) The plan of the Secretary to bring each website, file, or web-based application identified in the list under paragraph (1) into compliance with the requirements of section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d).

(c) **DEFINITION OF WEBSITE.**—In this section, the term “website” includes a kiosk at a Department of Veterans Affairs medical facility, the use of which is required to check in for scheduled appointments.

The **SPEAKER pro tempore.** Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. **TAKANO**) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. **DAVID P. ROE**) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. **TAKANO.** Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 1199.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1199, the VA Website Accountability Act of 2019, introduced by Representative **ELAINE LURIA**, chair of our Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs. This bill directs VA to conduct a study regarding the accessibility of VA websites to individuals with disabilities.

Since 1998, Federal law has required VA to make electronic and information technology accessible to people with disabilities. Unimpeded access to VA resources, including websites and mo-

bile apps, is crucial because it serves as a gateway to VA services and benefits.

However, VA has a long history of stating that it is “working toward compliance,” while failing to ensure that all of its websites are accessible to the blind via use of electronic readers. In fact, VA has had more than 20 years to comply with the law.

Mr. Speaker, this was especially concerning last year when the Veteran Crisis Line was updated, and because the chat feature was no longer accessible for the visually impaired, it left blind veterans unable to access this lifesaving resource.

Other barriers visually impaired veterans face when accessing VA websites include forms that are incompatible with the screen reader software or magnification programs; small buttons that are hidden among other items, making them very difficult to find; elements like checked boxes and buttons that are not properly labeled; and tables that cannot be navigated cell by cell so screen reader software and magnification programs cannot read them.

Now, H.R. 1199 does not propose any changes to existing Federal law; instead, it requires VA to examine all of its websites to determine whether or not they are accessible to individuals with disabilities so it can comply with the law.

H.R. 1199 also requires VA to compile a complete list of noncompliant websites and kiosks and submit a plan to Congress detailing how it plans to bring those websites into legal compliance.

Mr. Speaker, the Blinded Veterans Association estimates there are currently over 130,000 legally blind veterans living in this country and another 1.5 million veterans with low vision. But last year, over 42,000 of these veterans had cases open with a visual impairment services team coordinator at VA because they could not access websites and mobile apps.

The number of visually impaired veterans is expected to grow as the U.S. population ages in the next 20 years. We cannot wait another 20 years for VA to comply with the law.

This growing population will need to access VA’s websites, apps, medical center information kiosks, telehealth tools, disability benefits, and other programs and services administered by VA both now and for the foreseeable future.

Since many veterans are comfortable accessing information, scheduling appointments, and communicating using information technology, visually impaired veterans want the same access to these tools that VA offers to other veterans.

When concerns about the accessibility of websites, documents, and other equipment and media used to communicate with veterans are minimized or ignored, some of our Nation’s most vulnerable veterans—those with catastrophic disabilities—are left behind.

So Mr. Speaker, when these veterans are denied access to information and services, they are at risk for further aggravation of their disabilities and, in some cases, even suicide.

The longer we wait, the greater the risk.

I urge all Members to support H.R. 1199, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. **DAVID P. ROE** of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1199, the VA Website Accessibility Act of 2019. This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to examine all websites, apps, attachments, and electronic forms, determine which are inaccessible to veterans with disabilities, and develop a plan to make each of them accessible.

Visually impaired veterans, in particular, often face barriers to accessing information from VA because they are directed to forms or pages that are incompatible with screen readers. This bill would require VA to take systematic action to address these issues, ensuring that all veterans are able to access needed VA information.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 1199, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. **TAKANO.** Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. **LURIA**), my good friend and chairman of the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, also the sponsor of H.R. 1199 and a veteran herself.

Mrs. **LURIA.** Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this commonsense and bipartisan bill to make VA websites accessible and understandable for all veterans.

Our servicemembers put themselves in harm’s way to protect American freedom. It is only right that Congress uphold our end of the promise by giving them the care that they earned.

One of my top priorities in Congress is eliminating barriers preventing our bravest men and women from receiving quality medical care, as well as disability, vocational, and educational benefits.

I met with a group of blinded veterans, and they explained that the structure of the VA websites makes it difficult for them to learn about treatments and schedule their doctor appointments. I knew I had to act.

To remedy this problem, I introduced the VA Website Accessibility Act, which will require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study of the accessibility of VA websites for veterans with disabilities. Upon completion of the study, the Secretary will be required to report to Congress on the study’s results and provide a plan to improve these websites.

This bill will ensure that the ailments and trauma our servicemembers endured during battle will not prevent them from using the resources that VA websites have to offer. Veterans affected by blindness or hearing loss have

sacrificed for our Nation. They deserve equal access to all VA services, and I am honored to champion their cause.

Our heroes should not have to wait one day longer. Today, we can help thousands of veterans receive better access to healthcare resources.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of the VA Website Accessibility Act, H.R. 1199.

□ 1700

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers and am prepared to close. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would challenge that people who are sight impaired in this country have a 75 percent unemployment rate, if you look at that.

The challenge that I do each year and what I do to myself when my sight-impaired constituents come to my office is I go back to my small apartment that I have and I put a blindfold on, and I try to get around and just do simple tasks of the day. And you find out how very difficult that is.

I could not be more supportive of this legislation, and I thank the gentleman for bringing it up because, try on your computer when you can't see to get information you need to get services. You have to have someone there to help you.

We have the technology available today, if it is used at the VA, so that these men and women who have served this country can also have the access that every other veteran has.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this bill, H.R. 1199, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers and am prepared to close.

Mr. Speaker, I, again, want to urge all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 1199, Mrs. LURIA's legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1199, the "Directing of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study regarding the accessibility of websites of the Department of Veterans Affairs to individuals with disabilities."

H.R. 1199 permits the Secretary of VA to use grants rather than federal contracts to fund cemetery research programs and produce educational materials as part of the Veterans Legacy Program.

This bill directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to report to Congress regarding the accessibility of VA websites (including attached files and web based applications) to individuals with disabilities.

According to the United States Census Bureau 31,390 residents in Harris County, Texas are disabled veterans and this study would greatly benefit them.

The report shall identify websites, files, and applications that are not accessible to such individuals and include the VA's plan to make each of them accessible.

There are 21.8 million veterans of the U.S. armed forces as of 2014, according the Census Bureau, approximately 10 percent of whom are women.

The states with the highest number of veteran residents are California with 2 million, Texas with 1.6 million and Florida also with 1.6 million.

Each of these states have major military bases including Fort Hood in Texas, Fort Irwin in California and Naval Air Station Pensacola.

The Department of Veterans Affairs offers health and welfare services to veterans but has fallen short in its task of serving the mental and physical needs of generations of former troops.

The study required by this bill must be enacted no later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this bill.

Once this study has been conducted we will be better able to assist veterans with disabilities in accessing the website for resources.

It is critical for the United States Congress to ensure that veterans have access to the resources they need.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1199 to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study regarding the accessibility of websites of the Department of Veterans Affairs to individuals with disabilities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1199.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WILSON AND YOUNG MEDAL OF HONOR VA CLINIC

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2334) to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Odessa, Texas, as the "Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2334

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF WILSON AND YOUNG MEDAL OF HONOR VA CLINIC.

(a) FINDING.—Congress finds that Private First Class Alfred "Mac" Wilson of the Marine Corps and Staff Sergeant Marvin "Rex" Young of the Army were both posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for their heroic actions in the Vietnam War.

(b) DESIGNATION.—The Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Odessa, Texas, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the "Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic".

(c) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (b) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID P. ROE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 2334.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the lives of Army Staff Sergeant Marvin "Rex" Young and Marine Corps Private First Class Alfred "Mac" Wilson. I thank my colleague from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) for bringing this bill before us so that we all may be able to pay tribute to two of our Nation's heroes.

As soon as the law allowed, both men signed up to serve our country during the height of the Vietnam war. It was during this war that both Staff Sergeant Young and Private First Class Wilson would ultimately give their lives in defense of our country.

Private First Class Wilson was born on January 13, 1948, in Olney, Illinois. His family moved to Odessa, Texas, in 1950, where he attended local schools before graduating from Odessa Senior High School in 1967. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Reserve at Abilene, Texas, on November 1, 1967, and was discharged to enlist in the Marine Corps on January 14, 1968.

At the time of his death, Private First Class Wilson was a rifleman with Company M, 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, 3rd Marine Division.

Staff Sergeant Young was born on May 11, 1947, in Alpine, Texas, the youngest of three children born to Roy Clinton and Marilyn Young.

He joined the Army from Odessa, Texas, in September 1966 and by August 21, 1968, was serving as a staff sergeant in Company C, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division.

At two different points of the Vietnam war, these two brave men gave their lives to support the mission of their respective units and were both posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

For Private First Class Wilson, it was March 3, 1969, when the first platoon of Company M was ambushed by the North Vietnamese Army after returning from patrol. Intense automatic weapons fire and grenade attacks wounded the platoon's gunner and assistant gunner.

Acting as squad leader, Private Wilson put himself in between enemy fire and his men to retrieve the machine gun from the wounded marines so that his platoon could maintain a heavy volume of fire against the enemy.

When he reached the M-60 machine gun, a North Vietnamese soldier threw a grenade at him, landing between Private First Class Wilson and another

marine. Private First Class Wilson first fired a burst from his M-16 rifle, killing the enemy, and then shouted to his companion and, unhesitatingly, threw himself on the grenade, absorbing the full force of the explosion with his body.

Because of his selfless act of valor, his platoon members were able to give maximum effort to aggressively and successfully defeat the enemy.

On August 21, 1968, a regimental sized force of the North Vietnamese Army attacked Staff Sergeant Young's platoon while on a reconnaissance mission. Staff Sergeant Young assumed command of the platoon after the acting platoon leader was killed, organizing and deploying his men to repel the enemy force.

While wave after wave of the enemy attacked, he courageously moved from position to position, encouraging and directing fire at the North Vietnamese Army while exposing himself to enemy bullets.

When Staff Sergeant Young noticed that parts of his squad were unable to retreat, he fought his way to them, despite sustaining a critical head injury, so they could safely withdraw. While fighting with the squad as it fought its way to the rear, Staff Sergeant Young was seriously wounded in the arm and his leg was badly shattered.

Without wanting to slow the retreat of his squad, he refused assistance and ordered their withdrawal while providing protective cover until the enemy engulfed his position.

These two heroes sacrificed their lives for their fellow servicemembers and our freedom.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I, and a grateful Nation, owe a debt of gratitude to Private First Class Alfred "Mac" Wilson and Staff Sergeant Marvin "Rex" Young, and to their families and to their legacies.

I fully support the naming of the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Odessa, Texas, as the "Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic" so that we never forget their sacrifices.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill and urge our Senate colleagues to take up this bill without delay, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2334, a bill sponsored by Congressman MICHAEL CONAWAY of Texas. This bill would name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Odessa, Texas, the "Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic," after two Texas veterans who received the Medal of Honor for their heroic actions in the Vietnam war.

Private First Class Alfred "Mac" Wilson was a marine killed in action March 3, 1969, when he threw himself on a grenade to save his platoon mate during an enemy ambush.

Staff Sergeant Marvin "Rex" Young was a soldier who was killed in action on August 21, 1968, when he was fatally wounded while rescuing several of his fellow soldiers who had been pinned down by enemy fire.

Both of these men received posthumously the Medal of Honor, our country's highest tribute, for their actions.

Even these many years after their deaths, their memories live on as examples of true courage, selflessness, and love of country. I commend Congressman CONAWAY for introducing this bill in their honor.

This bill is supported by the entire Texas delegation, in both the House and the Senate, as well as by several veterans' service organizations throughout Texas.

Mr. Speaker, this is something very near and dear and personal to me. I am a Vietnam-era veteran myself. I remember, all too often, seeing these American heroes who never got to see their families, their children, or their grandchildren because of the sacrifice that they gave for this country: their life, the greatest sacrifice they could.

And we stand here in this great country, free, because of what these men did. And I hope that people in Odessa, Texas, take as much pride as I do. Tennessee and Texas have a great connection, as the Speaker knows, and I take great pride, in Tennessee, in having the privilege today to be on this floor debating this bill and bestowing this honor on these two heroes.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters from The American Legion, Department of Texas; from the DAV, Disabled American Veterans, Department of Texas; and the VFW, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, in support of Mr. CONAWAY's bill to name the clinic in Texas after these gentlemen.

THE AMERICAN LEGION,
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
Austin, TX, May 30, 2019.

Chairman MARK TAKANO,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
Washington, DC.

Ranking Member PHIL ROE,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER ROE: On the behalf of The American Legion, Department of Texas, I am honored to extend my support to the efforts of U.S. Representative K. Michael Conaway and the Members of Congress from Texas to rename the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Odessa, Texas to the "Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic".

As Medal of Honor recipients raised in Odessa, it is fitting that Alfred "Mac" Wilson and Marvin "Rex" Young be memorialized by naming a facility that serves their brothers and sisters in arms in their time of need. It is a testament to their bravery and

self-sacrifice. May it also be a reminder for us all to live up to their examples.

"For God and Country",

LLOYD BUCKMASTER,
State Commander.

Attest:

WILLIAM WEST,
State Adjutant.

DAV,
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
Lufkin, TX, April 24, 2019.

Chairman MARK TAKANO,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
Washington, DC.

Ranking Member PHIL ROE,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER ROE: On the behalf of the Disabled American Veterans, Department of Texas, I am honored to extend my support to the efforts of U.S. Representative K. Michael Conaway and the Members of Congress from Texas to rename the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Odessa, Texas to the "Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic".

As Medal of honor recipients raised in Odessa, it is fitting that Allied "Mac" Wilson and Marvin "Rex" Young be memorialized by naming a facility that serves their brothers and sisters in arms in their time of need. It is a testament to their bravery and self-sacrifice. May it also be a reminder for us all to live up to their examples.

Sincerely,

TERESA JOHNIKEN,
Adjutant/Treasurer.

VETERNS OF FOREIGN WARS,
Austin, TX, June 5, 2019.

Chairman MARK TAKANO,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
Washington, DC.

Ranking Member PHIL ROE,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER ROE: On the behalf of the Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars, I am honored to extend my support to the efforts of U.S. Representative K. Michael Conaway and the Members of Congress from Texas to rename the Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic in Odessa, Texas to the "Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic".

As Medal of Honor recipients raised in Odessa, it is fitting that Alfred "Mac" Wilson and Marvin "Rex" Young be memorialized by naming a facility that serves their brothers and sisters in arms in their time of need. It is a testament to their bravery and self-sacrifice. May it also be a reminder for us all to live up to their examples.

Sincerely,

INGEBORG A. CONLEY,
State Commander.

Attest:

DAN WEST,
State Adjutant/Quartermaster.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers and am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY), my good friend from Texas' 11th District, the former chairman of the Agriculture Committee and now ranking member, who also serves on the Intelligence Committee, to honor these two great heroes.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I want to specifically thank Chairman TAKANO

and Ranking Member ROE for bringing this bill to the floor and allowing this much-deserved recognition of two young heroes from Odessa, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the official citations from each of the awards of the Medal of Honor to Alfred "Mac" Wilson and Rex Young.

WILSON, ALFRED M.

Rank: Private First Class Organization: U.S. Marine Corps

Company: Company M, 3d Battalion Division: 9th Marines, 3d Marine Division

Born: 13 January 1948, Olney, Ill. Departed: Yes

Place/Date: Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam, 3 March 1969

CITATION

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a rifleman with Company M in action against hostile forces. While returning from a reconnaissance-in-force mission in the vicinity of Fire Support Base Cunningham, the 1st Platoon of Company M came under intense automatic weapons fire and a grenade attack from a well concealed enemy force. As the center of the column was pinned down, the leading squad moved to outflank the enemy. Pfc. Wilson, acting as squad leader of the rear squad, skillfully maneuvered his men to form a base of fire and act as a blocking force. In the ensuing fire fight, both his machine gunner and assistant machine gunner were seriously wounded and unable to operate their weapons. Realizing the urgent need to bring the weapon into operation again, Pfc. Wilson, followed by another marine and with complete disregard for his safety, fearlessly dashed across the fire-swept terrain to recover the weapon. As they reached the machinegun, an enemy soldier stepped from behind a tree and threw a grenade toward the 2 marines. Observing the grenade fall between himself and the other marine, Pfc. Wilson, fully realizing the inevitable result of his actions, shouted to his companion and unhesitatingly threw himself on the grenade, absorbing the full force of the explosion with his own body. His heroic actions inspired his platoon members to maximum effort as they aggressively attacked and defeated the enemy. Pfc. Wilson's indomitable courage, inspiring valor and selfless devotion to duty upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

YOUNG, MARVIN R.

Rank: Staff Sergeant Organization: U.S. Army

Company: Company C, 1st Battalion Division: 5th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division

Born: 11 May 1947, Alpine, Tex. Departed: Yes Place/Date: Near Ben Cui, Republic of Vietnam, 21 August 1968

CITATION

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. S/Sgt. Young distinguished himself at the cost of his life while serving as a squad leader with Company C. While conducting a reconnaissance mission in the vicinity of Ben Cui, Company C was suddenly engaged by an estimated regimental-size force of the North Vietnamese Army. During the initial volley of fire the point element of the 1st Platoon was pinned down, sustaining several casualties, and the acting platoon leader was killed. S/Sgt. Young unhesitatingly assumed command of the platoon and began to organize and deploy his men into a defensive position in order to repel the attacking force. As a human wave

attack advanced on S/Sgt. Young's platoon, he moved from position to position, encouraging and directing fire on the hostile insurgents while exposing himself to the hail of enemy bullets. After receiving orders to withdraw to a better defensive position, he remained behind to provide covering fire for the withdrawal. Observing that a small element of the point squad was unable to extract itself from its position, and completely disregarding his personal safety, S/Sgt. Young began moving toward their position, firing as he maneuvered. When halfway to their position he sustained a critical head injury, yet he continued his mission and ordered the element to withdraw. Remaining with the squad as it fought its way to the rear, he was twice seriously wounded in the arm and leg. Although his leg was badly shattered, S/Sgt. Young refused assistance that would have slowed the retreat of his comrades, and he ordered them to continue their withdrawal while he provided protective covering fire. With indomitable courage and heroic self-sacrifice, he continued his self-assigned mission until the enemy force engulfed his position. By his gallantry at the cost of his life are in the highest traditions of the military service, S/Sgt. Young has reflected great credit upon himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, both our previous speakers have described the last days that Mac and Rex spent on this Earth.

I had the privilege of going to high school with Rex. He was a year older than I. Rex and I played on the football team together. Rex was a really good baseball player.

I did not have the privilege of knowing Mac. He went to our across-town rival. He was also a wonderful young man.

Mr. Speaker, I want to specifically thank all of those men and women in Odessa, Texas, who, for years now, have attempted and worked really hard at maintaining the memory of Mac and Rex in our communities. They have done great work, and, without their support and efforts, I don't know if we would have gotten this done as well.

Odessa, Texas, at that point in time, in the late sixties, was a town of about 80,000 or so folks. Medal of Honor recipients are really rare, and to have two of them come from one west Texas town is a high honor.

Both these men embody the west Texas values of selflessness, courage, and devotion to one's country, and their gallant sacrifices serve as a somber reminder to all of us of the price that some have paid to secure our freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, on Memorial Day every year we honor all of our servicemen and -women who have given that ultimate sacrifice on the altar of freedom, as we should.

When I give speeches and talk to folks back home during that time frame, I ask people to make it personal. We talk about them as a group, and it loses some of the punch, some of the impact, so I ask my folks back home to find somebody specifically who gave that sacrifice and made that sacrifice and to think about them on that day. For me, every year, it is Rex.

The VA clinic there in Odessa, Texas, will now bear both their names, and all of those untold numbers of current vets and future vets who will walk through those doors and receive the care that they have earned from their service to our Nation will see those two names and will know that two of their own were honored appropriately by having that VA clinic named after them.

I want to thank the hospital in Odessa, Texas, which actually owns the building, for allowing us to do that, and I thank the VA system itself for working so hard to get this done. I am looking forward to the ceremony that we will conduct.

I also want to thank Senators CRUZ and CORNYN in the Senate for introducing the companion legislation in the Senate so that we can get that done over there and then move to appropriately honor two of America's finest, two young men who woke up one morning, their last day on Earth, and then went out and did something stunningly heroic. I don't know that they necessarily knew that day they were going to do it, but they did it, and they have earned this medal and they have earned this recognition and our deep, lasting gratitude for their sacrifices.

□ 1715

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

Let me say how much I appreciate this legislation from the gentleman from Texas. Reading through the medal citations, it was certainly very moving. I found myself even finding my voice very halting as I read through it with my staff. I see that the gentleman still, today, remembers his friend with great memories. He was a great ballplayer.

It is always poignant to take note of young servicemembers who give their lives for our country, and we certainly want to join together, on a bipartisan basis, as a Nation, to express our gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 2334, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I will associate myself with the remarks of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY). I know he misses his friend.

It is a true privilege to be here today to be able to honor this clinic in Odessa, Texas.

I encourage all Members to support H.R. 2334, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 2334, honoring Staff Sergeant Marvin "Rex" Young and Private First Class Alfred "Mac" Wilson, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2334.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOMELESS VETERAN FAMILIES ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 95) to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that children of homeless veterans are included in the calculation of the amounts of certain per diem grants.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 95

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Homeless Veteran Families Act".

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF CALCULATION OF AMOUNTS OF PER DIEM GRANTS.

Section 2012(a)(2)(B) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by inserting "or (iii)" after "clause (ii)"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new clause:

"(iii) With respect to a homeless veteran who has care of a minor dependent while receiving services from the grant recipient or eligible entity, the daily cost of care shall be the sum of the daily cost of care determined under subparagraph (A) plus, for each such minor dependent, an amount that equals 50 percent of such daily cost of care."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID P. ROE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 95.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 95, the Homeless Veteran Families Act.

H.R. 95 was introduced by Representative JULIA BROWNLEY, chair of the Subcommittee on Health and a tireless advocate for women veterans and their children.

This bill would ensure that children of homeless veterans are included in the calculation of per diem grants to organizations supporting homeless veterans and their families. By including children in this calculation, homeless veterans and their children will receive much-needed housing and supportive

services, which will reduce the rate of homelessness among the veteran population.

Mr. Speaker, since 1994, VA's homeless grant and per diem program has provided homeless veterans with community-based transitional housing and supportive services. The grant per diem program annually offers funding to community agencies that provide supportive services to homeless veterans. It promotes the development and provision of supportive housing and supportive services, with the goal of helping homeless veterans achieve residential stability, increase their skill levels and income, and obtain greater self-determination.

However, many homeless veterans with children are unable to obtain transitional housing and support assistance through the program because providers only receive payments from VA for the veteran, not their dependent children. Many housing providers have been unable to house homeless veterans who are accompanied by their dependent children without additional financial support.

Mr. Speaker, current law limits VA's authority to reimburse the additional costs associated with sheltering the dependent children of homeless veterans, which has resulted in many grant per diem service providers not accepting homeless veterans with dependent children.

This has resulted in a lack of access to supportive housing and services for veterans with children, as these veterans are forced to choose between receipt of housing assistance and supportive services and caring for their children. This is especially true for many women veterans who have children and who are also homeless.

This legislation would authorize VA to pay a partial per diem to grant per diem service providers supporting our Nation's homeless veterans with children. For each child accompanying a homeless veteran, the service provider would receive per diem at a 50 percent rate for each child.

This committee is committed to addressing and ending homelessness, and this legislation is one step toward this end.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, Economic Opportunity Subcommittee Chairman LEVIN and Ranking Member BILIRAKIS held two field hearings in San Diego, California, and Tampa, Florida, to learn more about how VA can better coordinate with local organizations to end veteran homelessness. This bill is the first of many solutions, some of which have been identified from these bipartisan hearings of the Economic Opportunity Subcommittee.

The full committee will continue to work together to find bipartisan solutions to end veteran homelessness. H.R. 95 has 301 cosponsors, which demonstrates this Chamber's commitment to ending veteran homelessness and to working together to improve the lives of the veterans we represent.

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

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 95, the Homeless Veteran Families Act. This bill would amend the Department of Veterans Affairs Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program to provide payments to GPD providers for the services they provide to the children of homeless veterans.

Mr. Speaker, while VA and other partners have been very successful in decreasing the number of homeless veterans in the country by almost 50 percent since 2010, we still have an unacceptable number of veterans on the streets every night.

The GPD program is a tool in VA's arsenal to help community organizations provide services to homeless veterans by reimbursing them for providing temporary housing and supportive services that promote health and self-sufficiency among homeless veterans.

However, under current rules, community partners are not authorized funding for providing services and shelter to the dependents of the homeless veterans who they serve. This forces these organizations to make a difficult choice of turning away homeless veterans with children or finding another source of funding to provide services for them.

H.R. 95 would address this issue by amending current law to authorize grant and per diem payments for the children of homeless veterans at half the amount paid for each homeless veteran.

While I have some concerns about using medical care dollars to provide these services, as they may detract from the already limited resources available for providing services for homeless veterans themselves, I am not going to oppose this approach today. I want what is best for our veterans, and if this change helps community partners provide the services they need to homeless veteran families, then it is worthy of our support.

I thank the gentlewoman from California, my friend, Congresswoman JULIA BROWNLEY, for sponsoring this bill, which has my full support, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BROWNLEY), my good friend, the chairwoman of the Health Subcommittee, and the author of this bill.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding this afternoon, and I thank the ranking member of the committee for his support of a very, very important bill for our veterans, the Homeless Veteran Families Act.

As a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I believe that it is absolutely critical that veterans and their families receive the housing support they need simply to get back on their feet.

Since 1994, the VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program has provided homeless veterans with community-based transitional housing and supportive services. This program funds community agencies that provide such services to homeless veterans.

In fiscal year 2017 alone, the VA funded 600 community sites that provided housing to more than 23,000 veterans through the use of over 12,000 transitional housing beds nationwide.

Unfortunately, many homeless veterans with children are unable to obtain transitional housing and the support assistance they need under the homeless grant program because housing providers only receive payments from the VA for the veteran but not for any minor dependents with their families.

Because housing a family requires more resources and beds, many housing providers have been unable to house homeless families without additional financial support. This problem has resulted in the lack of access to very needed supportive housing and services for veterans with children because the veteran is forced to choose between getting their own housing assistance and services or caring for their minor dependent child or children.

The VA has previously stated that approximately 8 percent of veterans who entered grant per diem housing programs, and who had a full assessment completed within 30 days prior to admission, had either full or partial legal custody of their children. This was estimated to be 2,500 children in fiscal year 2017.

No veteran should be forced to choose between housing and much-needed services or caring for their children. However, current law limits the VA's authority to reimburse housing providers for the additional costs associated with sheltering the dependent children of our homeless veterans.

My bill, which we are voting on today, would provide for a partial per diem for each minor child who is receiving services through this program. This partial per diem would be an amount equal to 50 percent of the daily cost of care. This would ensure that veterans and their children are able to obtain the housing and services needed to help them achieve residential stability; give them the opportunity to increase their skill level and income; and, ultimately, obtain greater self-determination and self-worth.

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

Mr. TAKANO. I yield the gentlewoman from California an additional 1 minute.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, providing housing to our Nation's homeless veterans is an essential first step and critical to everything in a veteran's life, including getting the healthcare they have earned, taking advantage of veteran education benefits, getting a job, and having the quality of life they have earned and de-

served—and what our country has promised.

Passage of this legislation will benefit veterans of all eras and their minor children who are struggling and suffering with homelessness.

My bill has over 300 cosponsors, which is indicative of the bipartisan support for addressing this important and time-sensitive issue. I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation, and I thank the chairman for bringing my bill to the floor.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN). She was a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee and a very passionate supporter of our veterans.

After the hurricanes in Puerto Rico, she was kind enough to invite me. I saw her passion. We went through the VA hospital together, the outpatient clinics. I don't believe anyone in this Congress has more care for our veterans than her.

□ 1730

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend for allowing me to speak and for his visit. And actually, that was the first time ever the Veterans' Affairs Committee had a hearing in Puerto Rico in more than 100 years. So we got two chairmen in Puerto Rico in the last 2 years, and I am happy to say that Mr. ROE and Mr. TAKANO were there this year.

And actually I have got good news. Finally, we got the money assigned for the new clinic in Arecibo and the new clinic in Ponce after that visit. So that is real good news. And we just received a VA deputy last week, and they are talking about expanding the services of the hospital, which is good.

Today I rise in full support of H.R. 95, the Homeless Veteran Families Act introduced by my colleague JULIA BROWNLEY of California.

Homelessness is, unfortunately, one of the challenges many of our veterans face upon separating from the Armed Forces. Consequently, the Department of Veterans Affairs has made ending homelessness part of their core mission.

Initiatives like the Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, which funds community agencies that provide services to homeless veterans, facilitates tackling these problems head-on.

H.R. 95 builds upon this program by authorizing the Department of Veterans Affairs to pay partial per diem for children who are under the care of a homeless veteran. We need to keep in mind that homelessness can affect our veterans at any point, impacting not only their lives, but the lives of their children.

Recent estimates indicate that there are close to 82 homeless veterans in Puerto Rico, and we need to take this personally because they just can't

move to another state. With us living on an island, we have got to have our community being served, and a program like Homeless Providers Grant and the Per Diem Program will help us lower this number to zero and will counter the inability of providers of these services to turn down helping a veteran because he or she has children under their care.

And I think that is the most important thing about this bill. It is not only the veteran themselves that suffers, it is the family that suffers with him or with her, and that is the reason I am a proud cosponsor of this bill.

I commend Congresswoman BROWNLEY for her leadership on this issue, and, of course, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill. I think it is important to recognize that we all need to take care of these kinds of issues.

I thank Congressman ROE and Chairman TAKANO for visiting the island this year. I think this is the first time ever that Puerto Rico has received visits from two chairmen, and that means something for the more than 105,000 veterans registered on the island.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I think this is a great bill. Homelessness is a huge problem in this country, and keeping our families together is a huge problem in this country. This, I think, will be some of the best money that we ever spend, if we can keep these families together. If a veteran is out there with their spouse and they are trying the best they can, they need these resources so they can keep that family unit together.

This bill should go through the House and the Senate unanimously. I think it will, and with over 300 cosponsors, I feel like it will.

I want to thank Congresswoman BROWNLEY, who is a tireless supporter of veterans on the Veterans' Affairs Committee. I thank her for bringing this up, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill, H.R. 95.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I certainly also want to congratulate and thank Congresswoman BROWNLEY, the Chair of our Health Subcommittee, for bringing this legislation forward. And I also want to also express my gratitude to Ranking Member ROE, former Chairman ROE. We both made a commitment to the territory of Puerto Rico, and we want the people of Puerto Rico to know that on a bipartisan basis the Veterans' Affairs Committee cares about the service and the benefits that are owed to the veterans of Puerto Rico.

So I urge all of my colleagues to pass H.R. 95, which addresses a critical need for veterans that have children and who are in need of housing to prevent them from being homeless. I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 95, the "Homeless Veteran Families Act."

H.R. 95 updates the Department of Veterans Affairs per diem payment calculation for entities furnishing services to homeless veterans to include funding for a minor dependent.

The rate for per diem payments is the daily cost of care as estimated by the grant recipient or eligible entity.

This bill would expand the per diem payment amount for a homeless veteran who has care of a minor dependent to the daily cost of care, plus, for each minor dependent, an amount that equals 50 percent of such daily cost of care.

This bill is an intrinsic part of a much greater national movement to recognize the transitional needs of all Veterans and their families nationwide.

Our Veterans are America's indispensable asset; their dedication to the United States Military and protecting the lives of the American people is to be commended.

Lack of access to childcare presents a unique safety hazard to homeless veterans' families, and puts a unique pressure on the shelters and facilities in Houston.

Less than 3 percent of Veterans experiencing homelessness (2.9 percent) were in families with children.

Veteran women experiencing homelessness are more likely to be a part of a family with children, compared to Veteran men.

Because of a lack of affordable health treatment and job prospects, veterans represent about 12 percent of America's homeless population, and approximately 50,000 veterans are homeless each night.

This bill will allow homeless veterans with children to receive enhanced child care services.

When enacted, H.R. 95 will alleviate the financial burdens homeless veterans experience with child care and assist them to transition into the workforce.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 95 to expand resources for homeless veterans with children.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 95.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SIGNIFICANT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS CENTERED IN COLOMBIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-74)

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 before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond October 21, 2019.

The circumstances that led to the declaration on October 21, 1995, of a national emergency continue to exist. The actions of significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States and to cause an extreme level of violence, corruption, and harm in the United States and abroad. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12978 with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 15, 2019.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

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

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1815, SEC DISCLOSURE EFFECTIVENESS TESTING ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3624, OUTSOURCING ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2019

Mr. DESAULNIER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-237) on the resolution (H. Res. 629) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1815) to require the Securities and Exchange Commission, when developing rules and regulations about disclosures to retail investors, to conduct investor testing, including a survey and interviews of retail investors, and for other purposes,

and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3624) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the disclosure of the total number of domestic and foreign employees of certain public companies, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

- H.R. 2385; and
- H.R. 95.

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

ESTABLISHING A GRANT PROGRAM FOR CEMETERY RESEARCH AND PRODUCING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2385) to permit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program to conduct cemetery research and produce educational materials for the Veterans Legacy Program, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 409, nays 1, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 556]

YEAS—409

Abraham	Boyle, Brendan	Chu, Judy
Adams	F.	Cicilline
Aderholt	Brady	Cisneros
Aguilar	Brindisi	Clark (MA)
Allen	Brooks (AL)	Clarke (NY)
Allred	Brooks (IN)	Clay
Amodei	Brown (MD)	Cleaver
Armstrong	Brownley (CA)	Cline
Arrington	Buchanan	Cloud
Axne	Buck	Clyburn
Babin	Bucshon	Cohen
Bacon	Budd	Cole
Baird	Burchett	Collins (GA)
Balderson	Burgess	Comer
Banks	Bustos	Conaway
Barr	Butterfield	Connolly
Barragán	Byrne	Cook
Bass	Calvert	Cooper
Bera	Carbajal	Correa
Bergman	Cárdenas	Costa
Beyer	Carson (IN)	Courtney
Biggs	Carter (GA)	Cox (CA)
Bilirakis	Carter (TX)	Craig
Bishop (GA)	Cartwright	Crawford
Bishop (UT)	Case	Crenshaw
Blumenauer	Casten (IL)	Crist
Blunt Rochester	Castor (FL)	Crow
Bonamici	Chabot	Cuellar
Bost	Cheney	Cunningham

Curtis
 Davids (KS)
 Davidson (OH)
 Davis (CA)
 Davis, Danny K.
 Davis, Rodney
 Dean
 DeFazio
 DeGette
 DeLauro
 DelBene
 Delgado
 Demings
 DeSaulnier
 DesJarlais
 Deutch
 Diaz-Balart
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Doyle, Michael F.
 Duncan
 Dunn
 Emmer
 Engel
 Escobar
 Eshoo
 Espaillat
 Estes
 Evans
 Ferguson
 Finkenauer
 Fitzpatrick
 Fleischmann
 Fletcher
 Flores
 Fortenberry
 Foster
 Foxx (NC)
 Frankel
 Fudge
 Fulcher
 Gaetz
 Gallagher
 Garamendi
 Garcia (IL)
 Garcia (TX)
 Gianforte
 Gibbs
 Gohmert
 Golden
 Gomez
 Gonzalez (OH)
 Gooden
 Gosar
 Gottheimer
 Granger
 Graves (GA)
 Graves (LA)
 Graves (MO)
 Green (TN)
 Green, Al (TX)
 Griffith
 Grothman
 Guest
 Guthrie
 Hagedorn
 Harder (CA)
 Harris
 Hartzler
 Hastings
 Hayes
 Heck
 Herr, Kevin
 Herrera Beutler
 Hice (GA)
 Higgins (NY)
 Hill (AR)
 Hill (CA)
 Himes
 Holding
 Hollingsworth
 Horn, Kendra S.
 Horsford
 Houlihan
 Hoyer
 Hudson
 Huffman
 Huizenga
 Hunter
 Hurd (TX)
 Jackson Lee
 Jayapal
 Jeffries
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson (LA)
 Johnson (OH)
 Johnson (SD)
 Johnson (TX)

Jordan
 Joyce (OH)
 Joyce (PA)
 Kaptur
 Katko
 Keating
 Keller
 Kelly (IL)
 Kelly (MS)
 Kelly (PA)
 Kennedy
 Khanna
 Kildee
 Kilmer
 Kim
 Kind
 King (IA)
 King (NY)
 Kinzinger
 Kirkpatrick
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kuster (NH)
 Kustoff (TN)
 LaHood
 LaMalfa
 Lamb
 Lamborn
 Langevin
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latta
 Lawrence
 Lee (CA)
 Lee (NV)
 Lesko
 Levin (CA)
 Levin (MI)
 Lewis
 Lieu, Ted
 Lipinski
 Loeb sack
 Lofgren
 Long
 Loudermilk
 Lowenthal
 Lowey
 Lucas
 Luetkemeyer
 Lujan
 Luján
 Maloney,
 Carolyn B.
 Maloney, Sean
 Marshall
 Massie
 Mast
 Matsui
 McAdams
 McBath
 McCarthy
 McCaul
 McClintock
 McCollum
 McGovern
 McHenry
 McKinley
 McNerney
 Meadows
 Meng
 Meuser
 Miller
 Mitchell
 Moolenaar
 Mooney (WV)
 Moore
 Morelle
 Moulton
 Mucarsel-Powell
 Mullin
 Murphy (FL)
 Murphy (NC)
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal
 Neguse
 Newhouse
 Norcross
 Norman
 Nunes
 O'Halleran
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Olson
 Palazzo
 Pallone
 Palmer
 Panetta
 Pappas

Pascarell
 Payne
 Pence
 Perlmutter
 Perry
 Peters
 Peterson
 Phillips
 Pocan
 Porter
 Posey
 Pressley
 Price (NC)
 Quigley
 Raskin
 Ratcliffe
 Reed
 Reschenthaler
 Rice (NY)
 Rice (SC)
 Richmond
 Riggleman
 Rodgers (WA)
 Roe, David P.
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rose (NY)
 Rose, John W.
 Rouda
 Rouzer
 Roy
 Ruiz
 Ruppersberger
 Rush
 Rutherford
 Sánchez
 Sarbanes
 Scalise
 Scanlon
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schneider
 Schrader
 Schrier
 Schweikert
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, Austin
 Scott, David
 Sensenbrenner
 Serrano
 Sewell (AL)
 Shalala
 Sherman
 Sherrill
 Shimkus
 Simpson
 Sires
 Slotkin
 Smith (MO)
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (WA)
 Smucker
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Spano
 Speier
 Stanton
 Stauber
 Stefanik
 Steil
 Steube
 Stevens
 Stewart
 Stivers
 Suozzi
 Swalwell (CA)
 Takano
 Taylor
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (PA)
 Thornberry
 Timmons
 Tipton
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres Small
 (NM)
 Trone
 Turner
 Underwood
 Upton
 Van Drew
 Vargas
 Veasey
 Vela
 Velázquez

Visclosky
 Wagner
 Walberg
 Walden
 Walker
 Walorski
 Waltz
 Wasserman
 Schults
 Waters

Watkins
 Watson Coleman
 Weber (TX)
 Webster (FL)
 Welch
 Wenstrup
 Westerman
 Wexton
 Wild
 Williams

Wilson (FL)
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Woodall
 Wright
 Yarmuth
 Yoho
 Young
 Zeldin

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 408, nays 0, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 557]

YEAS—408

Abraham
 Adams
 Aderholt
 Aguilar
 Allen
 Allred
 Amash
 Amodei
 Armstrong
 Arrington
 Axne
 Babin
 Bacon
 Baird
 Balderson
 Banks
 Barr
 Barragán
 Bass
 Bera
 Bergman
 Beyer
 Biggs
 Bilirakis
 Bishop (GA)
 Bishop (UT)
 Blumenauer
 Blunt Rochester
 Bonamici
 Bost
 Boyle, Brendan F.
 Brady
 Brindisi
 Brooks (AL)
 Brooks (IN)
 Brown (MD)
 Brownley (CA)
 Buchanan
 Buck
 Bucshon
 Budd
 Burchett
 Burgess
 Bustos
 Butterfield
 Byrne
 Calvert
 Carbajal
 Cárdenas
 Carson (IN)
 Carter (GA)
 Carter (TX)
 Cartwright
 Case
 Casten (IL)
 Castor (FL)
 Chabot
 Cheney
 Chu, Judy
 Cicilline
 Cisneros
 Clark (MA)
 Clarke (NY)
 Clay
 Cleaver
 Cline
 Cloud
 Clyburn
 Cohen
 Cole
 Collins (GA)
 Comer
 Conaway
 Connolly
 Cook
 Cooper
 Correa
 Costa
 Courtney
 Cox (CA)
 Craig
 Crawford
 Crenshaw
 Crist
 Crow
 Cuellar
 Cunningham
 Curtis
 Davids (KS)
 Davidson (OH)

Davis (CA)
 Davis, Danny K.
 Davis, Rodney
 Dean
 DeFazio
 DeGette
 DeLauro
 DelBene
 Delgado
 Demings
 DeSaulnier
 DesJarlais
 Deutch
 Diaz-Balart
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Doyle, Michael F.
 Duncan
 Dunn
 Emmer
 Engel
 Escobar
 Eshoo
 Espaillat
 Estes
 Evans
 Ferguson
 Finkenauer
 LaHood
 Fitzpatrick
 Fleischmann
 Fletcher
 Flores
 Fortenberry
 Foster
 Foxx (NC)
 Frankel
 Fudge
 Fulcher
 Gaetz
 Gallagher
 Garamendi
 Garcia (IL)
 Garcia (TX)
 Gianforte
 Gibbs
 Gohmert
 Golden
 Gomez
 Gonzalez (OH)
 Gooden
 Gosar
 Gottheimer
 Granger
 Graves (GA)
 Graves (LA)
 Graves (MO)
 Green (TN)
 Green, Al (TX)
 Griffith
 Grothman
 Guest
 Guthrie
 Hagedorn
 Harder (CA)
 Harris
 Hartzler
 Hastings
 Hayes
 Heck
 Herr, Kevin
 Herrera Beutler
 Hice (GA)
 Higgins (NY)
 Hill (AR)
 Hill (CA)
 Himes
 Holding
 Hollingsworth
 Horn, Kendra S.
 Horsford
 Houlihan
 Hoyer
 Hudson
 Huffman
 Huizenga
 Hunter
 Hurd (TX)
 Jackson Lee
 Jayapal
 Jeffries

Johnson (GA)
 Johnson (LA)
 Johnson (OH)
 Johnson (SD)
 Johnson (TX)
 Jordan
 Joyce (OH)
 Joyce (PA)
 Kaptur
 Katko
 Keating
 Keller
 Kelly (IL)
 Kelly (MS)
 Kelly (PA)
 Kennedy
 Khanna
 Kildee
 Kilmer
 Kim
 Kind
 King (IA)
 King (NY)
 Kinzinger
 Kirkpatrick
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kuster (NH)
 Kustoff (TN)
 LaHood
 LaMalfa
 Lamb
 Lamborn
 Langevin
 Larson (CT)
 Latta
 Lawrence
 Lee (CA)
 Lee (NV)
 Lesko
 Levin (CA)
 Levin (MI)
 Lewis
 Lieu, Ted
 Lipinski
 Loeb sack
 Lofgren
 Long
 Loudermilk
 Lowenthal
 Lowey
 Lucas
 Luetkemeyer
 Lujan
 Luján
 Maloney,
 Carolyn B.
 Maloney, Sean
 Marshall
 Massie
 Mast
 Matsui
 McAdams
 McBath
 McCarthy
 McCaul
 McClintock
 McCollum
 McGovern
 McHenry
 McKinley
 McNerney
 Meadows
 Meng
 Meuser
 Miller
 Mitchell
 Moolenaar
 Mooney (WV)
 Moore
 Morelle
 Moulton
 Mucarsel-Powell
 Mullin
 Murphy (FL)
 Murphy (NC)
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal
 Neguse

NAYS—1

Amash
 NOT VOTING—22

Beatty
 Bishop (NC)
 Castro (TX)
 Cummings
 Gabbard
 Gallego
 Gonzalez (TX)
 Grijalva
 Haaland
 Higgins (LA)
 Lawson (FL)
 Marchant
 McEachin
 Meeks
 Omar
 Pingree

□ 1900

Messrs. STEUBE and CRIST changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, only three times in the history of our country has the House moved forward with an impeachment process. Currently, Madam Speaker, in all three of those cases, the House has taken an actual vote to start the process.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is not stating a proper parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, my parliamentary inquiry is this: Has the House been authorized to conduct an impeachment inquiry into President Trump?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is not stating a proper parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, we ought to know the answer to that question.

HOMELESS VETERAN FAMILIES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 95) to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that children of homeless veterans are included in the calculation of the amounts of certain per diem grants, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

Newhouse	Sánchez	Tipton
Norcross	Sarbanes	Titus
Norman	Scalise	Tlaib
Nunes	Scanlon	Tonko
O'Halleran	Schakowsky	Torres (CA)
Ocasio-Cortez	Schneider	Torres Small (NM)
Olson	Schrader	Trone
Omar	Schrier	Turner
Palazzo	Schweikert	Underwood
Pallone	Scott (VA)	Upton
Palmer	Scott, Austin	Van Drew
Panetta	Scott, David	Vargas
Pappas	Sensenbrenner	Veasey
Payne	Serrano	Vela
Pence	Sewell (AL)	Velázquez
Perlmutter	Shalala	Visclosky
Perry	Sherman	Wagner
Peters	Sherrill	Walberg
Peterson	Shimkus	Walden
Phillips	Simpson	Walker
Pocan	Sires	Walorski
Porter	Slotkin	Waltz
Posey	Smith (MO)	Wasserman
Pressley	Smith (NE)	Schultz
Price (NC)	Smith (NJ)	Waters
Quigley	Smith (WA)	Watkins
Raskin	Smucker	Watson Coleman
Ratcliffe	Soto	Weber (TX)
Reed	Spanberger	Webster (FL)
Reschenthaler	Spano	Welch
Rice (NY)	Speier	Wenstrup
Rice (SC)	Stanton	Westerman
Richmond	Stauber	Wexton
Riggleman	Stefanik	Wild
Rodgers (WA)	Steil	Williams
Roe, David P.	Steube	Wilson (FL)
Rogers (AL)	Stevens	Wilson (SC)
Rogers (KY)	Stewart	Wittman
Rose (NY)	Stivers	Womack
Rose, John W.	Suozzi	Woodall
Rouda	Swalwell (CA)	Wright
Rouzer	Takano	Yarmuth
Roy	Taylor	Yoho
Ruiz	Thompson (CA)	Young
Ruppersberger	Thompson (PA)	Zeldin
Rush	Thornberry	
Rutherford	Timmons	

NOT VOTING—24

Beatty	Haaland	Pingree
Bishop (NC)	Higgins (LA)	Roby
Castro (TX)	Larsen (WA)	Rooney (FL)
Cummings	Lawson (FL)	Roybal-Allard
Gabbard	Marchant	Ryan
Gallego	McEachin	Schiff
Gonzalez (TX)	Meeks	Thompson (MS)
Grijalva	Pascrell	Trahan

□ 1911

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 557.

□ 1915

MESOTHELIOMA AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment to discuss mesothelioma.

Mesothelioma is generally a cancer of the lungs. Most cases come from exposure to asbestos, a popular fireproofing material used in homes and buildings in the mid-20th century. It is a deadly disease. Ninety percent of patients die within 5 years.

My home State of New Jersey ranks fifth nationally in mesothelioma deaths.

Yet, it is one of the only cancers without a patient registry. A registry would allow researchers to study patients, look for common conditions, and create new cures to help them live longer lives.

Our bill, the Mary Jo Lawyer Spano Mesothelioma Patient Registry Act, would provide funding to do just that. We need to pass this bill so we can truly research this deadly disease and provide more hope for these patients.

CONGRATULATING DR. PATRICK E.T. GODBEY

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Pat Godbey, who was sworn in as the president of the American College of Pathologists on September 18.

The college's 36th president, Dr. Godbey has been active with the organization for the last 25 years, serving on numerous committees and councils. His election is an extraordinary honor, with the College of American Pathologists being the world's largest association of board-certified pathologists.

As president, Dr. Godbey will be tasked with continuing their commitment to creating accountable, high-quality, and cost-effective patient care.

I know that he is up to the task. He has already served a 2-year term as president and maintains an exceptional track record as director of the Southeast Georgia Health System in the First Congressional District of Georgia.

Congratulations on your election, Dr. Godbey. Keep up the good work.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Madam Speaker, since St. Augustine, Florida, was founded as the first permanent settlement in 1565, the Hispanic and Latino communities have laid the foundations of the prosperous country we are all proud to call home.

Last Friday, October 11, I had the privilege to honor several south Florida leaders for their contributions.

Christina Campos is a Mexican-American mother of two who was raised in Homestead and now serves as Homestead Senior High School's community liaison.

Dr. Guilarte immigrated to the United States from Cuba when he was 10. He is a respected scientist and educator who became the dean of the FIU College of Public Health.

The Mexican-American Council's Homestead Mariachi Conservatory was recognized as Florida's premier mariachi music school for children.

Maria Nardi leads the Nation's third-largest accredited park system in the country, providing welcoming environments for all families in Florida.

On this final day of National Hispanic Heritage Month, let's remember that for many Americans across all parts of our country, Hispanic heritage is celebrated as something that we live every day.

RECOGNIZING FORSYTH COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL FOR NATIONAL ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION SAFE SCHOOL SPORTS AWARD

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

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Forsyth Country Day School in Lewisville, North Carolina, on receiving the National Athletic Trainers' Association Safe Schools Sports Award. This honor is given to academic institutions that demonstrate excellence in prioritizing safe athletic programs that keep students injury-free.

Students' health and safety should always come first. However, often in our culture, health and safety take a back seat when students face high pressure to compete and perform. Such risks are counterproductive to the personal growth that schools like Forsyth Country Day School strive to foster through their athletic programs.

I applaud Forsyth Country Day School on its authentic dedication to students' development through athletics. I commend its administrators, faculty, and coaches for earning this prestigious award.

SUPPORT THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, the dedication of the World War II Memorial in 2004 on our National Mall culminated a 17-year effort in Congress to construct the first national memorial dedicated to the 16 million Americans who served in the Armed Forces during World War II and the more than 400,000 who gave their lives. It honors the 20th century's greatest accomplishment, the victory of liberty over tyranny.

As the Representative who introduced the original legislation to construct the memorial, I rise tonight in support of the National World War II Commemorative Coin Act.

This bipartisan piece of legislation, which I am honored to introduce alongside my friend and colleague Representative PETER KING from New York, authorizes the U.S. Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The coin will serve as an important emblem of the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the brave Americans who fought to defend our great Nation and its democratic allies and to advance peace and freedom throughout the world.

I ask all of my colleagues to look at our bill, and I urge them to support this legislation.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month and to celebrate the many contributions Hispanic Americans have made to our Nation.

From the founding of St. Augustine to the Battle of Yorktown to the fight for school integration, Hispanic Americans have served as vital cornerstones in the construction of our Republic.

The State of Florida also has a rich history of strong Hispanic influence. In fact, Juan Ponce de Leon, who led the first Spanish expedition to Florida, went on to serve as Puerto Rico's first Governor.

To this day, our communities proudly have a strong Hispanic representation, with 23 percent of my district having a Hispanic or Latino heritage.

Hispanic organizations play vital roles in our community. The Club Hispano de Lakeland hosts the Lakeland Hispanic Festival, where Hispanic culture and history is embraced and celebrated.

The Hispanic Professional Women's Association and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Tampa Bay also lend rich leadership to our communities.

So today, and every day, I say thank you to all Hispanics and especially those of Florida 15. You have transformed our language, our place names, our diets, and our entire culture. We are a better State and country because of you.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL MUSHROOM DAY

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Madam Speaker, today, October 15, is a big day for the people of Chester and Berks Counties, National Mushroom Day.

Today, we honor the significant contributions Pennsylvania makes to agriculture. Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, has become known as the Mushroom Capital of the World, and rightfully so, as 60 percent of the mushrooms consumed in America are grown right there.

Our community is home to many multigenerational family farms. These farmers frequently collaborate, and their work has resulted in meaningful innovations in the mushroom industry.

The industry employs nearly 10,000 workers and brings nearly \$3 billion to Chester County—that is billion dollars. That is why I have introduced legislation that formally recognizes this day and honors the regions of Chester and Berks County, Pennsylvania, for their unparalleled contributions to the national mushroom industry.

To all Pennsylvanians and all mushroom fans, happy National Mushroom Day.

NEVER GIVE UP ON RETURN OF CITGO SIX

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

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I want to introduce a great friend to every American. This is Sergio Cardenas, with his mom, Maria Elena. This photo was taken by John Mone.

Sergio's heart is full of love. I spent a lot of time with him and his family this past Sunday. Sadly, my time with Sergio will be more time than he spends this year with the person he loves the most in this world, his father, Gustavo.

Gustavo has been held in a Venezuelan prison, without trial, for nearly 2 years. Gustavo is one of the Citgo Six, six American Citgo employees illegally thrown into jail by the dictator Maduro.

Sergio's heart needs an operation. The surgery may take his life. Yet, he delays this operation because he wants to hug his father and tell him, "I love you," face to face.

Sergio gave me some words as we parted Sunday from Houston. He told me, "Please tell President Trump to get my dad home."

Sergio, we just told the whole world that we will never, ever give up.

SAVE THE CHILDREN

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, a week ago Sunday, the Commander in Chief of this Nation made a call to the head of the Government of Turkey. No one knows the basis of that call, but we do know that it was made without the consultation of the national security apparatus of the United States of America and, to our knowledge, not with any consultation of the Joint Chiefs.

Within minutes, within a period of time, a tweet directive was given to take vital, important military personnel away from the Syrian-Turkish border.

No one knows what promises may have been made. We do know that if any were made that this would be handled with care, they were broken. Right before our eyes, massive havoc.

What strikes me the most, as the chair of the Congressional Children's

Caucus, is the video that shows the bloodletting of our children, children in shock with limbs bloodied, mothers fleeing.

We do not need a backdoor peace treaty that is too late. We need a no-fly zone, Madam Speaker.

We need real action, and we need the Commander in Chief not to lead foreign policy by tweets. I am begging them to save the children.

STAND WITH PROTESTORS IN HONG KONG

(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, while LeBron James, Steve Kerr, and seemingly most of the NBA shamefully refuse to stand up to Chinese authoritarianism for fear of it affecting their future business investments, the free world is watching.

For months, the Chinese Government has been badly mistreating those protesting for a freer form of government in Hong Kong. But those facts are inconvenient for the National Basketball Association.

Tear gas, rubber bullets, concentration camps for religious minorities, these are just a few of the tactics employed on those who only seek freedom from a police state under communist rule.

That is why, tonight, Congress unanimously passed multiple bipartisan measures to hold China accountable for its brutality, including banning the export to China of crowd-control weapons, and strongly condemning Chinese interference in Hong Kong's affairs.

The people of Hong Kong have a right to protest for an open government amidst the shackles of communism and authoritarianism.

Despite what LeBron James says, Congress is educated on this matter, and we stand with the protestors in Hong Kong. I wish more of the NBA would wake up and show some backbone, too.

□ 1930

HONORING LAURIE ZALESKI

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, Laurie Zaleski is the owner and founder of Funny Farm Animal Rescue and Sanctuary in Hamilton Township in south Jersey.

Currently, there are around 700 animals in Laurie's care. Even with all these animals to care for, Laurie still works full time for the FAA as a graphic designer and a pilot.

Laurie also has cowritten two books and created a DVD about her farm and takes a few of her animals with her to local schools and to nursing homes to read her books.

Laurie's farm, as well as her books and her videos, provides educational experiences for all ages. Laurie doesn't charge admission fees, as her farm sustains itself with dedicated volunteers and runs solely on donations, 100 percent of which are given only to the animals.

I thank Laurie and all the volunteers for the love of animals that Funny Farm Annual Rescue fosters in our community in south Jersey. Laurie is truly a south Jersey star.

ACTION IS NEEDED TO HELP SENIOR CITIZENS AFFORD HEALTHCARE

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

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise because Congress needs to take bold action to help seniors afford healthcare.

I have talked with countless seniors in Burlington and Ocean Counties who see the costs of healthcare rise with no relief in sight. That is why, today, I am proud to introduce the Helping Seniors Afford Health Care Act.

By expanding access to the Medicare Savings Program, we can help millions of seniors afford prescription drugs and other critical care.

When our seniors can't afford their healthcare, they are forced to decide between their own health and essentials like rent and food. That is not a choice that any senior should have to make.

We have a chance in this Congress to make an impact for the people we serve. We owe it to our senior citizens who have worked hard and contributed so much to this country to help them realize the American Dream of a healthy, affordable retirement.

Madam Speaker, I hope you stand with them and join me in supporting this bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory-Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 3289, the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory-Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YAR-

MUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 4270, the PROTECT Hong Kong Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2576. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Position Limits and Position Accountability for Security Futures Products (RIN: 3038-AE61) received October 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2577. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tomatoes Grown in Florida; Redistricting and Reapportionment of Producer Districts [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-19-0011; SC19-966-2 FR] received October 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2578. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Almonds Grown in California; Amendments to Marketing Order 981 [AMS-SC-18-0018; SC18-981-3] received October 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2579. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Promotion and Economics Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Softwood Lumber Research, Promotion, Consumer Education and Industry Information Order; Change in Membership, Nominations, Procedures, and Continuance Referenda Period [Document Number: AMS-SC-19-0015] received October 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2580. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Promotion and Economics Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Processed Raspberry Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Termination [Document Number: AMS-SC-19-0047] received October 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2581. A letter from the Deputy Director, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Occupational Exposure to Beryllium and Beryllium Compounds in Construction and Shipyard Sectors [Docket No.: OSHA-H005C-2006-0870] (RIN: 1218-AD21) received October 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

2582. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances; Technical Correction [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2017-0366; FRL-9999-12] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received October 4,

2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2583. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Thiamethoxam; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2018-0779; FRL-9996-14] received October 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2584. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Disability Rights Office, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities [CG Docket No.: 03-123] received October 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2585. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's NUREG revision — Consolidated Guidance About Materials Licenses: Program-Specific Guidance About Medical Use Licenses [NUREG-1556, Volume 9, Revision 3] received October 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2586. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final state agreement — State of Vermont: Discontinuance of Certain Commission Regulatory Authority Within the State; Notice of Agreement Between the NRC and the State of Vermont [NRC-2019-0114] received October 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2587. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's withdrawal of regulatory guide — Applicability of Existing Regulatory Guides to the Design, Construction, and Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation [NRC-2019-0157] received October 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2588. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting an Executive Order Blocking Property and Suspending Entry of Certain Persons Contributing to the Situation in Syria, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(b); Public Law 95-223 Sec. 204(b); (91 Stat. 1627) (H. Doc. No. 116—73); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

2589. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final NUREG — Piping Systems and Components — Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria [NUREG-0800, Chapter 14.3.3] received October 3, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2590. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0711; Product Identifier 2019-NM-167-AD; Amendment 39-19755; AD 2019-20-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2591. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0771; Product Identifier 2019-NE-27-AD; Amendment 39-19747; AD 2019-19-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2592. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0325; Product Identifier 2019-NM-038-AD; Amendment 39-19739; AD 2019-19-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2593. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class C Airspace; Lafayette, LA [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0676; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AWA-3] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2594. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0453; Product Identifier 2018-NM-028-AD; Amendment 39-19732; AD 2019-18-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2595. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0486; Product Identifier 2019-NM-061-AD; Amendment 39-19733; AD 2019-18-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2596. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0250; Product Identifier 2018-NM-157-AD; Amendment 39-19734; AD 2019-18-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2597. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0402; Product Identifier 2019-NM-008-AD; Amendment 39-19731; AD 2019-18-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2598. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of

Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Engine Alliance Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0692; Product Identifier 2018-NE-19-AD; Amendment 39-19735; AD 2019-18-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2599. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0482; Product Identifier 2019-NM-066-AD; Amendment 39-19743; AD 2019-19-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2600. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0318; Product Identifier 2019-NM-015-AD; Amendment 39-19754; AD 2019-19-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2601. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0498; Product Identifier 2019-NM-073-AD; Amendment 39-19742; AD 2019-19-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2602. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0193; Product Identifier 2018-NM-159-AD; Amendment 39-19711; AD 2019-16-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2603. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Saab AB, Saab Aeronautics (Formerly Known as Saab AB, Saab Aerosystems) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0521; Product Identifier 2019-NM-047-AD; Amendment 39-19740; AD 2019-19-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2604. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Lockheed Martin Corporation/Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0699; Product Identifier 2019-NM-148-AD; Amendment 39-19736; AD 2019-18-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2605. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airspace Designations;

Incorporation by Reference Amendments [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0627; Amendment No.: 71-51] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 4, 2019, 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.

2606. A letter from the Division Director, Division of Policy, Legislation, and Regulation, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal-State Unemployment Compensation Program; Establishing Appropriate Occupations for Drug Testing of Unemployment Compensation Applicants Under the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (RIN: 1205-AB81) received October 4, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 3734. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to report on access to credit for small business concerns owned and controlled by covered individuals, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to report on the veterans interagency task force, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-233). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 3661. A bill to support entrepreneurs serving in the National Guard and Reserve, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-234). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 499. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to clarify the treatment of certain surviving spouses under the definition of small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans (Rept. 116-235). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 3537. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to codify the Boots to Business Program, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-236). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DESAULNIER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 629. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1815) to require the Securities and Exchange Commission, when developing rules and regulations about disclosures to retail investors, to conduct investor testing, including a survey and interviews of retail investors, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3624) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the disclosure of the total number of domestic and foreign employees of certain public companies, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-237). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. KIM (for himself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. EVANS):

H.R. 4671. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to reduce

cost-sharing, align income and resource eligibility tests, simplify enrollment, and provide for other program improvements for low-income Medicare beneficiaries; 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. KHANNA (for himself, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. HILL of California, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. PETERS, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SPEIER, and Mrs. TORRES of California):

H.R. 4672. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 21701 Stevens Creek Boulevard in Cupertino, California, as the "Petty Officer 2nd Class (SEAL) Matthew G. Axelson Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Ms. BARRAGÁN):

H.R. 4673. A bill to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to direct the Secretary to provide additional funds to States to establish and make disbursements from high cost funds; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. WILD, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. SCHRIER, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. OMAR, Mr. TRONE, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas):

H.R. 4674. A bill to amend and strengthen the Higher Education Act of 1965 to lower the cost of college for students and families, to hold colleges accountable for students' success, and to give a new generation of students the opportunity to graduate on-time and transition to a successful career; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. GOMEZ (for himself, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Ms. BARRAGÁN):

H.R. 4675. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for enhanced Medicare beneficiary information through access to annual Medicare notifications in multiple languages; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:

H.R. 4676. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the guaranteed issue of Medigap policies to all Medigap-eligible Medicare beneficiaries and Medicare Advantage enrollees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAYLOR:

H.R. 4677. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to carry out a program to recognize high schools and local educational agencies for expanding high-quality dual credit programs; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Ms. BARRAGÁN):

H.R. 4678. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a public education campaign across all relevant programs of the Health Resources and Services Administration to increase oral health literacy and awareness; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM (for himself, Mr. MAST, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, and Mr. HUFFMAN):

H.R. 4679. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report examining efforts by the Regional Fishery Management Councils, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the National Marine Fisheries Service to prepare and adapt United States fishery management for the impacts of climate change, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COHEN, Ms. DEAN, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. ESPALLAT, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. HIMES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. WELCH, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 4680. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to simplify the financial aid application process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SIRES, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. COX of California, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 4681. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 4682. A bill to provide for United States participation in the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4683. A bill to amend title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, to provide that grand and petit jurors serving in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia shall receive fees and expenses at the same rates paid to grand and petit jurors appearing in the district courts of the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. OMAR (for herself, Ms. TLAB, Ms. MOORE, Mr. CARSON of Indiana,

Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Ms. HAALAND):

H.R. 4684. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 and the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make breakfasts and lunches free for all children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself and Mr. KING of New York):

H.R. 4685. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to classify certain automatic fire sprinkler system retrofits as 15-year property for purposes of depreciation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 4686. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to compel States to require illuminated signs and other measures on ride-hailing vehicles, to prohibit the sale of such signs, to require ride-hailing companies to implement an electronic access system on ride-hailing vehicles; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. COOPER, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. HILL of California, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. CROW):

H.J. Res. 77. A joint resolution opposing the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. KIND, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. VELA, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H. Res. 628. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week beginning on October 13, 2019, as National Wildlife Refuge Week; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H. Res. 630. A resolution condemning and censuring Adam Schiff, Representative of California's 28th Congressional District; to the Committee on Ethics.

By Mr. BYRNE (for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. HARRIS, and Mr. GAETZ):

H. Res. 631. A resolution directing the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and the Committee on Financial Services to begin investigations regarding certain business dealings of Robert Hunter Biden during the period in which Joseph R. Biden, Jr. served as Vice President of the United States; whether those business dealings resulted in improper conflicts of interests; and whether Robert Hunter Biden's work affected United States foreign policy or

a foreign government or foreign entity's response thereto; to the Committee on Rules.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. KIM:

H.R. 4671.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 4672.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 7 provides Congress with the power to establish post offices and post roads.

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 4673.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:

H.R. 4674.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. GOMEZ:

H.R. 4675.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:

H.R. 4676.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. TAYLOR:

H.R. 4677.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS:

H.R. 4678.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 1.

All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM:

H.R. 4679.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8. To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2. The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State. Johnson & Graham v. All rights reserved.

By Mr. DOGGETT:

H.R. 4680.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 4681.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8. "Congress shall have power to . . . coin money".

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 4682.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4688.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Ms. OMAR:

H.R. 4684.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article. 1. Section. 1.

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.R. 4685.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 4686.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution.

By Mr. ENGEL:

H.J. Res. 77.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 93: Mr. KHANNA and Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 141: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 147: Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 229: Mr. CRIST.

H.R. 302: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 333: Mr. AMODEI.

H.R. 444: Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 592: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 641: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 647: Mr. RICHMOND.

H.R. 674: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. BERA.

H.R. 683: Mr. CRIST.

H.R. 737: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 754: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 827: Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 835: Mrs. MCBATH.

H.R. 865: Ms. DEAN.

H.R. 873: Ms. HAALAND.

H.R. 886: Ms. BASS.

H.R. 891: Mr. ARRINGTON.

H.R. 919: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.

H.R. 943: Mrs. LESKO and Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 1034: Mr. COLE, Mr. COMER, and Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee.

H.R. 1042: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 1055: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 1094: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 1135: Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 1154: Ms. HILL of California, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. TONKO, Mr. AGUILAR, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 1155: Mrs. LAWRENCE.

H.R. 1163: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 1164: Mr. CLINE and Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 1166: Ms. SHERRILL.

H.R. 1191: Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 1220: Mr. FOSTER and Ms. HILL of California.

H.R. 1225: Mr. CRAWFORD.

H.R. 1274: Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H.R. 1325: Mrs. LESKO and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.

H.R. 1329: Mr. VISCLOSKEY.

H.R. 1337: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 1339: Mr. WATKINS.

H.R. 1379: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York and Ms. BASS.

H.R. 1380: Ms. STEVENS and Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 1398: Mr. CALVERT and Mr. ABRAHAM.

H.R. 1417: Mr. JEFFRIES.

H.R. 1450: Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 1507: Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 1511: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 1554: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 1557: Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 1597: Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. HIMES, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. PANNETTA, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. MORELLE, and Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 1643: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 1668: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 1695: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York and Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 1749: Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 1754: Mr. DELGADO, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Mr. TIPTON.

H.R. 1767: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.

H.R. 1786: Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 1805: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1869: Mr. LATTA and Mr. HURD of Texas.

H.R. 1873: Mr. EMMER, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 1880: Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 1903: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H.R. 1923: Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 1931: Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 1942: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 1944: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 1953: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1975: Mr. COX of California.

H.R. 1982: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 2013: Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 2102: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 2128: Ms. HAALAND.

H.R. 2146: Mrs. BEATTY and Mr. LEWIS.

H.R. 2147: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. PENCE, Mr. RYAN, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SIRES, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. CROW, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. COMER, Mrs. ROBY, and Mr. TIPTON.

H.R. 2153: Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 2169: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 2191: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 2208: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. NEGUSE, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 2245: Ms. JUDY CHU of California and Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 2256: Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 2262: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 2275: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 2314: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 2315: Mr. KILMER and Ms. DEAN.

H.R. 2414: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 2420: Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 2423: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. HILL of California, Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. BIGGS.

H.R. 2426: Mr. ADERHOLT.

- H.R. 2441: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois and Mr. COURTNEY.
- H.R. 2456: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
- H.R. 2468: Mr. LUJÁN.
- H.R. 2482: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
- H.R. 2494: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.
- H.R. 2560: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
- H.R. 2602: Mr. MCGOVERN.
- H.R. 2629: Mr. VELA and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
- H.R. 2645: Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. MOULTON, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
- H.R. 2651: Mr. LUJÁN.
- H.R. 2678: Ms. LOFGREN.
- H.R. 2682: Ms. CRAIG.
- H.R. 2771: Mr. PENCE.
- H.R. 2788: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
- H.R. 2809: Mr. KILMER.
- H.R. 2812: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
- H.R. 2818: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. DEAN, and Mr. LUJÁN.
- H.R. 2819: Mr. KING of New York.
- H.R. 2867: Mr. RICHMOND and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
- H.R. 2881: Ms. HOULAHAN.
- H.R. 2895: Mr. COLE.
- H.R. 2897: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York and Mr. AGUILAR.
- H.R. 2923: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
- H.R. 2985: Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. HORSFORD.
- H.R. 3080: Mr. MCGOVERN.
- H.R. 3086: Mr. HECK.
- H.R. 3104: Ms. SLOTKIN and Mr. STANTON.
- H.R. 3125: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
- H.R. 3133: Mr. POCAN.
- H.R. 3180: Mr. STANTON.
- H.R. 3182: Mr. BERGMAN, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.
- H.R. 3195: Ms. ADAMS, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
- H.R. 3208: Mr. KILMER.
- H.R. 3221: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
- H.R. 3243: Mr. NORMAN and Mr. MEADOWS.
- H.R. 3248: Ms. UNDERWOOD.
- H.R. 3250: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
- H.R. 3350: Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. SIREN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. POSEY, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. LATTI.
- H.R. 3354: Mr. MCADAMS.
- H.R. 3398: Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. TONKO, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
- H.R. 3414: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
- H.R. 3444: Ms. SCANLON.
- H.R. 3453: Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. HILL of California, Ms. MOORE, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. RASKIN.
- H.R. 3463: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK and Mr. PHILLIPS.
- H.R. 3483: Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee.
- H.R. 3495: Mrs. LAWRENCE and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
- H.R. 3497: Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. HAGEDORN, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
- H.R. 3503: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
- H.R. 3524: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.
- H.R. 3565: Mr. NORMAN.
- H.R. 3584: Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Mr. HIMES.
- H.R. 3587: Mrs. LESKO.
- H.R. 3598: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.
- H.R. 3602: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
- H.R. 3647: Ms. DELBENE and Mr. HUFFMAN.
- H.R. 3663: Ms. MOORE and Mr. LEWIS.
- H.R. 3760: Mr. RASKIN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. SIREN, Mr. DEFazio, and Ms. SCANLON.
- H.R. 3798: Mr. CROW.
- H.R. 3809: Ms. DELBENE and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
- H.R. 3815: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. POCAN, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
- H.R. 3826: Mr. WALDEN and Mr. GAETZ.
- H.R. 3867: Mr. PAPPAS.
- H.R. 3942: Mr. RESCHENTHALER and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
- H.R. 3962: Mrs. DINGELL.
- H.R. 3964: Mrs. LESKO.
- H.R. 3968: Mr. ALLEN.
- H.R. 3969: Mrs. DINGELL.
- H.R. 3973: Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SOTO, Ms. HAALAND, Ms. MENG, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
- H.R. 4030: Mr. COLE.
- H.R. 4035: Mr. MEADOWS.
- H.R. 4045: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
- H.R. 4068: Mr. CRIST.
- H.R. 4075: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
- H.R. 4118: Mr. POCAN.
- H.R. 4127: Mr. SOTO.
- H.R. 4143: Mr. DEUTCH and Ms. SHERRILL.
- H.R. 4144: Mr. DELGADO.
- H.R. 4162: Mrs. AXNE, Mr. MEADOWS, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. DELGADO.
- H.R. 4211: Ms. HAALAND.
- H.R. 4236: Ms. LOFGREN.
- H.R. 4258: Mrs. MCBATH.
- H.R. 4270: Mr. TAYLOR, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Ms. SPANBERGER.
- H.R. 4288: Ms. CRAIG.
- H.R. 4297: Mr. DEFazio and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
- H.R. 4298: Mr. RYAN.
- H.R. 4308: Mrs. HAYES.
- H.R. 4311: Mr. RASKIN.
- H.R. 4339: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
- H.R. 4348: Mr. CROW, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
- H.R. 4383: Mr. GOSAR.
- H.R. 4399: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. LONG, and Mr. WESTERMAN.
- H.R. 4405: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. HUFFMAN.
- H.R. 4428: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. COHEN.
- H.R. 4468: Mr. TIMMONS.
- H.R. 4482: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
- H.R. 4487: Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CALVERT, and Mr. PETERSON.
- H.R. 4492: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
- H.R. 4497: Mr. MCGOVERN.
- H.R. 4516: Mr. COHEN.
- H.R. 4525: Ms. MOORE.
- H.R. 4583: Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
- H.R. 4584: Mr. MCGOVERN.
- H.R. 4588: Mr. TIPTON.
- H.R. 4595: Mr. TRONE.
- H.R. 4615: Ms. CRAIG.
- H.R. 4617: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CASE, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. COURTNEY.
- H.R. 4639: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
- H.R. 4660: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
- H.R. 4666: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.
- H.J. Res. 2: Mr. VARGAS, Ms. STEVENS, and Mr. JEFFRIES.
- H.J. Res. 7: Mr. MOULTON.
- H.J. Res. 35: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
- H.J. Res. 76: Mr. KENNEDY.
- H. Con. Res. 68: Mr. CURTIS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. PERRY, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mr. ALLRED.
- H. Res. 33: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
- H. Res. 227: Ms. NORTON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
- H. Res. 231: Ms. SPEIER.
- H. Res. 296: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
- H. Res. 325: Mr. ESPAILLAT.
- H. Res. 399: Mr. TIPTON.
- H. Res. 493: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
- H. Res. 499: Mrs. LAWRENCE.
- H. Res. 538: Mrs. LAWRENCE and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
- H. Res. 543: Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. TAYLOR, and Ms. SPANBERGER.
- H. Res. 574: Mr. ENGEL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Mr. KHANNA.
- H. Res. 585: Mr. KENNEDY.
- H. Res. 604: Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. BRADY, Mr. YOHO, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. DUNN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Ms. FOXX of North Carolina, Mr. COOK, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. LATTI, Mr. BAIRD, and Ms. GRANGER.
- H. Res. 606: Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Ms. PRESSLEY.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2019

No. 162

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable THOM TILLIS, a Senator from the State of North Carolina.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by Pastor Andrew Brunson of Chapel Hill, NC.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Before I pray, I want to thank the Senate. I am standing here today because so many of you fought for me, and I am deeply grateful, in a time of many divides, to those who were unified in fighting for my release. Thank you.

Let us pray.

Our Heavenly Father, may Your Holy Name be honored. May Your Name be held in high regard in this Senate.

We give thanks to You, for You are good, and Your steadfast love endures forever. You have watched over this Nation through various times of peace, prosperity, turmoil, and war. May we continue to look to You and be a people who seek Your face. Draw us near, and may we draw near to You. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord. Reveal to us our sins, and forgive us. Reveal to us also Your love, and enable each of us to love You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Today, I pray that You grant to the Senators of the United States the spirit of wisdom, the fear of the Lord, and the courage to act by the counsel of the Lord in all matters great and small. May they have Your perspective on all things. May Your Kingdom come and Your will be done here in our Nation as it is in Heaven in and through these Senators. Bless their families and their health. Give them Your peace.

O God, fill this place with Your presence, and unite us as one nation under Your leadership, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

I pray in the Name of Jesus. 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 (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, October 15, 2019.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable THOM TILLIS, a Senator from the State of North Carolina, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. TILLIS thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 2 minutes as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNITED STATES NAVY'S 244TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on October 13, the U.S. Navy celebrated its 244th birthday. The U.S. Navy was founded by the Continental Congress in 1775 to disrupt British shipping and naval power in the Revolutionary War. At the time, the Navy was just a simple, ragtag band of converted merchant ships. The U.S. Navy today is the most powerful naval force anywhere in the world. It provides the military with the

ability to project power to every corner of the globe. America's Navy works tirelessly to protect the freedom of navigation, of commerce, and travel around the world.

TRIBUTE TO KEN QUINN

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on another point, for the last three decades, Des Moines has hosted something every year this week called the World Food Prize. As the World Food Prize kicks off this week in Des Moines, I pay tribute to an outstanding Iowan and the president of that foundation.

In his Foreign Service career, Ken Quinn was the Ambassador to Cambodia, but earlier in that career, Ken Quinn's life of service took him from a small town in Iowa to Southeast Asia and back. Decades ago, he identified an avenue to peace and prosperity. As a young Foreign Service officer, he saw that roads secured economic freedom and food security for the impoverished people of Southeast Asia.

For the last 20 years, Ambassador Quinn—now not in the Foreign Service—has cultivated the World Food Prize into the Nobel Prize for Agriculture. Thanks to his stewardship of the seeds first planted by the Nobel Peace Prize laureate of 1970, Dr. Norman Borlaug, the World Food Prize will yield humanitarian goods for generations to come.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for a period of 5 minutes as in morning business.

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



Printed on recycled paper.

S5775

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

WELCOMING PASTOR ANDREW
BRUNSON

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President and those who were watching during the opening prayer, that was Pastor Andrew Brunson from North Carolina. This month marks a year since Pastor Brunson was released from a Turkish prison. Norine, his wife, is in the Gallery as well. They were swept up in what I considered to be an overreaction by President Erdogan and the Turkish regime in their imprisoning thousands of people after the coup attempt in Turkey. I actually found out about this first as casework. Pastor Brunson was from North Carolina. Then, slowly but steadily, diplomacy wasn't working, and he found himself in a Turkish prison—at one point in really what we would consider to be despicable circumstances. He was in a prison cell that was designed for maybe 8 or 10 people that had had more than 20 in it, and none of them spoke the English language.

Pastor Brunson was a missionary in Turkey for almost 20 years. He had a church in Izmir, and all they tried to do for those who wanted to hear the Word of God was to speak it. For that, he was ultimately incarcerated and accused of being a part of the Turkish coup attempt. It was about a year later that they issued an indictment for him. It was a 62-page indictment that read like a horrible, fictional novel and had some of the most absurd allegations you could possibly imagine. Certainly, they were things that wouldn't keep you in jail overnight in the United States but were things that were potentially going to have Pastor Brunson convicted and spending 35 years in a Turkish prison.

We got word back that after the indictment was issued against Pastor Brunson, he was afraid that the American people were going to believe it, that we would simply move on, and that he would be left there at the fate of the Turkish judiciary. When I heard that, the first thing I told my staff is that I had to go to Turkey. I wanted to go to the prison that Pastor Brunson was in, and I had the opportunity to meet Norine, his wife, the day before. I went there, and across a table that was about as wide as this desk, I told Pastor Brunson that we were not going to forget him and were not going to stop until we got him released from prison.

In a series of efforts here, for which I have to really compliment all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, more than 72 Senators signed on to a letter that encouraged Pastor Brunson's release. More than 100 House Members signed on to a similar letter. We did everything we could diplomatically to get Pastor Brunson released.

I decided I wanted to see how the court case was going, so I went back to Turkey a few months after I had first

met Pastor Brunson in the prison, and I sat through 12 hours of so-called Turkish justice. I saw this man stand before a dais of three judges and a prosecutor, where basically you were assumed guilty until you proved innocence. His defense attorney was as far away from him as is that wall. That is Turkish justice. That is not anything we can imagine in this country, but that is what this man was subjected to.

Over the course of several months and in working with the President, Secretary Pompeo, the Vice President, and a number of other people, we were able to get President Erdogan to recognize that this was a political exercise, that it was not an exercise in justice, and that he needed to be released.

A year ago this month, he was released, and now he is opening the Senate in prayer. I thank Pastor Brunson for his perseverance. He went through things that most of us cannot imagine, and Norine was his strongest advocate.

I see the Parliamentarian looking at me as if I am not supposed to recognize the fact that Norine Brunson is in the Gallery, so I will not recognize that fact because that would be a violation of the rules.

They are a sight for sore eyes, and I am so glad to have them back in this country. I know they are going to continue their missionary work wherever they can. I thank them for their leadership and their deep faith.

Thank you for opening the Senate today.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY
LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

IMPEACHMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, Congress is returning to Washington for a work period that will be filled with important to-do items, but we already know what will top the agenda in the House of Representatives: House Democrats are finally indulging in their 3-year old impeachment obsession, full steam ahead.

Many of us remember the Washington Post headline that was literally published on Inauguration Day in 2017. Here is what it said: "The campaign to impeach President Trump has begun." And, sure enough, House Democrats have been at it ever since.

One prominent House Democrat called this Presidency illegitimate before it had even begun. One of Speaker

PELOSI's committee chairs whom she has tasked with leading this process promised years ago that she would find a way to impeach the President.

Now that Speaker PELOSI has finally crumbled and allowed her leftwing impeachment caucus to dictate the House's actions, I don't think many of us were expecting to witness a clinic in terms of fairness or due process. But even by their own partisan standards, House Democrats have already found new ways to lower the bar. This is about the most consequential process the House of Representatives could possibly engage in: overruling American voters and nullifying an election.

Surely, any such process must be conducted with the utmost fairness and transparency. It must be held to the most exact of standards. Yet House Democrats have wasted no time throwing fairness and precedent to the wind. Already, they have denied their Republican counterparts certain minority rights, like equal subpoena power, which Republicans provided Democrats in the Clinton impeachment.

Already, they have made clear that President Trump's counsel will not be allowed to participate in hearings, present evidence, and cross-examine witnesses—all-important rights that Republicans provided to President Clinton.

Already, one House chairman has been caught publicly mischaracterizing his committee's handling of the whistleblower inquiry on which this whole investigation hinges.

For all the public hyperventilating over institutional norms that we have heard from House Democrats in recent years, it appears they have no intention of letting norms, precedents, or basic due process stand in their way as they seek to cancel out a Presidency.

In the meantime, in the Senate we will keep our focus squarely on the substantive work we need to complete for the American people. In the coming days, we will confirm another slate of President Trump's well-qualified nominees. For starters, later this afternoon, we will advance the nomination of Barbara Barrett, the President's choice to be Secretary of the Air Force.

Speaking of our Armed Forces, Congress can waste no more time in getting our appropriations process back on track and delivering a funding that our servicemembers need. Just 2 months ago, the President and the Speaker of the House produced an agreement to guide the appropriations process. The White House and congressional leaders set top-line funding targets for defense and nondefense and agreed to forego poison pills. Last month, unfortunately, our Democratic colleagues went back on the deal. Routine funding negotiations were again subject to poison pill threats, and urgent resources for the operations of the Pentagon were withheld for the sake of politics.

We need to put these political games aside. Democrats need to stop filibustering a pay raise for our troops and

the funding our commanders need. We need to get our funding process back on track for the entire Federal Government.

House Democrats need to stop slow-walking the USMCA, the landmark trade agreement that stands to create 176,000 new American jobs. Mexico is ready, Canada is ready, and a majority in the Senate is ready. The entire continent is just waiting on Speaker PELOSI to stop blocking this win for the United States and to stop blocking these new jobs. I don't care how much my Democratic colleagues in the House may dislike the President. They shouldn't throw 176,000 new American jobs on the scrap heap.

On all these fronts, I hope sincerely that our Democratic colleagues will be able to separate this vital business from their animus toward the administration and join Republicans in moving forward with the work of the American people.

TURKEY AND SYRIA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, on one final matter, I know I speak for many of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle in expressing my grave concern at the events that have unfolded in Syria in recent days.

Turkey is our NATO ally. Yes, it hosts millions of Syrian refugees and has a legitimate security concern about the situation in Syria. But Turkey's escalation of hostilities with the Syrian Kurdish partners who have helped the United States fight terrorism is completely and totally unacceptable. This violence needs to end.

Syrian Kurdish forces have stood proudly alongside U.S. forces in the fight against ISIS. Over years of joint effort, their shared sacrifices have put ISIS on its heels and rendered its physical caliphate essentially nonexistent. But leaving the field now would mean leaving the door wide open for a resurgence of this dangerous force and a new iteration of the Islamic State; creating a power vacuum begging for the meddling influence of Russia; leaving northeastern Syria wide open for Iran to extend its reach, unimpeded, all the way from Tehran to the doorstep of our friends in Israel; and destroying the leverage we currently have to compel Bashar Assad to stop his slaughter of the Syrian people and negotiate an end to this terrible conflict and humanitarian catastrophe.

I want to make something clear: The United States has taken the fight to Syria and Afghanistan because that is where our enemies are. That is why we are there. Fighting terrorists, exercising leadership in troubled regions, and advancing U.S. interests around the world does not make us an evil empire or the world's policeman. It makes us a prudent and responsible world power that stands up for our own security and the freedom of others.

Alongside the 80 coalition partners that U.S. forces have led in the

counter-ISIS coalition, that is what we must continue to do. We must continue to provide support to the local forces that carry the lion's share of the responsibility to defend their homelands. This effort must continue to include our allies and partners, even the imperfect ones that sometimes behave rashly and dangerously, as both Saudi Arabia and Turkey have recently.

When it looked like President Trump would withdraw from Syria at the beginning of the year, 70—70—Senators joined in warning of the risks of precipitously withdrawing from Syria or Afghanistan. The veto-proof majority vote for my amendment to S. 1, the Strengthening America's Security in the Middle East Act, demonstrated strong and bipartisan appreciation of our enduring security interests in that region. The Senate spoke clearly and said that we must ensure that we have set the conditions for an enduring defeat of the terrorists before any withdrawal.

Regrettably, many of the Democratic Senators running for President, along with my friend the Democratic leader, parted with this bipartisan consensus and voted against this amendment. So I hope those aspiring Commanders in Chief are asked to explain how they reconcile their criticism of the administration today with their votes just a few months ago. Maybe they will even be asked on the debate stage this very evening.

I am heartened to hear that Vice President PENCE will soon lead a delegation to begin immediate talks with Turkey to end this violence.

I expect Turkish allies listen carefully to the anger from Washington, welcome our Vice President, and take steps to repair our important relationship. It would be a tragedy for both of our nations if Turkey's escalation in Syria imperils our common fight against ISIS and emboldens traditional adversaries like Iran and Russia. This would be bad for U.S. interests, but it would be terrible for Turkey.

I also look forward to discussing with Members on both sides and with the administration how the United States can stand with our partners and provide strong, principled, and consistent global leadership.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2593

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2593) to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

Mr. MCCONNELL. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provision of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, over the past month, evidence has emerged that the President of the United States pressured a foreign leader to investigate one of his leading political rivals. A whistleblower inside the intelligence community first raised alarms that the President applied pressure on Ukrainian President Zelensky that would benefit President Trump politically. The President himself then released a memorandum of his conversation with President Zelensky, which demonstrably validated the whistleblower's concerns.

In the weeks that followed, the House has received testimony from a number of State Department officials who have filled in additional pieces to this very troubling puzzle. Rudy Giuliani's efforts to dig up dirt on the President's political rivals were well known within the State Department and the National Security Council. The Ambassador to the EU, Gordon Sondland, was heavily involved with Mr. Giuliani, and we continue to receive additional information about Mr. Sondland's participation. His scheduled testimony in the coming days will undoubtedly be relevant and important.

Amidst all of this, the White House has engaged in stonewalling and outright defiance of congressional prerogatives. The State Department instructed its officials not to comply with congressional subpoenas, the White House has refused to cooperate with the House impeachment inquiry, and the President has publicly and repeatedly sought to bully and intimidate the whistleblower.

As additional facts are unearthed, we have a responsibility to consider them with the best interest of our country in mind. The whistleblower was doing a courageous and patriotic act and must be protected. He must be protected. The Constitution made Congress a co-equal branch of government. That role must be respected. The matter at the heart of the inquiry concerns the very integrity of our democratic elections, and it must be investigated thoroughly, completely, and in a non-partisan manner.

Our Founding Fathers feared foreign interference in our elections and considered it one of the greatest threats facing our fledgling Republic. Once again, the wisdom of the Founding Fathers shines through. If a foreign country can meddle in or affect the outcome of our elections, Americans will quickly lose faith in our democracy. If Russia or China or Iran controls our elections, what the heck do we vote for? So the alleged offense by the President is clearly serious enough to warrant an investigation by Congress, and that is exactly what the House of Representatives is doing in its impeachment inquiry, and it must continue unimpeded.

We can do two things, and we must do them. We can protect the Constitution and take action to help average working families at the same time. Here in the Senate, we can do both: protect the Constitution and help average working families. It is not either-or. It is not one or the other.

SENATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, from the very beginning, Democrats have been committed to doing the people's business, but while the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives has passed hundreds of bills dealing with healthcare, infrastructure, gun violence, climate change, and much more, Leader MCCONNELL has turned our Chamber into a legislative graveyard. Not one of these bills has received a vote in the Senate: no vote to save protections for people with preexisting conditions, although the American people are pleading with us to do it; no vote on bipartisan background checks, although more people die from gun violence committed by people who shouldn't have guns; no vote on bipartisan election security as Russia threatens us; and no vote on the Violence Against Women Act, when abuse of women continues.

Over the course of his Presidency, President Trump has also failed to offer proposals to address any of these pressing issues. In many cases, his policies and his Executive actions have made things worse.

As Congress comes back into session, Senate Democrats will force our Republican colleagues to vote during this work period on three measures that are important to millions of Americans. These votes will occur under the procedures of the Congressional Review Act. The Congressional Review Act—I know the public is not familiar with the arcane parts of these things—is one of the rare instances where the minority can force a vote. We want to debate these other issues. We want to debate gun violence. We want to debate healthcare. We want to debate infrastructure. We want to debate preexisting conditions. We are not saying our Republican friends are going to think exactly as we do, but let's have a

debate and vote. Leader MCCONNELL, much to the discredit of this Chamber, as well as his own, has said no, but here the Congressional Review Act at least allows us to review some of the overreaching actions of the executive branch and get a vote on them.

Each of these CRA votes will present our Republican colleagues with a choice: whether to protect Americans with preexisting conditions or not to protect them, whether to protect middle-class Americans from a tax hike or not to protect them, and whether to fight climate change or to do nothing.

We will also demand that our Republican colleagues take up legislation to protect hard-earned pensions for millions of American workers. Several of my colleagues will come to the floor this evening to do just that. Senators MANCHIN, BROWN, STABENOW, PETERS, SMITH, BALDWIN, and TESTER have been real leaders on these pension issues. Workers, who for decades put money into their pensions and thought when they retired they would at least have some modicum on which to live decently, will lose all that unless we act.

We hope our Republican colleagues will listen to the debate and help us move to deal with the millions of workers struggling to preserve their pensions.

As we continue to fulfill our solemn constitutional duty to hold the President accountable, Democrats will not—will not—stop putting pressure on Leader MCCONNELL and our friends in the majority to get the Senate back to work for the American people. Democrats will use every tool we have—there are not that many—to stop Leader MCCONNELL from making the Senate a legislative graveyard when the American people need help and action in so many ways.

TURKEY AND SYRIA

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, now on Turkey and Syria, a major issue that deserves the Senate's attention this week and that shows we can, again, fulfill our constitutional obligations as well as help the American people. One thing we are going to be talking about this week is President Trump's precipitous and dangerous decision to withdraw from northern Syria.

A few weeks ago, the President abruptly announced that the United States, which has long maintained a presence in northern Syria to root out ISIS terrorists, would stand aside, and Turkey launched a military incursion into the region. For years, a global coalition of the United States and our partners and allies, particularly the stout Kurds in Syria, have worked tirelessly and sacrificed much to defeat ISIS. Now, in only a matter of days, the President's quick, unstudied, and ill-advised Syria decision has jeopardized all of that progress.

For years, American soldiers have fought hard and some have given their

lives to vanquish ISIS. For years, our great military and diplomatic leaders have strategized about how to get rid of ISIS, and in one fell quick and unthought-out swoop, the President has undone that. It is despicable. It is dangerous.

The consequences have already proven dire. Bashar al-Assad, the Syrian dictator and war criminal, has strengthened his position greatly, cutting a deal with the Kurds and moving his forces into the gap left by our withdrawal.

Who else has benefited from President Trump's ill-thought-out, precipitous, and wrongheaded action? Iran, his greatest enemy, one of our great enemies in many ways. As you know, I am no friend of the Iranian Government.

Iran has benefited. Who else has benefited? President Putin. Russian troops have now swept into the region, according to reports. Russia envies the oil in northern Syria that it might control.

When the President does some kind of action, it makes everyone scratch their heads, and if it benefits Putin, one doesn't know if he is doing it to actually help Putin or if he just doesn't get it. I tend to think it is often the former, unfortunately.

Our Kurdish partners are paying the ultimate cost of their betrayal, and tens of thousands of civilians have been displaced. Maybe most concerning of all, reports say that more than 10,000 ISIS fighters currently held and guarded by the Kurds could walk out of their cells. By pulling out of northern Syria, President Trump has encouraged nothing short of an ISIS jailbreak.

I say this to my fellow Americans. Some may say: We don't want any troops anywhere. Bring them all home. We don't care.

Well, I care. Most people care.

But some might say: I don't care what happens to the Kurds.

The one thing everyone should care about, whatever their views on geopolitics in the Middle East and in Syria, is our own security. We have spent a decade of treasure and often lives rooting out ISIS. Why? Because ISIS presents a danger to our homeland. We, in New York, know, more than anybody, how a small group from far away could do huge damage and kill thousands of innocent Americans here. And now President Trump, through this thoughtless action, is allowing ISIS to gain new strength. What is going on here? This is a threat to our own national security here in our homeland, and we must do everything to stop it.

And who is the most angry at the President? From what I am told, our own military is. Our own military, who have fought shoulder-to-shoulder alongside the Kurds, watching the Kurds risk and lose their lives to help protect Americans—they weren't even consulted. The military wasn't even consulted. You heard what General

Mattis said. He may be the most respected military leader we have, even though he is in retirement. He said: This makes it much more likely that ISIS gains strength and can hurt us.

What the heck is going on here? This transcends any ideological differences we may have—whether we agree with President Trump or disagree and whether we think he is a good President or think he is an awful President. This goes beyond that. What is going on?

After Republicans spent years criticizing our former President, President Obama, for simply failing to recite the phrase “radical Islamic terror,” then our Republican friends should be apologetic at what the President has done. It is not simply reciting this phrase. The President, through his actions, whether it is inadvertent or not, has made radical Islamic terror more real and more dangerous.

In one fell swoop, President Trump has deserted our partners, emboldened three of our chief adversaries, provided a lifeline to ISIS fighters who have been taken off the battlefield, and put American troops and America in harm’s way. Truly, this is one of the most thoughtless and dangerous policy changes that President Trump could have made. That it was made seemingly on a whim—without consulting our military commanders, without notifying Congress, and, most egregiously, without thinking its consequences through—makes it even more alarming.

We have entered a dangerous moment, my friends. It is increasingly clear to everyone that the President’s erratic decision making has endangered our national security and the security of our partners and allies around the world. Strong sanctions, while good and justified, will not be sufficient in undoing that damage, nor will they stop the consequences stemming from the ISIS jailbreak.

So the first step, as Congress returns, is for Democrats and Republicans to join us in passing a resolution making clear that both parties demand that the President’s decision be reversed.

This is bipartisan, but our Republican colleagues have a special place here because they will have far more success in getting the President to reverse course and change his views. There is a solemn obligation on every one of the 53 Republican Members here.

They know it is dangerous. Are they going to still be afraid to criticize President Trump? They have not, so far, but this resolution is the strongest action we can take.

Ultimately, of course, the only person able to immediately stop this tragedy from unfolding is the President himself. The President made the decision alone. He alone is responsible for its consequences. President Trump, hopefully, importuned by Congress, Democrats and Republicans in the House and Senate, will use this moment—must use this moment—to step

up, admit his grave mistake, and correct course.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

WHISTLEBLOWERS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, we have heard a lot about whistleblowers in the past several weeks. There has been an outpouring of concern for whistleblowers ever since word came out that there was a whistleblower complaint that implicates the current administration.

A lot of those on the other side of the aisle, expressing support for whistleblowers, to the best of my recollection, haven’t expressed the same level of concern for whistleblowers in the last administration.

Well, welcome to the table. I hope you stay at the table quite a while.

I have said for years that it is critical that we protect the whistleblower process to incentivize the disclosure of true waste, fraud, and abuse of the taxpayer’s money. Those processes must be carefully followed by all whistleblowers, and that process must be respected by our government’s institutions. Those legal processes are especially important for government employees who work in the intelligence field. Whistleblowers who act in good faith, who comply with the disclosure process set out by law, and who report their concerns through proper channels deserve to be heard and deserve to be protected.

I have also said that first-, second-, and third-hand information doesn’t make or break a whistleblower. If they follow the procedure, that is really most important. However, hearsay is a factor to take into account when analyzing the strength of underlying alle-

gations. Clearly, first-hand knowledge is much more powerful than second- and third-hand knowledge. That is just common sense.

It is common sense no matter what the allegations are or who the subject is, and there needs to be a consistent approach in the way that Congress conducts oversight. On April 8 of this year, I spoke on this Senate floor about the need for consistent oversight. I pointed out clear double standards between what the Democrats are doing to the Trump administration and the blind eye that they have used on any fact pattern that might damage their political narrative.

Let me remind the Democrats that I threatened to subpoena the President’s son and that my staff later deposed that son. In fact, I investigated alleged Russian collusion with the Trump campaign and interviewed more than 10 people connected to the June 2016 famous Trump Tower meeting, many of them Trump campaign officials. By the way, I also welcomed Democrats’ participation in those interviews. The Democrats did participate. But, unfortunately, the same equal access and transparency doesn’t exist in the House of Representatives these days as they do oversight of what has gone on with the famous telephone call to the Ukrainian President.

I have routinely challenged the administration’s policies and engaged in robust oversight to hold this administration accountable. My oversight and investigation units have sent out almost 300 letters to the executive branch since President Trump took his oath of office. So I think I can declare myself an equal-opportunity overseer because I seek facts, irrespective of party and no matter where they lead.

I don’t think many of the Democrats today can say the same thing. These folks today, who are suddenly so concerned about congressional oversight, are the same ones who had no interest whatsoever in defending the institutions of the legislative branch when the Obama administration was in office.

Quite frankly, I find it all too convenient that the Democrats today have used allegations of wrongdoing against the President that actually apply much more clearly to their own political leaders. Let us begin down this road with the now-debunked Russia collusion investigation.

First, the Clinton campaign hired Fusion GPS to do opposition research against candidate Trump. Second, the Democratic National Committee did the very same thing. Third, Fusion GPS hired Christopher Steele, a former British intelligence officer, to compile the famous Steele dossier.

Even James Comey, a former FBI Director, a man who leaked sensitive government records to spark a special counsel investigation, called that Steele dossier “salacious and unverified.” That same Steele dossier factored heavily in the FBI’s investigation against Trump.

Fourth, Fusion GPS then—would you believe it—used Russian Government sources for information for that Steele dossier.

Now, it is a fact, not merely an allegation, that the Clinton campaign and the Democratic Party used a foreign intel officer and information from the Russian Government to undermine the Trump campaign and later the Trump administration. And that is not Trump. No, Trump didn't do any of that. It was the Democrats. The Democrats' action literally fit their own definition of collusion. Maybe that is why the Democrats have failed to seek documents and information relating to how and why the now-debunked FBI investigation into Russian collusion started, because the Democrats would be front and center in that investigation.

Special Counsel Mueller's investigation didn't look at the Democrats' role in collusion, either. After 2 years, more than 2,800 subpoenas, approximately 500 search warrants and witness interviews, and \$30 million in taxpayers' money, that report ignored what the Clinton campaign and Democrats did. I can see why President Trump would be so frustrated at being incorrectly painted as a Russian agent.

So what is next? Now that the collusion narrative has been destroyed, the Democrats have turned to Ukraine. First, the news reports said Trump offered a quid pro quo, and then Trump released not only the call transcript with the Ukrainian President but the intelligence community complaint. Those were extraordinary acts of transparency, and with transparency comes accountability. The call and complaint showed no quid pro quo. The call showed that Trump was concerned about whether Ukraine had a role in the debunked Russia collusion narrative.

This is a reasonable concern, and it is a concern that I share. Accordingly, since I share that concern, on July 20, 2017, I wrote to the Justice Department about reports of brazen efforts by the Democratic National Committee and Hillary Clinton's campaign to use the Government of Ukraine for the express purpose of finding negative information on then-Candidate Trump in order to undermine the Trump campaign.

Ukrainian officials reportedly "helped Clinton's allies research damaging information on Trump and his advisers." Moreover, Nellie Ohr, the wife of Justice Department official Bruce Ohr, stated during a congressional interview that Fusion GPS used a Ukrainian politician as a source for derogatory material against then-Candidate Trump. It is no wonder, then, that President Trump is concerned about Ukraine's involvement in the debunked Russian collusion narrative.

The phone call also showed that he was concerned about then-Vice President Biden firing a prosecutor who was investigating one of the largest natural gas firms in the world. That firm happened to employ Biden's son. Years

later, Biden bragged about getting the prosecutor fired. This has been seen on television a lot:

We're not going to give you the billion dollars. They said, you have no authority. You're not the president. The president said—I said, call him. I said, I'm telling you, you're not getting the billion dollars. I said, you're not getting the billion. I'm going to be leaving here in, I think it was about six hours. I looked at them and said: I'm leaving in six hours. If the prosecutor is not fired, you're not getting the money. Well—

Then he used a cuss word.

He got fired. And they put in place someone who was solid at the time.

The Democrats have argued that Trump has tried to get the Government of Ukraine to look into this matter to benefit his political campaign. Yet it doesn't sound like there is much concern from many on the other side of the aisle about what Biden claimed to have done.

There is also another call transcript I would like to share. This one says the following:

We put some more ideas down to resolve the airport dispute we have with British Airways, USAir, and American Airlines. Would you take another look at that and see if we can get it done?

Further quoting:

It's sort of a big deal here. . . . In a political season, it would be big over here to get this open sore resolved. If you could have somebody take a look at it.

Well, that was President Bill Clinton asking for a political favor during the 2000 Presidential election between Al Gore and George Bush. I don't hear any objection whatsoever from the Democrats about the substance of that call.

Now the Democrats have also accused the President of obstructing Congress. Here, too, I think they have selective memory.

The Democrats in the Obama Justice Department didn't bat an eye when Clinton's associates deleted records subject to congressional subpoena and preservation orders. In March of 2015, Secretary Clinton's attorneys had a conference call with Paul Combetta, the man who helped manage Clinton's nongovernment server. After that call, he deleted Clinton's emails with BleachBit, a software program designed to prevent forensic recovery. Combetta admitted he lied to the FBI in his initial interviews and got immunity from the FBI in exchange for agreeing to tell the truth.

So the Obama administration gave immunity to the person who deleted Clinton's emails after a call with her attorneys. To this very day, the FBI has yet to explain why they took that course of action. During the course of the FBI's investigation, it recovered thousands of work-related emails that were not turned over to the State Department by Secretary Clinton. The FBI also recovered work-related emails that Secretary Clinton and her associates apparently deleted. All of this is very clear evidence of alienation of Federal records, which happens to be a Federal crime.

What also troubles me about one aspect of the Clinton investigation is that the FBI agreed to limit the scope of their review to her time as Secretary of State. That eliminated potentially highly relevant emails before and after her tenure that could have shed light on why she operated a nongovernment server. It also eliminated emails around the time of that conference call that could have shown what exactly was intended in deleting those emails. That limitation of scope defies reason.

Lastly, the FBI agreed to destroy records and laptops of Clinton's associates after reviewing them. That is an astonishing agreement in light of the fact that these records could have been relevant to an ongoing congressional inquiry that the FBI knew about.

So where were the Democrats when all of that happened? Where was their outrage at the potential obstruction of justice and obstruction of congressional oversight? Seems to me that if the Democrats want to be consistent, they will have to address what was done and what was totally ignored in the Clinton investigation. Russia. Clinton. Ukraine. The Democrats have ignored facts relating to these investigations that would destroy their political narrative, but facts matter, and the facts are not going to go away.

It is a shame that they have gone down this road in such a blatant attempt to remove a duly-elected President from power simply because they can't get over the 2016 election. Instead of coming together to work for the American people and to pass trade deals and legislation that would lower drug costs for seniors, the Democrats choose to gin up false political controversies while ignoring the involvement of their own political leaders.

Get over yourselves. All of us will be footnotes to footnotes in history. It is the policies that we leave behind that will matter for future generations, not smear campaigns.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

PENSIONS

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I thank Senators MANCHIN and STABENOW for joining us today. Senators BALDWIN and CASEY will come later to shine a light on the more than 1 million workers and retirees across this country who are on the verge of facing massive cuts to the pensions they have earned.

I want to thank the workers and retirees who are in Washington this week. You will see teamsters, sheet metal workers, mine workers, carpenters, ironworkers, bakers and confectioners—retirees, mostly—who have earned this retirement but because of an action in this body, simply haven't had that retirement promise fulfilled. They are demanding that Congress honor the dignity of their work and honor the promise of those pensions.

The crisis affects thousands in my State of Ohio and affects the massive

Central States pension plan, the United Mine Workers pension plan, the Ironworkers Local 17 pension plan, the Southwest Ohio carpenters pension plan, the bakers and confectioners pension plan, and others in every State in this country. We are talking about our entire multiemployer pension system. If it collapses, it won't be just the retirees who will feel the pain. Current workers will be stuck paying into pensions they will never receive, and small businesses will be left drowning in pension liability they cannot afford to pay. It will have ripple effects throughout our economy.

Let's be clear. If we do nothing, this could trigger a recession perhaps on par with the housing crisis. And we know what Wall Street greed did in the housing crisis, and we know what could happen here if Senator McCONNELL doesn't move on this. We know who gets hurt the most every single time. Small businesses that have been in the family for generations could face bankruptcy. Workers will lose jobs as businesses are forced to close shop. These businesses and employees did everything right. They contributed to these pensions, in many cases over decades.

Too often, people in this town don't understand the whole point of collective bargaining, don't understand the collective bargaining process. People give up dollars today for the promise of a secure retirement with good healthcare and a pension. They give up dollars today with a promise of having a pension and healthcare. These workers' lives and livelihoods will be devastated if Congress doesn't do its job.

When I think about the responsibility we have, I think about the words of worker Larry Ward at a hearing at the statehouse in Columbus last year. He said:

I don't understand how it is that Congress would even consider asking us to take a cut to my pension, or see it go away entirely, when it had no problems sending billions to the Wall Street crooks who caused this problem in the first place.

Don't forget that what happened on Wall Street had an impact on these pensions.

He went on to say:

They used that to pay themselves bonuses. We use our pensions to pay for medicine and food and heat.

It is bad enough that Wall Street squandered workers' money; it is worse that the government that is supposed to look out for these folks ignores the promise that was made to these workers. The President—who essentially stood by and did nothing—would say it is disgraceful.

That is why these workers are fighting back. We have kept this on the agenda because of them, because they refuse to give up. Workers rallied, called, and wrote letters. We all have seen the camo UMWA t-shirts. These workers have rallied in the name of Butch Lewis, a great Cincinnati who helped lead this fight and passed away far too soon while fighting for his fel-

low workers. His wife, Rita, has continued this fight and has become a leader and an inspiration to me and so many others. She once told me that the workers in this crisis feel like they are invisible. They are not invisible to Senator MANCHIN, Senator STABENOW, or to me. I know they are not invisible to my colleague Senator PORTMAN, who has put in months of work in good faith on this issue on the committee and continues this year. I know he is committed and I am committed, and my colleagues on the floor today—again, Senators MANCHIN, STABENOW, CASEY, and BALDWIN will be joining us. We are committed to these miners, teamsters, these retirees and workers and small businesses. We will not give up. We are continuing to work on a bipartisan solution.

It comes back to the dignity of work. When work has dignity, we honor the retirement security that people earned. We respect collective bargaining. We know collective bargaining created the middle class. I urge my colleagues in this body—colleagues with a good pension and good healthcare paid for by taxpayers—I urge my colleagues in this body to think about those retired workers and the stress they are facing.

Join us. Let's pass a solution that honors their work and keeps our promise. If you love this country, you fight for the people who make it work.

I yield to Senator MANCHIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, I want to thank my colleague from Ohio, Senator BROWN, and also Senator STABENOW, Senator CASEY, and all those who feel as strongly as we do and have constituents in our States who really helped build this country and deserve the respect we give them and also the hard fight to make sure we do the right thing for them.

We are here today to bring attention to the issue of American workers' pensions. I thank you for allowing me to speak to the ever-present issue that our retired workers face, which is the security of their pensions. My colleagues and I have come to the floor to speak on behalf of some of America's hardest workers.

It has been 285 days since I introduced the American Miners Act, which would protect miners' pensions from becoming collateral during coal mine bankruptcies. This is something that should have been done. It has been on Leader McCONNELL's desk for quite some time. We could have taken care of this a few years ago. We got the healthcare part done, but they split it apart, and we weren't able to get the pensions.

Miners rely on their hard-earned pensions in retirement. They should be secured even if the coal companies file bankruptcy. We must act, and this cannot happen without bipartisan support. The coal miners, autoworkers, Teamsters, steelworkers, and every other worker that invest in their pension

funds deserve to have stability and security in their retirement. The multiemployer pension system in the United States is in crisis.

Approximately 130 multiemployer pension plans, including the United Mine Workers of America 1974 Pension Fund, are expected to become insolvent in the next few years. The miners' pension fund alone, a critical plan that covers 82,000 retired miners—25,000 of those in West Virginia and 20,000 fully vested current workers—is projected to become insolvent by 2022. Remember that date, 2022. But there is a catch to that. We have one major coal company in the United States on the fringe of bankruptcy as I speak to you today. If they fall into bankruptcy, this whole pension plan for the miners goes into turmoil. By September 2020—within a year from now—the coal miners could see drastic cuts to their benefits if we don't act. If the UMWA Pension Fund becomes insolvent, there will be a snowball effect for the central pensions.

It has been said that the recession of 2007 and 2008 will be a blip on the radar screen compared to what this will do to our economy nationwide. The companies are going to walk away scot-free. It is unacceptable that some of our hardest workers have to beg for the money that they put into the pension fund over years and years of hard work.

Yet this is not only coal miners' pensions. It is bringing attention to all the pension plans in America. Everyone deserves to have stability in their retirement, especially those who have paid into pension plans for decades. This fight is for each and every one of them. To be clear, a pension is not just given to these employees. You don't just go to work and they say: We are going to give you a pension. It is going to be figured into your pay, and it will be deducted from your pay for you as the employee to pay part and an employer is supposed to match it. Someone is putting in money, someone is taking money from someone's paycheck, and they are hopefully putting it into a safe place or safe investment.

How can it be that when they go bankrupt they lose everything? Who gets it? Who walks away with their money? That is what we are talking about. This funding is set aside from the employee's paycheck throughout their career and matched by their employer. Workers invest in their pensions. They take a cut in pay over time to ensure that they have security in retirement. Rather than taking money home to their family, they say: This will be fine. In 20 years from now, 25 years from now, 30 years from now, I will have something I can rely on that will basically provide stability for my family. It is truly their money that we are talking about.

The law of the land—the law of this great country—allows companies to not pay their former employees' hard-earned pensions when they go bankrupt. They don't say: Okay, if you are

going to declare bankruptcy, the first thing you have to do is pay the employees. You must pay the people who put their money in. Make sure they get their money. That is all. And then we can work out the rest.

But, no, we don't do it that way. Their CEOs receive bonuses. At the bankruptcy hearing, they will get a bonus. All the financial institutions get taken care of first. There is nothing left for the employee. The person's money is gone. Somebody else got it. It just doesn't make any sense at all. It is not who we are as a great country. It makes no sense, whatsoever, how the laws evolved into that, unless there is pure, unadulterated American greed that allowed this to happen.

We have to reverse it. It is the law of the land. Guess what? We are the lawmakers of the land. We are the ones who can change this. This is permitted because the courts and our bankruptcy laws continue to allow the companies to break their promises to the workers and shed their obligations to pay the hard-earned pension benefits. They are able to reemerge from bankruptcy in good financial shape. They are able to shirk all their responsibilities and take all of somebody else's money and come out of this OK. They are ready to do business again.

I am sorry. The same old-same old is not going to happen. Then the Federal Government is left with the burden to provide a percentage of the pensions owed to these employees. This comes because we have Federal guarantees. That is about ready to go bankrupt, too. We are going to break it because of people not taking care of the people who did the work. It comes straight out of the pockets of everyday Americans from their taxes instead of from the companies who walk away without managing their obligations to their employees and families. That is why my colleagues and I have come together today to bring to light these issues that affects 10.6 million Americans.

In West Virginia, every time a mine closes, the miners get the rug pulled out from under them. It has been happening far too long. Many lose their jobs and livelihoods, and many others lost their healthcare and pensions. This year alone, 1,200 coal miners, their widows, and family members could also lose their healthcare coverage.

For those of you who think this is just another Big Government program, let me share a little history with you. In 1946, due to the horrendous working conditions our miners faced every day, there was a nationwide strike coming right out of World War II. It brought our Nation's economy to its knees. President Truman knew this could not continue. He dispatched the Secretary of Interior Julius Krug to meet with the president of the United Mine Workers of America, John L. Lewis. They ended that strike by signing the Krug-Lewis agreement which created a retirement fund and healthcare benefits

for our Nation's coal miners and their families that had the full backing of the United States Government. What we are saying is it was so important that we continue to work and produce the energy this country needed—basically, it wasn't the government giving them anything. They were saying that, for every ton of coal that was sold, a portion of that revenue from the coal that was sold would have to go towards the miners' pension and the miners' retirement.

Over 70 years ago, President Harry Truman recognized the importance of coal that our miners produced for this country and promised that the government would guarantee our coal miners' benefits in return of their services. He was guaranteeing that money would be there for them. In turn, our coal miners propelled the American economy, ushered in decades of economic growth, started an energy boom that made the U.S. a superpower, and helped our Nation to victory in two world wars. This agreement was a sacred promise between workers and our country, and it captured the very best of America.

Unfortunately, over 70 years later, we are still fighting to make good on that promise. After securing healthcare benefits for retired coal miners, we proved that Congress can work together and put partisan politics aside. It is a philosophy that I have followed throughout my life in public service—in the West Virginia State Legislature, as a former Governor of the State of West Virginia, and now as a Senator representing the State of West Virginia.

I know that my fellow colleagues here today are fighting for solutions with me. I am asking all of our colleagues here in the Senate and in the House to join us in this fight. To be successful, we must address this in a bipartisan way. It is not who we are to be divided as we have been. It is not who we are as a country to have this toxic atmosphere that we come to. I tell people that I go to work in a hostile work environment every day. People don't want to work together. They are not expected to work together anymore. It is the norm to fight.

That is not true where I come from. We never got anything accomplished by fighting in West Virginia. I hope that, together, we can work out a solution to this terrible issue facing our Nation and our workers so that they can retire peacefully without a constant worry of losing their hard-earned pensions.

Let me tell you what the average pension paid to a miner is when they retire—and most of this goes to the widows because the miners have passed away. It is around \$600 a month. They worked 20 and 30 years in the mines. This is not a windfall for anybody. It is a sustenance that just absolutely keeps them alive so that they can retire and live peacefully. That is all they are asking for.

I am proud to stand here today with my fellow colleagues, and we are going

to fight to keep our commitment to our citizens of our respective States in this great country.

I am glad to yield to my dear friend and my colleague from Michigan, Senator STABENOW.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASSIDY). The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague. I think he stepped to the back. No one has been a better champion for our miners and their families than Senator JOE MANCHIN. Every single day, he brings to us the needs of our coal miners and people who have literally fueled a generation beyond our economy. I want to thank Senator MANCHIN for his leadership, and also thank Senator BROWN for his leadership as well. The two of them together are leading our efforts.

I am proud to be joining with them to focus on an issue that is hurting working men and women across Michigan and across the country. It is an issue that, quite frankly, I can't believe that, in the Senate, we are having to actually talk about why people should get the pension that they have paid into their whole life. I can't believe that we even have to have this as an issue or the fact that we are having to fight to get the attention of the majority leader and the majority in the Senate who actually bring up legislation to help people get the pension they have paid into their whole working life. This ought to be a given. We used to think it was. It is wrong that it is not today.

For generations, millions of working people built better lives for themselves and their families with jobs that provided more than just a paycheck. Folks worked really hard, and in exchange for a job well done, they could count on basic benefits, including healthcare and a secure retirement, coming through a pension that they paid into while they were working. These workers didn't just build their own families. They literally built the middle class.

I can tell you, coming from Michigan, that is exactly what happened. They built our economy. They built our American way of life, and they just assumed that America would keep its promises, that the companies would keep their promises, that our laws would be set up in a way that they could trust would work, and that the money they were putting into a pension and retirement security would be there for themselves and their families. I don't think that is too much to ask.

Many of these coal miners, truck drivers, construction workers, auto-workers, and others gave up raises—as my colleagues already talked about—in exchange for retirement security. They would negotiate, and they would say that, rather than get that money in my paycheck now, I want to put it into my retirement so that I know it is there for myself and my family going forward.

They held up their end of the bargain. Unfortunately, that bargain is

now crumbling for too many. Imagine what it would be like to have to cut your family budget 50 percent or 60 percent or even 70 percent and still get the bills paid and keep food on the table.

I talked to a gentleman from Michigan named John who lives in Monroe. He doesn't have to imagine that because he and his family are living that every day. John is a retired diesel mechanic whose pension benefits were slashed 72 percent. For any one of us, imagine if our incomes were slashed 72 percent. That started for him in January 2018.

As you can only imagine, the past 2 years have been a tremendous hardship for him and for his family. They have been using their savings, as he said to me, to pay the bills for the past 2 years. They have cut everything non-essential and are now cutting even the essentials from their budget. John and Kathy, his wife, used to be able to help out their children, including a son who is disabled, but they no longer have the means to do that, which is something that is really devastating for them.

John said: "The mental strain and anxiety we are enduring because of the loss of a guaranteed income has become increasingly difficult."

Kathy added that it is hard for people to understand what it is like to live on just one-quarter of the income that one used to have.

Kathy and John aren't alone. That is why we are on the floor. That is why we are asking—demanding—that action be taken on their behalf. Between 1 million and 1.5 million American workers and retirees are in pension plans that are at serious risk of becoming insolvent within the next 20 years. As well, by the end of this year, as Senator MANCHIN said, more than 1,200 coal miners and their family members could lose their healthcare coverage.

These hard-working Americans deserve better than this. Right now, they are just waiting and waiting and waiting for the U.S. Senate to act—for the Senate majority leader and the Republican majority to decide it is important to act on their behalf. It has now been 83 days since the House of Representatives passed the Rehabilitation for Multiemployer Pensions Act—83 days. We have plenty of time to take this up on the Senate floor. We have plenty of time to take it up. There needs to be a sense of urgency about doing it because John and Kathy certainly feel that sense of urgency as they are trying to pay the bills and do what they can to support their children. They feel that every day.

This bill is the companion legislation to what we have called the Butch Lewis Act. Thanks to Senator BROWN for introducing this important legislation, I am proud to be a cosponsor along with many of my colleagues. It has also been 285 days, as Senator MANCHIN said, since Senators MANCHIN, KAINE, WARNER, BROWN, JONES, and CASEY introduced the American Miners Act. So we have two bills in front of

us—one that has been held up now for 285 days and one that has been held up for 83 days. We need to have action.

The American Miners Act secures retired miners' pensions and saves their healthcare benefits. It is past time for Senate Majority Leader MCCONNELL to stop stalling and to take action on behalf of the folks who did nothing more than work their whole lives, created the middle class of this country, and believed their country and believed the companies when they said, if they paid into pensions, they would be there. Hard-working American families have been waiting way too long.

I have always believed that a pension was a promise. It is just plain and simple. It is a promise, and it is a promise that deserves to be kept. People like John, who have worked hard to earn their retirement benefits, shouldn't have to worry about paying their power bills, putting food on their tables, or keeping their homes. They should know that their pensions will be there for them—the pensions they paid into all the time they were working. They have earned them over a lifetime of work, and those pensions are promises that need to be kept.

I urge my Republican colleagues to join us in helping to keep that promise for John and for the hard-working Americans like him. We could do this very quickly this week if we would come together and have a sense of urgency about what is affecting folks who have worked hard all of their lives, who are now retired, and who just need to know that those pensions are going to be there for themselves and their families.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 27

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be discharged from the further consideration of S. 27, the American Miners Act of 2019; that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; 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 with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, in reserving the right to object, let me give a short explanation.

The issues facing miners' pension plans are of critical importance, but I have to tell my colleagues that so are the issues that face a large number of multiemployer plans, and one of the biggest that is of concern is the Central States Pension Plan.

Since last year, the Committee on Finance has been working on a bipartisan basis to address the issues that face the multiemployer system. We are nearing the completion of a comprehensive proposal that will include

financial assistance to the critical and declining multiemployer pension plans and will provide long-term solvency to these plans and to the longer term solvency of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, or, as we know it around here, the PBGC. That proposal will include financial relief for miners and mining companies because the situation with the miners' pensions should be handled in the context of these broader, multiemployer plan reforms.

The Senator from West Virginia is a person with whom I work very often and like personally, but I must object to this and take the course of action of dealing with this in a larger context rather than just for miners' pensions, so I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, if I could respond briefly to the Senator from Iowa, the reason for my request, as far as its being urgent, is that we are on the cusp of having one major coal company go bankrupt. As we speak right now, it is out there trying to restructure, but if it declares bankruptcy, our timetable on our miners' pensions moves from 2022 to 2020. If the miners go down first, it will create a whole tumbling effect with the others. This one can keep us from going into insolvency with the PBGC. All we are trying to do is to prevent that from happening because this is going to move very quickly, unfortunately, if this one large coal company goes bankrupt.

That is why I brought it to the floor today, sir, with all due respect.

I hope the Senator and I will talk some more about this and that he will understand the gravity of what we are dealing with because it is really concerning to me right now.

I thank the Senator.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I heard what my friend said. I still stick by what I told him, which is that we are working on a plan to deal with multiemployers in many different situations of which the Senator's is a very important part.

Mr. MANCHIN. I respect that, sir.

I look forward to working with the Senator.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

PENSIONS

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise on behalf of nearly 25,000 workers and retirees in Wisconsin who have paid into the Central States Pension Fund.

It has been 3½ years since the Treasury Department denied an application by the Central States Pension Fund to slash pensions that had already been earned by thousands of plan members. In that time, retirees have organized at home. They have called on their Members of Congress. They have also come to Washington countless times—all to remind us of the promises they were made when they earned their pensions and to fight for a solution to this looming crisis.

I have been proud to work side by side with Wisconsin workers and retirees and with Senator BROWN to introduce the Butch Lewis Act. This legislation will put failing multiemployer pension plans, including Central States, back on solid ground, and it does so without cutting the pensions retirees have earned.

(The remarks of Ms. BALDWIN pertaining to the introduction of S. 2598 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Ms. BALDWIN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise today as well to talk about pensions, as so many of my colleagues have been—and not just talking about but acting to advance legislation with regard to pensions.

As we have heard today—and we will keep saying this because it bears repeating—pensions are a promise. They are a promise of a secure retirement. When a worker enters into that promise with a company, when the Federal Government is involved, we have to make sure we keep the promise to workers, just as we did a couple of years ago, after a lot of hard work, to make sure healthcare was there for coal miners who were retired.

Pensions are an issue that both Houses of Congress have a responsibility to act on.

The House passed the Butch Lewis Act 3 months ago, but like a lot of legislation that has come from the House, it is sitting in the Senate day after day, week after week and in this case 3 months—3 months—since passage in the House. It is time for the U.S. Senate to have a vote on the Butch Lewis Act.

In Pennsylvania, and I know this is true of several other States, we are talking about coal miners, teamsters, bakery and confectionary workers who, through no fault of their own, are seeing their hard-earned pensions threatened. Failure to act could result in devastating economic consequences across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and across our Nation.

Just think about it this way, in terms of Pennsylvania: One estimate has it that over 60,000 pensions—60,000—including 11,831 coal miners, 21,460 teamsters as part of that larger number—could be at risk.

Despite the challenges ahead, the good news is, we have bipartisan legislation that I mentioned a moment ago, the Butch Lewis Act, which passed the House 3 months ago.

Senator BROWN of Ohio and others have worked hard to make sure this effort on pensions is in front of the agenda in the Senate.

The Butch Lewis Act will create a loan program for troubled pensions. It is a commonsense solution that brings the public sector and the private sector together to address this looming crisis for workers.

We must also pass legislation so we can address the coal miners' healthcare and coal miners' pension crises. Senator MANCHIN from West Virginia has shown great leadership in this process over many years.

We also owe thanks to the Members of the U.S. Senate Democratic caucus. Few, if any, have coal miners in their States, but because of a concerted effort in the Democratic caucus, we have made coal miners and their healthcare and retirements and their pensions a priority. Those Democratic Senators stood with Senators like me from States that have a large number of retired coal miners because it is the right thing to do. Those Democratic Senators know it is the right thing to do. Some Republican Senators do as well.

It is the right thing to do because, as I started with, pensions are a promise, and we have to make sure we keep our promise to those workers.

Thousands of Pennsylvania families are counting on us, and many more thousands of American families across the board outside of Pennsylvania are counting on us to keep our promise on pensions and to make sure we continue to fight until that promise is kept to our workers and to their families.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MCSALLY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The bill 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 Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force.

Mitch McConnell, Martha McSally, Rick Scott, John Thune, Mike Crapo, Lamar Alexander, Johnny Isakson, John Cornyn, Roy Blunt, Roger F. Wicker, John Hoeven, Mike Rounds, Kevin Cramer, Steve Daines, John Boozman, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James E. Risch.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARNER), and the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 84, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 314 Ex.]

YEAS—84

Baldwin	Graham	Portman
Barrasso	Grassley	Reed
Blackburn	Hassan	Risch
Blunt	Hawley	Roberts
Boozman	Heinrich	Romney
Braun	Hoeven	Rosen
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Burr	Inhofe	Rubio
Cantwell	Isakson	Sasse
Capito	Johnson	Schatz
Cardin	Jones	Schumer
Carper	Kaine	Scott (FL)
Casey	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	King	Shaheen
Collins	Lankford	Shelby
Cornyn	Leahy	Sinema
Cortez Masto	Lee	Stabenow
Cotton	Manchin	Sullivan
Cramer	McConnell	Tester
Crapo	McSally	Thune
Cruz	Menendez	Tillis
Daines	Moran	Toomey
Durbin	Murkowski	Udall
Enzi	Murphy	Van Hollen
Ernst	Murray	Warner
Feinstein	Paul	Whitehouse
Fischer	Perdue	Wicker
Gardner	Peters	Young

NAYS—7

Blumenthal	Markey	Wyden
Duckworth	Merkley	
Gillibrand	Smith	

NOT VOTING—9

Alexander	Coons	Klobuchar
Bennet	Harris	Sanders
Booker	Hirono	Warren

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 84, and the nays are 7.

The motion is agreed to.

The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture motions for the Volk, Eskridge, Novak, and Kovner nominations ripen at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, October 16; I further ask that notwithstanding rule XXII, that at 4:15 p.m. tomorrow, all postcloture time on the Barrett, Volk, Eskridge, Novak, and Kovner nominations be considered expired; finally, I ask that if any of the nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam 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 DAVE ADKISSON

Mr. McDONNELL. Madam President, it is my pleasure today to salute a transformative leader in my home State of Kentucky, Dave Adkisson. At the end of October, Dave will retire as the president and CEO of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, ending nearly 15 years of representing our Commonwealth's employers and signature industries. His talent for advocacy and consensus-building have benefited Kentucky, and I would like to thank him for his many achievements for our State.

Dave began his career at his hometown chamber of commerce in Owensboro, KY. His creativity and successful management won him a lot of fans early on, and he was elected the mayor of Owensboro at the age of 34. Championing several development projects and attracting new businesses to the city, Dave was reelected to a second term without opposition.

Leaving public service, Dave accepted an offer to lead the Birmingham, Alabama, Chamber. The career move took Dave's talents out of Kentucky, but he wouldn't be gone for long. He returned home and began his current role leading the statewide chamber. At the helm of our Commonwealth's largest business association, Dave has grown the organization and expanded its reach. Now, it represents more than 3,800 businesses in Kentucky.

As the leader of the Kentucky Chamber, Dave has made a positive and lasting impact on the public policies enacted both in Frankfort and in Washington. His organization helped lead the charge to pass a right-to-work law in Kentucky, giving workers more freedom over their paychecks and drawing new investment into the Bluegrass State. Dave was also a key ally in our drive to pass comprehensive Federal tax reform and cut burdensome regulations. Kentucky's strong economy is a result, in part, of Dave's leadership.

He has also been recognized nationally among his peers for his important work. In 2017, the Kentucky Chamber was named the top chamber in the country, and Dave has lent his expertise to several national business associations. To foster future innovators, Dave cofounded Leadership Kentucky, a highly selective program to equip prominent Kentuckians with the skills to excel. It is just one example in a long list of contributions Dave has made to improve our State's bright future.

As Dave leaves the Kentucky Chamber, I am glad to know he will continue leading various projects around the Commonwealth. I am sure our communities will continue to benefit from his talent and guiding hand. I am also reassured to know that, while Dave is spending some well-deserved time with his wife Bonnie and their family, the Kentucky Chamber will be in the capable hands of its new president, Ashli Watts. A seasoned advocacy veteran, Ashli can build upon the years of success and help the Kentucky Chamber continue to be a strong voice for our state's job creators.

So, Mr. President, I would like to thank Dave for his years of leadership in Kentucky. As an elected official and a public policy advocate he has created a legacy of accomplishment that will be enjoyed for years to come. It is a privilege to pay tribute to my friend today, and I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in honoring Dave Adkisson and wishing him a fulfilling retirement.

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, during National Hispanic Heritage Month, we are called to honor the contributions of a critical community—that of Hispanic Americans. Now accounting for 60 million individuals in the United States, these men and women are an essential pillar of our society. Although this group has grown significantly in recent decades, individuals of Hispanic descent and culture have been with our Nation since its very founding.

Hispanic identity is a complex concept, at least with respect to how many in the United States traditionally understand race and ethnicity. The word "Hispanic" stems from "Hispania," the Latin name for the ancient Roman colonies on the Iberian Peninsula that also serves as the origin for the modern state of España, or Spain. It was there that the Spanish or Castilian language, culture, and people developed out of the convergence of Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Celts, Basques, Visigoths and Arabs, in addition to Christians, Muslims, and Jews.

The story does not end there. Along the hallowed walls of the U.S. Capitol Rotunda are two paintings by John Vanderlyn depicting key historical scenes. In 1492, the Spanish Catholic Monarchs King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella agreed to sponsor the journey of Christopher Columbus in search of a passage to the East Indies. Columbus failed at this goal, but, as the Landing of Columbus illustrates, he did land in the island now named San Salvador in the Bahamas. This voyage prompted the Spanish exploration and colonization of the Americas, including North America, reaching as far as Mississippi in 1541, as depicted by William Henry Powell's Discovery of the Mississippi by De Soto, and even deep into the Pacific Northwest.

Even then, however, we are still missing other key elements of the story. The Spanish were not alone. They encountered vast empires, the Aztecs and the Incas, in addition to hundreds of other peoples, from the Mapuche in Argentina to the Maya in Guatemala. Colonization was a bloody process that uprooted and killed millions of indigenous people. Moreover, the Spanish brought millions of Africans to the Americas as part of the Atlantic slave trade. Men, women, and children had to struggle in cruel and terrible conditions as the property of others. Nevertheless, it is undeniable that the indigenous and African communities have helped make the Hispanic community what it is today, whether it's in culture, art, music, food, language, or even the genetic makeup of the people themselves. Significant portions of the Hispanic community can trace their descent to these two groups—at least in part, if not entirely.

The exploration and colonization that would lead to the creation of the Hispanic world in the Americas would, in turn, set the stage for English to do the same later, beginning with the first permanent settlement in Jamestown, VA, in 1607. Eventually, these English colonies would sever themselves from the British Empire and form the United States of America. But Spanish colonies would continue to influence our Nation throughout our history. Multiple territories, such as Florida, Texas, California, and Puerto Rico, became integral parts of our country. Others, inspired by the principles of the Enlightenment and the examples of the American and French Revolutions, became their own independent countries. They have since been our neighbors in the Western Hemisphere and some of our most critical partners in trade, security, and championing the virtues of democracy.

Congress established National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15 in recognition of the pivotal contributions and legacy of this community that traces its roots to Spain, Mexico, Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and further beyond. Millions, such as the Hispanos of New Mexico and the Tejanos of Texas, are the descendants of settlers who have been on these lands for centuries. Starting in the twentieth century, millions of individuals from across the Hispanic world have come to our Nation as immigrants. Since 2000, the Hispanic population in Maryland has more than doubled, now accounting for half a million people, or nearly 10 percent of all Marylanders. Our State is home to a diverse community of individuals with origins from across the Hispanic world, with sizeable populations of Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Guatemalans, Salvadorans, and Peruvians.

Yet we must recognize that this community faces distinct challenges. Instability continues to hamper the abilities

of already fragile states in our hemisphere, and dangerous conditions abroad prompt many to leave everything behind to pursue a safer existence. As the Hispanic-American population has grown, racism, hatred, and naked xenophobia have unfortunately grown with it. Given these trying circumstances, we must recognize the obligations that arise from our shared humanity to assist those in need and to welcome and celebrate our differences.

Hispanic Americans have done so much to support and make the United States of America the exceptional nation that it is today. They have made groundbreaking discoveries and innovations in science and technology. They have shown us new ideas, art and music, and cuisine. They have created new products and jobs as entrepreneurs and business owners, and they have led our communities as dutiful elected representatives of the people. They have fought and are fighting today to protect our way of life and to promote our interests and ideals abroad. During National Hispanic Heritage Month, we celebrate this community's countless contributions, but not necessarily as something new. Hispanic Americans have played an important role in the American story since its very beginning.

PARKINSON'S DISEASE

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, today I wish to discuss the impact of Parkinson's disease in the U.S. and across the world.

While significant progress has been made in managing certain symptoms and identifying potential risk factors, we still lack a clear understanding of the underlying causes of Parkinson's disease. To that end, I continue to support the strongest funding possible for biomedical research under the National Institutes of Health and its Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies—BRAIN—Initiative, as well as the Parkinson's Research Program at the Department of Defense. These investments are necessary to sustain efforts by our Nation's scientists at the helm of innovative research and discovery, with the hope and resolve that we will one day find a cure.

I would like to highlight a recent study entitled "The Economic Burden of Parkinson's Disease," which was brought to my attention in a meeting with constituents led by Dan Lewis, a longtime advocate for Parkinson's research. Commissioned by the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, this study places the annual economic impact of Parkinson's at \$52 billion in 2017, nearly double the previous estimates. Approximately half of that total reflects the medical costs of Parkinson's patients, primarily paid by Medicare.

The other half reflects the real indirect costs shouldered by patients with Parkinson's, their caregivers, and our

society. The effects of living with Parkinson's disease permeate so many aspects of patients' lives, from personal finances to workforce participation to caregiver time and effort. With a rising aging population, the burden will only grow from here; the number of people with Parkinson's disease is projected to double by 2040.

By shedding light on the human and societal impact of Parkinson's, this study illustrates the critical need for sustained research toward better treatments and a cure. I ask unanimous consent that this study be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and encourage all Senators and staff to review it. Thank you.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Lewin Group, July 5, 2019]
**ECONOMIC BURDEN AND FUTURE IMPACT OF
 PARKINSON'S DISEASE
 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a slowly progressive neurodegenerative disorder that affects approximately one million Americans. In addition to the debilitating symptoms of PD itself, patients also experience a number of comorbidities, such as anxiety, depression, increased rates of infection, cardiac and gastrointestinal diseases, and injuries from falls. As a result, individuals with PD have higher medical needs, often miss work, retire early, and require the assistance of a caregiver. As such, the direct and indirect economic burden of PD is likely to be significant.

As part of its initiative to understand the economic burden of PD, the Michael J. Fox Foundation commissioned The Lewin Group to estimate the economic impact of PD in the U.S. in 2017. This study aims to provide the most comprehensive assessment of the total burden of PD to date, including filling the knowledge gap in some of the less well-understood cost components, such as future earnings loss due to premature death, productivity loss in both the labor market as well as in social life, and caregiver burden.

STUDY HIGHLIGHTS

This study provides the most comprehensive assessment of the economic burden of PD in the U.S. in 2017. The estimated total economic burden of PD in 2017 was \$51.9 billion, including a direct medical cost of \$25.4 billion and an additional \$26.5 billion in indirect and non-medical cost. These findings show that the true impact of PD has been previously underestimated in the literature (see the Discussion section).

Another highlight of the study is the Social and Financial Impact of Parkinson's Disease Survey (i.e. the PD Impact Survey). This primary survey was specifically designed and administered for this study to deepen the understanding of the full spectrum of PD impact. The survey was able to collect detailed data on a broad set of indirect and non-medical costs of PD that were previously unavailable, especially the impact of PD on unpaid caregivers. This survey was one of the largest surveys conducted so far on relatively rare neurodegenerative diseases and received almost 5,000 responses from the PD community.

STUDY FINDINGS

PD prevalence estimated using nationally representative surveys for younger and elderly U.S. populations revealed a much higher prevalence than previous literature. Exhibit ES-1 shows the estimated PD prevalence:

An estimated 1.04 million individuals in the U.S. have PD in 2017.

PD is much more prevalent in the 65 population than in the younger population. More males than females have PD.

PD prevalence rate is more than double among non-Hispanic White compared to other groups, although this result is not risk-adjusted and is subjected to small sample size limitations.

Vast majority (89%) of the persons with PD are eligible for Medicare. Among the estimated 919,000 individuals eligible for Medicare coverage, 82,000 (9%) are younger than age 65.

PD is associated with significant amount of excess medical cost: \$25.4 billion in 2017, higher than the previous U.S. based estimates. Exhibit ES-2 shows the estimated direct medical cost of PD.

The vast majority of the medical cost of PD is borne by populations with Medicare coverage (90%), 7% by those with private insurance, and 3% by those with other insurance including Medicaid, other insurance, or no insurance). Note: the five-year combined MEPS data identified a total of 20 PWP's who are in the Other group, the small sample size prevented further breakdown.

On average, the excess medical cost of PD is \$24,439 above not having PD. Average per person excess cost is \$22,671 and \$19,489 for the privately insured and Other group of persons with PD who are younger than 65 years of age, respectively; and \$24,811 for the Medicare beneficiary population with PD.

Hospital inpatient care, non-acute institutional care (including SNF, nursing home, hospice, etc.), and outpatient (including ancillary care) are the three largest cost categories.

The estimated total indirect and non-medical cost of PD is \$26.5 billion in 2017, with near \$20 billion to persons with PD and another \$6.6 billion to unpaid care partners. Exhibit ES-3 shows the estimated indirect and non-medical cost of PD:

Average indirect and non-medical cost per PWP is \$19,242 for PWP only and \$25,558 for PWP combined with caregiver burden.

Total indirect cost is \$14.2 billion with the combined PWP and caregiver absenteeism cost being the largest share, followed by presenteeism cost and premature death related earnings loss. The cost of absenteeism and presenteeism for the care partners even surpass those for the PWP's.

Total non-medical cost is \$7.5 billion with the paid non-medical daily care being the largest share, followed by home modification cost.

Disability income, although considered transfer cost, is approximately \$4.8 billion.

The full report can be found at <https://www.michaeljfox.org>.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DR. MICHAEL CHERINGTON

● Mr. GARDNER. Madam President, today I wish to honor and celebrate Dr. Michael Cherington of Castle Rock, CO. This fall, Dr. Cherington is reaching the age of 85. He has lived a full life and helped many others to do the same.

Born in Pittsburgh, PA in 1934, Michael, who often went by the nickname "Mickey" showed initial greatness at age 10 when his father arranged for him to play against the American chess champion, Arnold Denker. Arnold defeated all the adult opponents in the room. Mickey's game ended in a draw.

After graduating from the University of Pittsburgh, Mickey attended Pitt Medical School, then moved to Colorado Springs for a year of residency. During that year, he received an important letter "Greetings, You're being drafted into the U.S. Army." His extended stay in Colorado with the Army would become the hook that kept him happily in the State to this day, some 60 years later.

Dr. Cherington set up a private practice in neurology in Denver and was made professor at the University of Colorado Medical School. He served the community very well in both of these capacities, helping thousands of patients in Colorado. As an author of dozens of articles and other research, he became known internationally and traveled around the world to meet with neurologists as new medical discoveries were allowing people to be cured of ailments that were once a fatal diagnosis.

His time in Colorado led him into an unusual field of neurology, studying survivors of lightning strikes. His work in this field led to a new nickname, "Lightning Doctor", and he would go on to publish many articles about lightning injuries and how to avoid them. His work led to the creation of the Lightning Data Center, which brought together experts across several areas of expertise and disciplines. Soon the Lightning Doctor was on local TV and beyond, including ABC's "20/20," "National Geographic," and even "Unsolved Mysteries." Through Mickey's work, he was able to help people avoid the doctor's office, or worse, by educating them about lightning storms and lightning safety.

Today, Dr. Cherington lives happily with his wife Nancy Cherington and spends time with family and close friends. That chess player from Pittsburgh can still be seen around a chess board—most likely on his iPad—or spending time with his children or their nine grandchildren.

Thank you, Dr. Cherington, for your contributions in your work and for those around you.●

TRIBUTE TO DAVID BRINTON

● Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Madam President, I am pleased to commend David Brinton for his contributions and dedicated service as a member of my personal office staff.

A native of Tupelo, MS, David earned multiple degrees from Mississippi State University, including a bachelor of business administration degree with a major in business economics, a master of public policy and administration, and a master of arts in economics. Following that, David turned his attention to studying law, graduating cum laude with his juris doctor from Georgetown University Law Center, while working part time.

David's contributions throughout his tenure have been invaluable to the legislative functions of my office, and his

insightful input will be missed. I, along with the rest of my office, have benefited from David's knowledge and experience. His personal qualities are impeccable. He is a hard working, courteous, and intelligent young man, who has a strong sense of responsibility, good judgment, and a pleasant demeanor that makes him an easy person to like.

Mississippi and our Nation have been well-served by the diligence, dedication, and commitment to excellence David provided on a daily basis. He has put forth his best efforts to reflect credit on me, my State, and the Senate, and has been successful in doing so. I will miss David's good counsel. He has my appreciation and gratitude for the notable job he has done in the Senate. I wish David, his wife Julia, and their son Henry, all the best in their future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT KAUFMAN

● Mr. PETERS. Madam President, today I wish to recognize Mr. Scott Kaufman's term of service as chief executive officer of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit, which includes the contributions he has made to Metro Detroit and its Jewish communities.

Founded in 1926, the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit has supported the Jewish population in the greater Detroit area by addressing their health, welfare, educational, cultural, and spiritual needs, not only in Southeast Michigan, but also in Israel and throughout the world. Under Mr. Kaufman's stewardship, the federation has expanded these efforts, which have strengthened the Jewish community, and Southeast Michigan, as a whole.

Mr. Kaufman has been with the federation since 2007, serving in a variety of roles including director of strategic initiatives and director of the federation's yearlong effort to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Israel in 2008, as well as leading multiple family missions to Israel.

Mr. Kaufman has also ensured the longevity of the federation by encouraging its engagement of young Jewish people. Mr. Kaufman's leadership in those efforts led to the development of programs such as CommunityNEXT and NEXTGen Detroit. These programs have gone on to become models of engagement for Jewish organizations across the country. His initiatives have focused on addressing crucial needs within the community, such as JHelp, where individuals in need can find resources to aid them in areas such as housing, disability services, and mental health. These efforts have led to the expansion of the federation's scope and mission, as well as the impact it continues to make in Metro Detroit.

The Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit is a dynamic organization whose endeavors have been felt far and wide in communities across metro Detroit. Its rich history of service to the

Jewish community and all residents of Southeast Michigan continue to enhance of vibrancy of Metro Detroit. As the federation celebrates and reflects on the end of Mr. Kaufman's term as CEO, I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating him, as well as the employees and volunteers of the federation, whose impact has and continues to improve the lives so many. I wish the federation success in the years ahead as it continues in its mission, and I am confident Mr. Kaufman's will continue to lead endeavors in metro Detroit that strengthen the community.●

RECOGNIZING HANSON GARAGE

● Mr. RISCH. Madam President, today I wish to highlight the hard work and determination of a small business in my home State of Idaho. The small business that I am honoring today goes above and beyond when it comes to embodying the American entrepreneurial spirit. As a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my pleasure to recognize Hanson Garage, Inc., as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for October 2019.

Hanson Garage in Orofino was founded in 1917 by Hans "Pete" Hanson and began selling Dodge vehicles in 1919. Pete's son, Ket Hanson, later took over the garage and passed it on to his sons Keith and Larry when he retired in the early 1980s. Keith and Larry grew up sweeping floors and washing cars at the garage, and upon graduating from the University of Idaho, they became partners in the family business. More than 100 years and three generations later, Hanson Garage remains a smalltown, family-owned business renowned for its passion, friendliness, and dedication to providing exceptional service.

The garage sells new and used Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep, and Ram vehicles, Suzuki ATVs and motorcycles, and KTM motorcycles. It also offers services such as financial assistance, vehicle repair, and a variety of parts for purchase. Over the years, the business has received several awards from Chrysler and Suzuki for exceptional sales and service, and the Hanson family attributes the business's success to their consistent fair prices and superior customer service.

Thirteen families in the Orofino area are employed at Hanson Garage, comprising a significant share of the workforce for a community of about 3,000 people. Keith and Larry Hanson are active members of the Orofino Chamber of Commerce and supporters of local youth sporting events and of the Orofino Lumber Jack Days and the County Fair. I would like to extend a well-deserved congratulations to Keith and Larry Hanson and all of the employees of Hanson Garage for being selected as the October 2019 Idaho Small Business of the Month. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

TRIBUTE TO RUSS COWLEY

• Mr. ROMNEY. Madam President, I wish to congratulate Mr. Russ Cowley, a man of remarkable achievement and character, on a career dedicated to public service for the great State of Utah. After three decades with the Six County Association of Governments, including 22 years of service as its executive director, Russ is passing the torch of leadership. He leaves behind a distinguished legacy and big boots to fill.

The Six County Association of Governments is instrumental in facilitating economic and community development in Juab, Millard, Piute, Sanpete, Sevier, and Wayne Counties. Six County AOG brings local voices to the table to oversee State and Federal programs as well as a wide range of services in an efficient and impactful manner for rural Utah.

As executive director, Russ has demonstrated an extraordinary ability to bring together the right people and resources to achieve results for the Six County region. His commitment to fostering development is evident in his hiring of staff who are dedicated to accessing resources for local governments.

Russ has advocated on behalf of rural Utahns by bringing together important stakeholders and decisionmakers. He pioneered an annual leadership summit, which focuses on rural Utah's economic growth, and the Natural Resource Summer Meeting, which highlights critical public lands and natural resource issues for the region. Additionally, the congressional briefing highlights specific pressing topics for Members of Congress and their staffs, and the Six County Legislative Day connects local elected officials and State legislators to set legislative goals on these critical issues.

The legacy of Russ Cowley will shape rural Utah for generations to come. Our great State owes him a debt of gratitude for three decades of selfless public service. We wish the cowboy from Venice the best in his next chapter.

Thank you, Russ, for your service to our State.●

REMEMBERING FRANKLYN G. VERLEY III

• Ms. ROSEN. Madam President, today I would like to honor the life and legacy of Franklyn G. Verley III, a radio host and community leader who passed away in Las Vegas, NV, in late September at the age of 59. Franklyn Verley will be remembered as the host of the "Like it is Radio" show on Las Vegas' Power 88.1 for the past 16 years, where he made the most of his role to highlight social, race, and economic issues that impact the Las Vegas community every day.

Franklyn was born and raised in New York, NY, where his parents immersed him in Black culture and the value of

his roots and cultural history. While living in New York, he was a lead sales representative for the School and College Department for the New York Times. Once he relocated to Las Vegas in the mid-2000s, Franklyn began his radio career, joining the team at KCEP Power 88.1, where he hosted the "Like it is Radio Show." As a host and executive producer, he brought on a wide range of guests, such as Senator Harry Reid, Armstrong Williams, and Angela Bassett. His show covered topics that ranged from political, judicial, and social issues that affected the Black community he advocated for on a daily basis. He also became a recipient of many awards, being inducted into the Nevada Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame in 2019 and receiving the Fountain of Hope Community Activism Award and the NAACP Legacy Builder Award.

Franklyn will be dearly missed by family members, friends, and the hundreds of people whose lives he touched every day through his advocacy and knowledge. I extend our sincerest condolences to Franklyn's wife and the entire extended community where he made a positive impact. His legacy lives on in each of us.●

RECOGNIZING MOTHER KOMBUCHA

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, as chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my privilege to recognize a unique Florida small business for its valuable contributions to the local economy and its dedicated efforts towards sustainability and dignified work. Today, it is my distinct pleasure to name Mother Kombucha of St. Petersburg, FL as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 2014, Tonya Donati, a former occupational therapist, became Florida's first licensed kombucha brewer after noticing there were not many locally sourced options. Tonya and her business partner, Joshua Rumschlag, began brewing kombucha, a beverage of fermented, sweetened tea, in Tonya's small test kitchen to sell at local farmers markets. Eventually, Tonya and her husband, Victor Donati, secured a Small Business Administration 7(a) loan to move into a larger space, which enabled them to manufacture kombucha full time. Through hard work and a strategic vision, Mother Kombucha has grown from a 2-person operation into a full-scale business that now employs nearly 20 people and packages around 7,500 bottles a day. Over the last 5 years, Mother Kombucha has opened more than 600 accounts across Florida, and their products can be found in Publix, Whole Foods, and Winn-Dixie. Though the kombucha industry has expanded in recent years, Mother Kombucha's niche position provides a competitive edge in the expanding market.

Mother Kombucha sets itself apart in this industry as a brand committed to making a positive social and environ-

mental impact. As a woman-owned and operated company, Tonya's business is an inspiration for other women entrepreneurs. It has been certified by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council, one of the leading advocates for women business owners in the United States. Several of Mother Kombucha's flavors are based on a single-source green tea from a company that helps to raise women out of poverty in Bangladesh. Mother Kombucha makes community involvement a priority. In addition to providing competitive salaries to its employees, the company hosts an annual Mother's Day fundraiser to benefit women and children affected by domestic violence. Mother Kombucha has incorporated solar panels into each of their facilities, operates a robust recycling program, and is working to achieve B-Corp status. This certification is awarded to companies who uphold the highest environmental and labor standards, while also giving back to their respective communities.

Tonya has worked hard to expand her business throughout Florida, and her efforts have not gone unnoticed. Notably, Mother Kombucha was honored by GrowFlorida as one of Florida's 50 Companies to Watch in 2019. Tonya's love of kombucha, her hard work, and commitment to her community make this business an integral part of Florida's economic framework. This National Women's Small Business Month, it is my honor to congratulate the entire Mother Kombucha team for being named Senate Small Business of the Week. I look forward to watching their continued growth and success.●

TRIBUTE TO PERRY HAND

• Mr. SHELBY. Madam President, today I wish to honor the retirement of Perry Hand, an Alabama native, from Volkert, Inc. Perry is a recognized leader in the engineering field with nearly 50 years of experience in the industry. He has provided decades of service to improve the quality of life in his community and across the State of Alabama.

Mr. Perry Hand previously served as senior vice president and chief marketing officer at Volkert in Mobile, AL. He was appointed president, chief executive officer, and chairman of the board in 2011. In 2018, Mr. Hand appointed a new president and CEO to the company, and he retained the role of chairman. Prior to his work with Volkert, Perry served as Alabama's highway director, Alabama's secretary of state, and a two-term State senator. He also founded Perry Hand & Associates, Inc.

Perry has earned many recognitions throughout his career, among them are his induction into the Alabama Construction Hall of Fame, the Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame, earning the Chairman's Award at Volkert, multiple Auburn University awards, and many more. He earned his bachelor's degree

in civil engineering from Auburn University and holds an honorary doctorate from Lincoln Memorial University in Tennessee.

What is truly remarkable are Perry Hand's many accomplishments and contributions to the State. I am proud to take this time to recognize him for his service at Volkert, which has greatly benefitted the people of Alabama. His achievements and dedication to advancing the industry have not gone unnoticed. I join Perry's friends, family, and colleagues in wishing him the best of luck as he transitions into a new chapter of his life, and I thank him for his commitment to Alabama.●

REMEMBERING WILLIAM V.
"BILL" BIDWILL, SR.

● Ms. SINEMA. Madam President, today I wish to honor the life and legacy of William V. Bidwill, who passed away in Phoenix, AZ, on October 2, 2019, at the age of 88. As the owner of the National Football League's Arizona Cardinals, Mr. Bidwill loved his faith, his family, and football. He will be fondly remembered as a principled leader and generous steward of his community.

Bill began his career in football by joining the family business as a ball boy for the then-Chicago Cardinals. After graduating from Georgetown University, Bill returned to Chicago to assist his father with day-to-day management of the Cardinals. Bill oversaw the team's move to St. Louis in 1960 and took on full ownership of the team in 1972. In 1988, Bill moved the team to Arizona, where it has found a home among a dedicated and growing fan base. In his time as owner of the Cardinals, Bill took unprecedented steps to rearrange the team's front office to improve diversity across the organization, setting an example for other NFL franchises for years to come. Bill also founded Cardinals Charities in 1990 to support women, children, and minorities across Arizona. Cardinals Charities has donated more than \$9.1 million to support these groups and other causes over the years.

Bill is survived by his 5 children, 10 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. He will be dearly missed by other family members, friends, the Arizona Cardinals organization, and hundreds of thousands of fans grateful for his work to bring the National Football League to Arizona. Please join me in honoring his memory.●

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL STEVEN D.
WEINTRAUB (RET.)

● Ms. SINEMA. Madam President, today I wish to honor the career Col. Steven D. Weintraub Retired, a veteran, community leader, and member of my Veterans Advisory Council. Colonel Weintraub began his service in August 1987 and continued to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps in various Active-Duty and Reserve roles until his retire-

ment in August of this year. He is highly regarded by his fellow marines as a devoted officer and proud Arizonan, eager to accept the call of duty.

Colonel Weintraub's career of more than 30 years is distinguished by his commitment to public service. Upon completion of his basic training in August 1987, then-Private First Class Weintraub returned to Arizona State University to complete his bachelor's degree in order to enter the Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Course and receive a commission as a second lieutenant. In April 1992, then-First Lieutenant Weintraub deployed to Mogadishu in support of various humanitarian aid missions. In February 2003, while in the Marine Corps Reserves, then-Major Weintraub deployed to Kuwait, where he was responsible for the implementation and operation of expeditionary hose reel fuel systems during Operation Iraqi Freedom. In November 2004, then Major Weintraub selflessly volunteered to mobilize to Active Duty in order to return to Iraq. For his work as a command inspector general and G-4 with the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade, then-Major Weintraub was promoted to lieutenant colonel in June 2005 and eventually colonel in December 2011. From the time of his promotion until his retirement in August 2019, Colonel Weintraub continued to serve in various esteemed logistical command roles, strategizing the practical implementation of new technologies and ensuring that Marine installations around the world had what they needed to get the job done.

For his courageous service, Colonel Weintraub has received the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and various other campaign medals, ribbons, and unit awards. Colonel Weintraub continues to serve his fellow soldiers as chief strategy officer for the Veteran Tickets Foundation, Vet Tix, a national nonprofit organization that provides free event tickets to veterans and servicemembers to help them reduce stress, strengthen family bonds, and stay engaged with local communities and American life.

Please join me in honoring Colonel Weintraub's esteemed career and wishing him a joyful retirement.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
KETTERING UNIVERSITY

● Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I rise today to pay special tribute to Kettering University in Flint, which this year is celebrating 100 years of educating the people of Michigan and advancing innovation.

Let's think back to 1919. The Treaty of Versailles was signed, bringing an end to the Great War. The 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution—also known as Prohibition—was ratified by Congress. In our State, the Michigan State Highway Department took over the State trunk line highway system and first began putting up numbered

signs. And in Flint—the center of the automotive world—a group of entrepreneurs launched a school to train homegrown talent for Michigan's auto industry.

A few things have changed since 1919. We fought an even greater war, Prohibition didn't last, and Michigan has a few more highways. Yet one thing remains the same: Kettering University is still training the next generation of leaders, for the auto industry and beyond.

Louis Chevrolet, David Dunbar Buick, Charles Stewart Mott, Alfred Sloan, and Charles Kettering understood that to succeed in manufacturing, it isn't enough for students to know what is in the books; instead, these leaders built a school based on the idea that knowledge must be both learned and applied. This model is still in use at Kettering University today. Kettering's curriculum doesn't just expose its students to the very latest in science, engineering, and business knowledge; it also helps its students to put that knowledge to work through experiential and cooperative educational opportunities that turn learners into leaders.

Your record of success speaks for itself. From being named first in the country by the Wall Street Journal for career preparation, fourth in the Nation in producing alumni who hold patents, and first in the Midwest for return on investments; to the Kettering University GM Mobility Research Center, which is keeping Flint and Michigan at the forefront of autonomous vehicle research and development; to counting among your alumni General Motors CEO Mary T. Barra, former chairman and CEO of Gibson Brands Henry Juskiewicz, inventor and businessman Dean Kamen, former CEO of Merrill Lynch Stanley O'Neal, and Old Navy CEO Sonia Syngal; to making a real difference in the Flint community through your \$1 million Department of Justice grant for neighborhood revitalization, your Employee Home Purchase and Renovation Assistance Program, the transformation of University Avenue, and your support for Flint's young people through your Young Innovators Fair, the Flint River Watershed Coalition Green Summit, and FIRST Robotics.

Charles Kettering once said this: "We are not at the end of our progress but at the beginning." And I have no doubt that our progress as a State and Nation will continue to be led by Kettering's students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

Since 1919, Kettering University has been preparing students for extraordinary futures, and I can't wait to see what your future holds. Congratulations to Kettering University on your first 100 years.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS CENTERED IN COLOMBIA THAT WAS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12978 OF OCTOBER 21, 1995—PM 31

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 before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond October 21, 2019.

The circumstances that led to the declaration on October 21, 1995, of a national emergency continue to exist. The actions of significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States and to cause an extreme level of violence, corruption, and harm in the United States and abroad. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12978 with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia.

DONALD J. TRUMP,
THE WHITE HOUSE, *October 15, 2019.*

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 26, 2019, during the adjournment of the

Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 4378. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the enrolled bill was signed on September 26, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Majority Leader (Mr. MCCONNELL).

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 27, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House had passed the following joint resolution:

S.J. Res. 54. A joint resolution relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 27, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

S.J. Res. 54. A joint resolution relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the enrolled joint resolution was signed on October 4, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. LEE).

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 27, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 239. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe.

H.R. 1590. An act to require an exercise related to terrorist and foreign fighter travel, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the enrolled bills were signed on September 27, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 335. An act to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2528. An act to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2589. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a homeland intelligence doctrine for the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3106. An act to require a joint domestic and international terrorism report, authorize research within the Department of Homeland Security on current trends in domestic terrorism, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3246. An act to require GAO review of certain TSA screening protocols, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3525. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish uniform processes for medical screening of individuals interdicted between ports of entry, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3526. An act to authorize certain counter terrorist networks activities of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3675. An act to require a review of Department of Homeland Security trusted traveler programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3691. An act to require the TSA to develop a plan to ensure that TSA material disseminated in major airports can be better understood by more people accessing such airports, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3694. An act to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement training for frontline Administration personnel regarding the screening of pregnant women and families with young children at passenger screening checkpoints, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3710. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for the remediation of cybersecurity vulnerabilities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3722. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a Joint Task Force to enhance integration of the Department of Homeland Security's border security operations to detect, interdict, disrupt, and prevent narcotics, such as fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, from entering the United States, 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. 335. An act to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 2528. An act to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 2589. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a homeland intelligence doctrine for the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3106. To require a joint domestic and international terrorism report, authorize research within the Department of Homeland

Security on current trends in domestic terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3246. An act to require GAO review of certain TSA screening protocols, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3525. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish uniform processes for medical screening of individuals interdicted between ports of entry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3526. An act to authorize certain counter terrorist networks activities of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3675. An act to require a review of Department of Homeland Security trusted traveler programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3691. An act to require the TSA to develop a plan to ensure that TSA material disseminated in major airports can be better understood by more people accessing such airports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3694. An act to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement training for frontline Administration personnel regarding the screening of pregnant women and families with young children at passenger screening checkpoints, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3710. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for the remediation of cybersecurity vulnerabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3722. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a Joint Task Force to enhance integration of the Department of Homeland Security's border security operations to detect, interdict, disrupt, and prevent narcotics, such as fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, from entering the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2593. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 27, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BROWN) had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 4285. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend and modify certain authorities and requirements relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the en-

rolled bill was signed on September 30, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Vice President.

ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on September 27, 2019, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 239. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe.

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on October 4, 2019, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled joint resolution:

S.J. Res. 54. A joint resolution relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019.

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-2677. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2018 annual report on the Farm Credit System; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2678. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Chlorantraniliprole; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9999-54) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2679. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clothianidin; Pesticide Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions" (FRL No. 9996-15) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2680. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cyromazine; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9999-57) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2681. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indaziflam; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9999-70) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2682. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Thiamethoxam; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemption" (FRL No. 9996-14) received during adjournment of the Senate

in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2683. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Sodium Lauryl Sulfate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9999-81) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2684. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Furilazole; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 10000-23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2685. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to the Regulations Governing Meats, Prepared Meats, and Meat Products (Grading, Certification, and Standards)" ((7 CFR Part 54) (Docket No. AMS-LP-16-0080)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2686. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Review Group, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Agricultural Disaster Indemnity Programs" (RIN0560-AI52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2687. A communication from the Chief of the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Branch, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Delayed Implementation of Grains Ounce Equivalents in the Child and Adult Care Food Program" (RIN0584-AE65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 30, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2688. A communication from the Director of the Issuances Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modernization of Swine Slaughter Inspection" (RIN0583-AD62) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2689. A communication from the Secretary of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Position Limits and Position Accountability for Security Futures Products" (RIN3038-AE61) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2690. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Processed Raspberry Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Termination" ((7 CFR Part 1208) (Docket No. AMS-SC-19-0047)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2691. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Softwood Lumber Research, Promotion, Consumer Education and Industry Information Order; Change in Membership, Nominations, Procedures, and Continuance Referenda Period" ((7 CFR Part 1217) (Docket No. AMS-SC-19-0015)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2692. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Almonds Grown in California; Amendments to Marketing Order 981" ((7 CFR Part 981) (Docket Nos. AMS-SC-18-0018 and AMS-SC-18-981-3)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2693. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tomatoes Grown in Florida; Redistricting and Reapportionment of Producer Districts" ((7 CFR Part 966) (Docket Nos. AMS-SC-19-0011 and AMS-SC-19-966-2FR)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2694. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Voluntary Grading of Meats, Prepared Meats, Meat Products, Shell Eggs, Poultry Products, and Rabbit Products" ((7 CFR Parts 54, 56, and 70) (Docket No. AMS-LP-18-0095)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2695. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration and Chief Financial Officer, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to violations of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-2696. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General VeraLinn Jamieson, United States Air Force, and her advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2697. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of additional time required to implement a small business strategy for the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2698. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Failure of Contractors to Meet Goals under Negotiated Comprehensive Small Business Subcontracting Plans"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2699. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Acquisition), transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of additional time required to complete a report on the amount of Department of Defense purchases from foreign entities in fiscal year 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2700. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Information Systems Agency Privacy Program" (RIN0790-AK62) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2701. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order declaring a national emergency due to the situation in and in relation to Syria, and in particular the recent actions by the Government of Turkey to conduct a military offensive into northeast Syria; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2702. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo that was declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2703. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of items not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2704. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of items not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2705. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the Department's activities during calendar year 2018 relative to the Equal Credit Opportunity Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2706. A communication from the Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, a correction to the report entitled "2018 Fair Lending Report of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2707. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to significant foreign narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia that was declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2708. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary, Investment Security, Department of Treasury received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2709. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exchange-Traded Funds" (RIN3235-AJ60) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 30, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2710. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commis-

sion, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Solicitations of Interest Prior to a Registered Public Offering" (RIN3235-AM23) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2711. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements for Security-Based Swap Dealers, Major Security-Based Swap Participants, and Broker-Dealers" (RIN3235-AL45) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2712. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements for Security-Based Swap Dealers, Major Security-Based Swap Participants, and Broker-Dealers" (RIN3235-AL45) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2713. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the designation as emergency requirements all funding so designated by the Congress in the section 116 of division A of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019, pursuant to section 251 (b) (2) (A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, for the account referenced in section 116; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-2714. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the designation for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism all funding (including the rescission of funds) so designated by the Congress, pursuant to section 251 (b) (2) (A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, for the enclosed list of accounts; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-2715. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Electricity, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to economic dispatch and technological change; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2716. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Arkansas; Regional Haze Five-Year Progress Report State Implementation Plan" (FRL No. 9999-11-Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2717. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Rhode Island; Prevention of Significant Deterioration; PM10, PM2.5 and NOx" (FRL No. 10000-18-Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2718. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Utah; Revisions to the Utah Division of Administrative Rules, R307-300 Series; Area

Source Rule for Attainment of Fine Particulate Matter Standards” (FRL No. 10000-04-Region 8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2719. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; California; South Coast Air Basin; 1-Hour and 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area Requirements” (FRL No. 9999-49-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2720. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; California; Coachella Valley 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area; Reclassification to Extreme; Correction” (FRL No. 10000-01-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2721. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Determination of Attainment by the Attainment Date; 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standard; Pinal County, Arizona” (FRL No. 10000-53-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2722. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Maine: Final Approval of State Underground Storage Tank Program Revisions, Codification, and Incorporation by Reference” (FRL No. 10000-57-Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2723. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Maine: Final Approval of State Underground Storage Tank Program Revisions, Codification, and Incorporation by Reference” (FRL No. 10000-57-Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 2169. A bill to amend section 3116 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the applicability of the appointment limitations for students appointed under the expedited hiring authority for post-secondary students (Rept. No. 116-129).

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 Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2595. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and update the new energy efficient home credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. BRAUN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 2596. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to authorize certain community water systems to enter into partnerships to improve the water systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 2597. A bill to require the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to make certain operational models available to the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

S. 2598. A bill to require the payment of user fees by qualified professional asset managers seeking an individual exemption from certain requirements; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 2599. A bill to amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to provide assistance to manage farmer and rancher stress and for the mental health of individuals in rural areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 2600. A bill to promote minimum State requirements for the prevention and treatment of concussions caused by participation in school sports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. JONES:

S. 2601. A bill to reauthorize the Helen Keller National Center for Youths and Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S.J. Res. 57. A joint resolution opposing the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 203

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 203, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit, and for other purposes.

S. 208

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 208, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 227

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 227, a bill to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

S. 286

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 286, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 430

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) and the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 430, a bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 433

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 433, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve home health payment reforms under the Medicare program.

S. 460

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 460, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion for employer-provided education assistance to employer payments of student loans.

S. 466

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 466, a bill to provide that certain guidance related to waivers for State innovation under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act shall have no force or effect.

S. 560

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 560, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for treatment of a congenital anomaly or birth defect.

S. 596

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 596, a bill to amend title XVIII of the

Social Security Act to provide for direct payment to physician assistants under the Medicare program for certain services furnished by such physician assistants.

S. 762

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 762, a bill to provide for funding from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund for all Federal Aviation Administration activities in the event of a Government shutdown, and for other purposes.

S. 785

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 785, a bill to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 789

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 789, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the financial aid process for homeless and foster care youth.

S. 839

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 839, a bill to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 849

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 849, a bill to provide for the inclusion on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall of the names of the lost crew members of the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans killed on June 3, 1969.

S. 877

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, *supra*.

S. 880

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 880, a bill to provide outreach and reporting on comprehensive Alzheimer's disease care planning services furnished under the Medicare program.

S. 921

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 921, a bill to prohibit the use of chlorpyrifos on food, to prohibit the registration of pesticides containing chlorpyrifos, and for other purposes.

S. 970

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 970, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of physical therapists in the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program, and for other purposes.

S. 976

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 976, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to combat campus sexual assault, and for other purposes.

S. 1037

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1037, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modernize provisions relating to rural health clinics under Medicare.

S. 1081

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1081, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1088

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1088, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require the President to set a minimum annual goal for the number of refugees to be admitted, and for other purposes.

S. 1122

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1122, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs.

S. 1163

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1163, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an exclusion for assistance provided to participants in certain veterinary student loan repayment or forgiveness programs.

S. 1223

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1223, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the non-application of Medicare competitive acquisition rates to complex rehabilitative wheelchairs and accessories.

S. 1273

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1273, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to establish an alternative dispute resolution program for copyright small claims, and for other purposes.

S. 1279

At the request of Mr. JONES, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1279, a bill to reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

S. 1298

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1298, a bill to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to include the State insurance commissioner as a voting member of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, and for other purposes.

S. 1300

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1300, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the opening of the National Law Enforcement Museum in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 1381

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1381, a bill to modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

S. 1392

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1392, a bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of the responsibilities, workload, and vacancy rates of suicide prevention coordinators of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1418

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1418, a bill to establish the Strength in Diversity Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1438

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S.

1438, a bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research.

S. 1564

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 1564, a bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission and certain Federal agencies to carry out a study relating to accounting standards, and for other purposes.

S. 1590

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1590, a bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to authorize rewards for thwarting wildlife trafficking linked to transnational organized crime, and for other purposes.

S. 1652

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1652, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a refundable adoption tax credit.

S. 1657

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1657, a bill to provide assistance to combat the escalating burden of Lyme disease and other tick and vector-borne diseases and disorders.

S. 1728

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1728, a bill to require the United States Postal Service to sell the Alzheimer's semipostal stamp for 6 additional years.

S. 1750

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1750, a bill to establish the Clean School Bus Grant Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1754

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1754, a bill to provide Medicaid assistance to individuals and families affected by a disaster or emergency, and for other purposes.

S. 1755

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1755, a bill to ensure that older adults and individuals with disabilities are prepared for disasters, and for other purposes.

S. 1757

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Maryland

(Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1757, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.

S. 1764

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1764, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission to ensure just and reasonable charges for telephone and advanced communications services in the correctional and detention facilities.

S. 1791

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1791, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), and marital status in the administration and provision of child welfare services, to improve safety, well-being, and permanency for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning foster youth, and for other purposes.

S. 1794

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1794, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to permit the Secretary of the Treasury to determine the metal composition of certain coins, and for other purposes.

S. 1812

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1812, a bill to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct research on wildfire smoke, and for other purposes.

S. 1813

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1813, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide wildfire smoke mitigation assistance to States and units of local government, and for other purposes.

S. 1814

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1814, a bill to authorize the President to declare a smoke emergency, and for other purposes.

S. 1822

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms.

HIRONO), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) were added as cosponsors of S. 1822, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to issue rules relating to the collection of data with respect to the availability of broadband services, and for other purposes.

S. 1838

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1838, a bill to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1838, supra.

S. 1840

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1840, a bill to establish certain requirements for the small refineries exemption of the renewable fuels provisions under the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1903

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1903, a bill to establish an interagency One Health Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1906

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 1906, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide financial assistance to eligible entities to provide and coordinate the provision of suicide prevention services for veterans at risk of suicide and veteran families through the award of grants to such entities, and for other purposes.

S. 1918

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1918, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require alternative options for summer food service program delivery.

S. 1953

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1953, a bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to extend the jurisdiction of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to include the setting of reference prices for aluminum premiums, and for other purposes.

S. 1954

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from

Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1954, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the 75th anniversary of the integration of baseball.

S. 1982

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1982, a bill to improve efforts to combat marine debris, and for other purposes.

S. 1983

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1983, a bill to authorize the Attorney General to make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, States and units of local government to develop, implement, or expand 1 or more programs to provide medication-assisted treatment to individuals who have opioid use disorder and are incarcerated within the jurisdictions of the States or units of local government.

S. 2001

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2001, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Willie O'Ree, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions and commitment to hockey, inclusion, and recreational opportunity.

S. 2032

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2032, a bill to expand research on the cannabidiol and marijuana.

S. 2042

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2042, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor.

S. 2043

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2043, a bill to provide incentives for hate crime reporting, provide grants for State-run hate crime hotlines, and establish alternative sentencing for individuals convicted under the Matthew Shephard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

S. 2154

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2154, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a program to enhance the preparation of students in the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps for careers in computer science and cybersecurity, and for other purposes.

S. 2160

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from

Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2160, a bill to require carbon monoxide alarms in certain federally assisted housing, and for other purposes.

S. 2203

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2203, a bill to extend the transfer of Electronic Travel Authorization System fees from the Travel Promotion Fund to the Corporation for Travel Promotion (Brand USA) through fiscal year 2027, and for other purposes.

S. 2262

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2262, a bill to provide for phased-in payment of Social Security Disability Insurance payments during the waiting period for individuals with a terminal illness.

S. 2321

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2321, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Negro Leagues baseball.

S. 2417

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 2417, a bill to provide for payment of proceeds from savings bonds to a State with title to such bonds pursuant to the judgment of a court.

S. 2455

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2455, a bill to establish a program to accurately document vehicles that were significant in the history of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2461

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2461, a bill to designate a portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness.

S. 2465

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2465, a bill to enact as law certain regulations relating to the taking of double-crested cormorants.

S. 2477

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New

York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2477, a bill to establish a National Commission on Fibrotic Diseases.

S. 2480

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2480, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to reauthorize the payment in lieu of taxes program through fiscal year 2029.

S. 2487

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2487, a bill to improve the effectiveness and efficiency and reduce the cost of the supply chain and inventory management of the Department of Defense by consolidating unnecessary and unneeded storage centers.

S. 2490

At the request of Ms. MCSALLY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2490, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent certain changes made by Public Law 115-97 to the child tax credit.

S. 2493

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2493, a bill to establish the Malign Foreign Influence Response Center in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and for other purposes.

S. 2587

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2587, a bill to amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend State court funding for child welfare, and for other purposes.

S. 2590

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2590, a bill to protect the dignity of fetal remains, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 14

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 14, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require that the Supreme Court of the United States be composed of not more than 9 justices.

S. RES. 98

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 98, a resolution establishing the Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program for the placement in offices of Senators of children, spouses, and siblings of members of the Armed Forces who are hostile casualties or who have died from a training-related injury.

S. RES. 260

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 260, a resolution recognizing the importance of sustained United States leadership to accelerating global progress against maternal and child malnutrition and supporting the commitment of the United States Agency for International Development to global nutrition through the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy.

S. RES. 308

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 308, a resolution calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide evidence or to release United States citizen Paul Whelan.

S. RES. 318

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 318, a resolution to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment.

S. RES. 338

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 338, a resolution designating the week of September 23 through September 27, 2019, as “Malnutrition Awareness Week”.

S. RES. 342

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 342, a resolution expressing the need for immediate climate action in response to the report of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change entitled “Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate”.

S. RES. 343

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 343, a resolution congratulating the people of the Czech Republic and the people of the Slovak Republic on the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, the 26th anniversary of the formation of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, and the 101st anniversary of the declaration of independence of Czechoslovakia.

S. RES. 344

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 344, a resolution expressing support for a credible, inclusive, and transparent presidential election in Afghanistan on September 28, 2019.

S. RES. 348

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Massachu-

setts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 348, a resolution proclaiming the week of September 23 through September 27, 2019, as “National Clean Energy Week”.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. SHATZ):

S. 2597. A bill to require the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to make certain operational models available to the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2597

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Learning Excellence and Good Examples from New Developers Act of 2019” or the “LEGEND Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term “Administration” means the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(3) MODEL.—The term “model” means any numerical model of the Earth’s system or its components produced by scientists employed by the Administration.

(4) OPERATIONAL MODEL.—The term “operational model” means any model that has an output used by the Administration for operational or public service functions.

(5) OPEN SOURCE CODE.—The term “open source code” means computer code or programming language that is available for public use or modification.

SEC. 3. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to support innovation in modeling by allowing interested stakeholders to have easy and complete access to the models used by the Administration; and

(2) to use vetted innovations arising from access provided under paragraph (1) to improve modeling by the Administration.

SEC. 4. REQUIREMENT TO MAKE CERTAIN OPERATIONAL MODELS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall make available to the public the following:

(1) Current and future operational models developed by the Administration, in the form of open source code for a period consistent with applicable records retention requirements.

(2) All Government-owned data, subject to redistribution rights, associated with such models and used in operational forecasting by the Administration, including—

(A) relevant metadata;

(B) data used for current operational forecasts; and

(C) a description of intended model outputs.

(b) DISCRETION TO MAKE EXPERIMENTAL OR DEVELOPMENT MODELS AVAILABLE.—The Administrator may make experimental or developmental models associated with development projects funded by the Administration available to the public as open source code.

(c) PLATFORM.—In carrying out subsections (a) and (b), the Administrator may use government servers, contracts or agreements with a private vendor, or any other platform consistent with the purpose of this Act.

(d) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 102(b) of the Weather Research Forecasting and Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8512(b)) is amended by redesignating the second paragraph (4) (as added by section 4(a) of the National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-423)) as paragraph (5).

(e) PHASED IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IMMEDIATE EFFECT FOR CERTAIN MODELS.—For operational models that, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, meet the requirements described in paragraph (5)(E)(i) of section 102(b) of the Weather Research Forecasting and Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8512(b)), as redesignated by subsection (d), the Administrator shall implement the requirements of subsection (a) as soon as practicable after such date of enactment.

(2) NEW MODELS.—For operational models that meet the requirements described in paragraph (1) and are created or substantially updated after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall implement the requirements of subsection (a) not later than 1 year after such date of enactment.

SEC. 5. REQUIREMENT TO REVIEW MODELS AND LEVERAGE INNOVATIONS.

The Administrator shall—

(1) consistent with the mission of the Earth Prediction Innovation Center, periodically review innovations and improvements made by persons outside the Administration to the operational models made available to the public under section 4 in order to improve the accuracy and timeliness of forecasts of the Administration; and

(2) if the Administrator identifies an innovation for such a model the Administrator considers suitable, develop and implement a plan to use the innovation to improve the model.

SEC. 6. REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the implementation of this Act that includes a description of—

(1) how operational models have been made publicly available as required by section 4(a);

(2) the process of the Administration under section 5—

(A) for engaging with interested stakeholders to learn what innovations those stakeholders have found;

(B) for reviewing those innovations; and

(C) for operationalizing innovations the Administrator considers suitable.

(b) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 7. PROTECTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Administrator may withhold models or data used in

operational weather forecasting if the Administrator determines doing so to be necessary to protect the national security interests of the United States.

(b) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to supersede any other provision of law governing the protection of the national security interests of the United States.

SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administration for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2026 such sums may be necessary to carry out this Act.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

S. 2598. A bill to require the payment of user fees by qualified professional asset managers seeking an individual exemption from certain requirements; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I introduce my legislation today to help shore up the government's insurance plan for these pensions. The Pension Stability Act would add funding to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's multiemployer program by imposing a fee on financial firms that are convicted of financial crimes.

This weekend, I was in Endeavor, WI. I was meeting there with retirees who meet once a month at the fire station in order to update one another on the progress here in Washington. In the months since the House passed the Butch Lewis Act, there hasn't been much progress to speak of. The Senate hasn't taken up the bill, and no other proposals have been presented. All the while, retirees and workers in the Central States Pension Fund continue to doubt their retirement security.

If Washington does not act, workers and retirees face massive cuts to the pensions they have earned over decades of hard work. I have come to the floor many times over these past 3½ years to remind this body about the retirees who stand to lose 50 percent—some more than 50 percent—of their pensions if Washington fails to act. Since then, nothing has been done, so I am here to, once again, remind my colleagues that this is about a promise that must be kept.

This is about a promise made to Bob Brockway, who stands to lose more than half of his monthly pension. Bob retired in 1999. He has made the trip to Washington to be a part of the solution even though Margie, his wife, would rather he stayed at home. He also organizes the meetings that are held every month in Endeavor.

This is about a promise made to Thomas from Hartland, WI. Thomas is a 72-year-old retired semitruck driver and an Army veteran.

He is also a cancer patient, and his wife has significant medical bills.

Thomas wrote to me this summer. He said:

I've put many, much-needed home repairs on hold since this whole mess started. We have had no vacations or any other extravagances since I retired. We did nothing wrong. We paid into Central States and somehow the government dropped the ball.

This is about a promise made to Donald and his wife Janet in Beaver Dam, WI. Donald wrote to me to tell me the following:

After 25 years working at a company where I earned a pension as part of a wage and benefit package, I retired. I retired four years ago because my body wouldn't let me perform tasks in the factory that could more easily be performed in my younger years. My pension and Social Security allow me to pay for heat, electricity, food and maintenance on my home. A 50 percent reduction in my monthly pension payment would mean we could no longer afford visiting our children or grandchildren, buying Christmas and birthday gifts, or seeing an occasional movie. And without this pension, I doubt we could afford the most basic of household expenditures.

This is about a promise made to Mary in Greenfield, WI. Mary wrote to tell me the following:

My story is simple. In November 2014, my husband passed away. In December, I learned the bad news about my pension. Worrying all this time has taken its toll. What will I be able to afford? I will probably have to move. I need a new car, but that's on hold. The list goes on. I am turning 70 in a few days and I never thought at this age I would have to worry about how I will survive.

If Washington does not act, we will be breaking a promise made to 1.5 million retirees nationwide. Pension promises must be kept. So once again I will say: Washington needs to act, and we need to do it now.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 2600. A bill to promote minimum State requirements for the prevention and treatment of concussions caused by participation in school sports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2600

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protecting Student Athletes from Concussions Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. MINIMUM STATE REQUIREMENTS.

(a) **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.**—Each State that receives funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) and does not meet the requirements described in this section, as of the date of enactment of this Act, shall, not later than the last day of the fifth full fiscal year after the date of enactment of this Act (referred to in this Act as the "compliance deadline"), enact legislation or issue regulations establishing the following minimum requirements:

(1) **LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY CONCUSSION SAFETY AND MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—Each local educational agency in the State, in consultation with members of the community in which such agency is located, shall develop and implement a standard plan for concussion safety and management that—

(A) educates students, parents, and school personnel about concussions, through activities such as—

(i) training school personnel, including coaches, teachers, athletic trainers, related services personnel, and school nurses, on concussion safety and management, including training on the prevention, recognition, and academic consequences of concussions and response to concussions; and

(ii) using, maintaining, and disseminating to students and parents—

(I) release forms and other appropriate forms for reporting and record keeping;

(II) treatment plans; and

(III) prevention and post-injury observation and monitoring fact sheets about concussion;

(B) encourages supports, where feasible, for a student recovering from a concussion (regardless of whether or not the concussion occurred during school-sponsored activities, during school hours, on school property, or during an athletic activity), such as—

(i) guiding the student in resuming participation in athletic activity and academic activities with the help of a multi-disciplinary concussion management team, which may include—

(I) a health care professional, the parents of such student, a school nurse, relevant related services personnel, and other relevant school personnel; and

(II) an individual who is assigned by a public school to oversee and manage the recovery of such student; and

(ii) providing appropriate academic accommodations aimed at progressively reintroducing cognitive demands on the student; and

(C) encourages the use of best practices designed to ensure, with respect to concussions, the uniformity of safety standards, treatment, and management, such as—

(i) disseminating information on concussion safety and management to the public; and

(ii) applying uniform best practice standards for concussion safety and management to all students enrolled in public schools.

(2) **POSTING OF INFORMATION ON CONCUSSIONS.**—Each public elementary school and each public secondary school shall post on school grounds, in a manner that is visible to students and school personnel, and make publicly available on the school website, information on concussions that—

(A) is based on peer-reviewed scientific evidence (such as information made available by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention);

(B) shall include information on—

(i) the risks posed by sustaining a concussion;

(ii) the actions a student should take in response to sustaining a concussion, including the notification of school personnel; and

(iii) the signs and symptoms of a concussion; and

(C) may include information on—

(i) the definition of a concussion;

(ii) the means available to the student to reduce the incidence or recurrence of a concussion; and

(iii) the effects of a concussion on academic learning and performance.

(3) **RESPONSE TO CONCUSSION.**—If an individual designated from among school personnel for purposes of this Act, one of whom must be in attendance at every school-sponsored activity, suspects that a student has sustained a concussion (regardless of whether or not the concussion occurred during school-sponsored activities, during school hours, on school property, or during an athletic activity)—

(A) the student shall be—

(i) immediately removed from participation in a school-sponsored athletic activity; and

(ii) prohibited from returning to participate in a school-sponsored athletic activity on the day that student is removed from such participation; and

(B) the designated individual shall report to the parent or guardian of such student—

(i) any information that the designated school employee is aware of regarding the date, time, and type of the injury suffered by such student (regardless of where, when, or how a concussion may have occurred); and

(ii) any actions taken to treat such student.

(4) RETURN TO ATHLETICS.—If a student has sustained a concussion (regardless of whether or not the concussion occurred during school-sponsored activities, during school hours, on school property, or during an athletic activity), before such student resumes participation in school-sponsored athletic activities, the school shall receive a written release from a health care professional, that—

(A) states that the student is capable of resuming participation in such activities; and

(B) may require the student to follow a plan designed to aid the student in recovering and resuming participation in such activities in a manner that—

(i) is coordinated, as appropriate, with periods of cognitive and physical rest while symptoms of a concussion persist; and

(ii) reintroduces cognitive and physical demands on such student on a progressive basis only as such increases in exertion do not cause the reemergence or worsening of symptoms of a concussion.

(b) NONCOMPLIANCE.—

(1) FIRST YEAR.—If a State described in subsection (a) fails to comply with subsection (a) by the compliance deadline, the Secretary of Education shall reduce by 5 percent the amount of funds the State receives under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) for the first fiscal year following the compliance deadline.

(2) SUCCEEDING YEARS.—If the State fails to so comply by the last day of any fiscal year following the compliance deadline, the Secretary of Education shall reduce by 10 percent the amount of funds the State receives under that Act for the following fiscal year.

(3) NOTIFICATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE.—Prior to reducing any funds that a State receives under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) in accordance with this subsection, the Secretary of Education shall provide a written notification of the intended reduction of funds to the State and to the appropriate committees of Congress.

SEC. 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect civil or criminal liability under Federal or State law.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CONCUSSION.—The term “concussion” means a type of mild traumatic brain injury that—

(A) is caused by a blow, jolt, or motion to the head or body that causes the brain to move rapidly in the skull;

(B) disrupts normal brain functioning and alters the mental state of the individual, causing the individual to experience—

(i) any period of observed or self-reported—
(I) transient confusion, disorientation, or impaired consciousness;

(II) dysfunction of memory around the time of injury; or

(III) loss of consciousness lasting less than 30 minutes; or

(ii) any 1 of 4 types of symptoms, including—

(I) physical symptoms, such as headache, fatigue, or dizziness;

(II) cognitive symptoms, such as memory disturbance or slowed thinking;

(III) emotional symptoms, such as irritability or sadness; or

(IV) difficulty sleeping; and

(C) can occur—

(i) with or without the loss of consciousness; and

(ii) during participation in any organized sport or recreational activity.

(2) HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL.—The term “health care professional”—

(A) means an individual who has been trained in diagnosis and management of concussion in a pediatric population; and

(B) is registered, licensed, certified, or otherwise statutorily recognized by the State to provide such diagnosis and management.

(3) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY; STATE.—The terms “local educational agency” and “State” have the meanings given such terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(4) RELATED SERVICES PERSONNEL.—The term “related services personnel” means individuals who provide related services, as defined under section 602 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401).

(5) SCHOOL-SPONSORED ATHLETIC ACTIVITY.—The term “school-sponsored athletic activity” means—

(A) any physical education class or program of a school;

(B) any athletic activity authorized during the school day on school grounds that is not an instructional activity;

(C) any extra-curricular sports team, club, or league organized by a school on or off school grounds; and

(D) any recess activity.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a request for one committee to meet during today’s session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at 3:30 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

NOTICE: REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for the 2019 third quarter Mass Mailing report is Friday, October 25, 2019. An electronic option is available on Webster that will allow forms to be submitted via a fillable PDF document. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states “none.”

Mass mailing registrations or negative reports can be submitted electronically at http://webster.senate.gov/secretary/mass_mailing_form.htm or delivered to the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-7116.

The Senate Office of Public Records is open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (9:00

a.m. to 5:00 p.m. when the Senate is not in session). For further information, please contact the Senate Office of Public Records at (202) 224-0322.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28, 2019, AS RAIL SAFETY WEEK

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 322.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 322) expressing support for the designation of the week of September 22 through September 28, 2019, as Rail Safety Week in the United States, and supporting the goals and ideals of Rail Safety Week to reduce rail-related accidents, fatalities, and injuries.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 23, 2019, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, October 16; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Barrett nomination, under the previous order; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 to 2:15 p.m. to allow for the caucus meetings.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator BLACKBURN.

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

The Senator from Tennessee.

2020 COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, in Nashville, we have a saying: It all begins with a song. That is the truth, but that is not where the story ends. It is where it begins.

Every record that makes it out into the world is backed by a team of hard-working and creative individuals whose job is to bring the music to the masses: the songwriters, who find a way to express feelings that we mere mortals could never hope to put down on paper; the studio musicians, whose refined techniques satisfy even the most sensitive microphones; the producers, whose vision and intuition can turn a song into a hit cut; and the label heads, whose job it is to take a chance on new artists in hopes of discovering the next country music superstar.

Each year the music industry's movers and shakers come together to decide who among them is worthy of a place in the industry's most sought-after circle: the Country Music Hall of Fame.

The Country Music Association inducted their first Hall of Fame class in 1961. Since then, the CMA has welcomed some of the most well-known and beloved members of Nashville's entertainment community into the Hall's ranks. This year's inductees have made their mark on both sides of the studio glass.

Kix Brooks and Ronnie Dunn—known as Brooks & Dunn—started out as solo singer-songwriters, but rocketed to stardom as a duo.

Their first album produced four No. 1 singles and sold almost 3 million copies, all in the pre-smartphone, pre-streaming era. Since then, Kix and Ronnie's over 40 top 10 hits, 20 No. 1 singles, and 12 platinum-plus albums have earned them the distinction of being one of the most successful country duos of all time. They have done it all while writing their own songs, designing their own shows, and supporting the art of up-and-coming performers.

This dedication to the future of country is why Brooks & Dunn will be inducted into the Hall of Fame in the "Modern Era Artist" category.

Ray Stevens—when we think about country music, many times, we are thinking about steel guitars and broken hearts, but this year's second Hall of Fame inductee really just wants to make you smile.

Ray Stevens is one of the most successful comedy recording artists of all time, but he made his mark in Nashville as a songwriter, studio musician, producer, and gospel singer, in addition to being a star comic and country entertainer.

If you look at his catalog, there really is something for everyone. His work spoke to fans in need of a laugh or sometimes spiritual guidance or a song to sing along to after a hard day's work.

Ray's wonderful sense of humor, open heart, and commitment to entertain-

ment as an art form made him a Music City standout and the perfect choice to earn the distinction of "Veterans Era Artist" in the Country Music Hall of Fame.

Jerry Bradley—this year's third and final inductee—may not have invented country music, but no one on Music Row would deny the impact his work has had on the success of generations of country stars. Jerry Bradley began his career in music as Nashville was on the brink of transformation. He understood that fans and artists alike were looking to explore a new sound, and he gave them exactly what they were looking for. He gave them the Nashville sound. He signed bands no other label would take a chance on, he mixed records no other producer could match, and he embraced the importance of the crossover artist as the ambassador of this new Nashville sound. His tendency to ignore conventional wisdom more than paid off. He achieved commercial success and earned the attention of Nashville's tastemakers before becoming one of them himself. This year, the Country Music Association will induct Jerry into the Hall of Fame as a non-performer but also as one of the most influential people in the history of the entertainment industry.

Today, I encourage all of my colleagues to take a moment to think about their favorite song—whether it is a country song, a pop song, a classic rock hit, it is the soundtrack of our lives—and to remember how it made them feel the very first time they heard it and how many times they have enjoyed singing it when a memory pops into their heads. This year's Country Music Hall of Fame inductees—Kix Brooks, Ronnie Dunn, Ray Stevens, and Jerry Bradley—are responsible for making millions of people feel that exact same way about their very own favorite song. The body of work these men represent is more than just a series of accomplishments; it is a gift to all of us who enjoy the music they have made.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:18 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION

BRUCE POLIQUIN, OF MAINE, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2021, VICE SHARON Y. BOWEN, TERM EXPIRED.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

PETER J. CONIGLIO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, EXPORT-IMPORT BANK, VICE OSVALDO LUIS GRATACOS MUNET, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

JOHN BOBBITT, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE SUZANNE ISRAEL TUPTS, RESIGNED.
BRIAN D. MONTGOMERY, OF TEXAS, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE PAMELA HUGHES PATENAUE, RESIGNED.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

JAMES P. DANLY, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2023, VICE KEVIN J. MCINTYRE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

KATHARINE MACGREGOR, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, VICE DAVID BERHARDT, RESIGNED.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SEAN O'DONNELL, OF MARYLAND, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, VICE ARTHUR ALLEN ELKINS, JR., RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

KIPP KRANBUHL, OF OHIO, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE MATTHEW S. RUTHERFORD, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WILLIAM ELLISON GRAYSON, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA.

JOHN HENNESSEY-NILAND, OF ILLINOIS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU.

LEORA ROSENBERG LEVY, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE.

BARBERA HALE THORNHILL, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE.

DONALD WRIGHT, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

PETER GAYNOR, OF RHODE ISLAND, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE BROCK LONG, RESIGNED.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

PAUL J. RAY, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, VICE NEOMI RAO, RESIGNED.

THE JUDICIARY

PATRICK J. BUMATAY, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, VICE CARLOS T. BEA, RETIRING.

SYLVIA CARRENO-COLL, OF PUERTO RICO, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO, VICE JAY A. GARCIA-GREGORY, RETIRED.

JOHN M. GALLAGHER, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, VICE JOEL H. SLOMSKY, RETIRED.

BARBARA BAILEY JONGBLOED, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT, VICE ALVIN W. THOMPSON, RETIRED.

BARBARA LAGOA, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT, VICE STANLEY MARCUS, RETIRING.

ROBERT J. LUCK, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT, VICE GERALD B. TJOPLAT, RETIRING.

SHERRI A. LYDON, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, VICE A. MARVIN QUATTLEBAUM, JR., ELEVATED.

SCOTT H. RASH, OF ARIZONA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA, VICE CINDY K. JORGENSEN, RETIRED.

LAWRENCE VANDYKE, OF NEVADA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, VICE JAY S. BYBEE, RETIRING.

CORY T. WILSON, OF MISSISSIPPI, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI, VICE LOUIS GUIROLA, JR., RETIRED.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. KARL KONZELMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. RANDY A. GEORGE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. EDWIN J. DEEDRICK, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. JAMES E. RAINEY

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be admiral

VICE ADM. CHARLES A. RICHARD

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203(A):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. MIRIAM L. LAFFERTY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTION 2121(E):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER A. BARTZ
CAPTAIN SCOTT W. CLENDENIN
CAPTAIN MARK J. FEDOR
CAPTAIN SHANNON N. GILREATH
CAPTAIN JONATHAN P. HICKEY
CAPTAIN GREGORY T. PRESTIDGE
CAPTAIN MELISSA L. RIVERA

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

STEVEN D. GRESSWELL
JACOB M. SHEPHERD
BASEL M. TOUBAN
TESSA L. WINTERTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JASON M. ZHAO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

SAMUEL H. BRIDGES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be colonel*TIMOTHY J. CURRY
RYAN J. GARLOW

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant colonel*BRIAN P. BERLAKOVICH
SCOTT J. RUMISEK

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SPECIALIST CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be colonel

BRIAN E. BURK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 7064:

To be major

RHIANNA K. RIGGS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 7064:

To be major

FATIMA H. KHAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AS A CHAPLAIN UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 7064:

To be major

STATES ARMY AS A CHAPLAIN UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 7064:

DEMETRIUS E. WALTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be colonel

GREGORY B. BATDORFF
CHRISTIAN E. BEESE
JOSHUA F. BERRY
TOBY N. CURTO
MICHAEL C. FRIESS
SEAN G. GYSEN
NJERI S. HANES
TIFFANY M. KOTZURCHAPMAN
HOWARD T. MATTHEWS, JR.
MARVIN J. MCBURROWS
KATHERINE K. STICH
ERIC W. WIDMAR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be colonel*JOSEPH A. BURTON
MAURICE D. MILLICAN
RONALD C. VICARS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

ERIC L. RAHMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

GUADALUPE RESENDEZ, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be lieutenant colonel

KATRINA A. PARLOW

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be lieutenant colonel

LESLIE E. AKINS
ADRIAN T. ALLISON
NATHANIEL H. BABB
TRICIA L. BIRDSSELL
SANDRA N. BRANOM
JAY S. BURNS
SARA L. CARLSON
CINNAMON J. CHELENS
GILBERT J. COMLEY
MELISSA D. DASGUPTASMITH
JOHN G. DOYLE
CHRISTOFER T. FRANCA
JEFFREY A. GILBERG
ELISABETH L. GILMAN
JULIE A. GLASCOTT
STEPHEN M. HERNANDEZ
JONATHAN D. HOAG
THOMAS S. HONG
STEWART HYDERKHAN
DURWARD JOHNSON
JOSHUA W. JOHNSON
CHRISTOPHER M. KESSINGER
SAMUEL K. KIM
MICHAEL KORTE
SHAUN B. LISTER
MARK W. MALCOLM
DALE C. MCFEATTERS
PATRICK M. MCGRATH
JENNIFER A. MCKEEL
DUSTIN P. J. MURPHY
ALAN J. NEF
WILLIAM A. OBRINGER
GREGORY T. OMALLEY
BENJAMIN M. OWENSFILICE
THEODORE B. REITER
EMILY M. ROMAN
JOSHUA J. SMITH
ANGELA D. SWILLEY
VIRGINIA H. TINSLEY
CHRISTOPHER C. WAITE
RYAN T. WARDLE
MELVIN L. WILLIAMS
D014846
D014484

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MATTHEW W. CASPARI
JOSEPH R. DISTASO
KYSON M. JOHNSON
GREGORY A. MARCHAND
ROBERT W. RIDEBOUR, JR.
SHERRY L. STENERSON
WILLIAM M. STEPHENS

GLEN E. TEMPLETON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

KENNETH J. BISKNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

NAYARI N. CAMERON
JUAN F. CARLETON
NICOLE L. CLARK
DEREK G. JOHNSON
RENNA C. MILLER-GRANT
BRIAN M. MORAN
JUAN A. VILLATORO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 7064:

To be major

DELENO M. HARPER, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JAMES M. MCCANDLESS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JENS K. PEDERSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

MICHAEL W. TORRE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AS A CHAPLAIN UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 7064:

To be major

AUSTIN C. VANN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be colonel*GRECO E. CARRERAS
PAUL E. GEBHARDT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JAMES H. FEASTER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS PERMANENT PROFESSOR AT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 7433(B) AND 7436(A):

To be colonel

CHRISTA M. CHEWAR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ERIK A. ERNEST

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JOSHUA D. HELSEL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

SCOTT T. MCCARTNEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

BRODERICK L. GARDNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be major

KARA S. KRULEWICZ

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

TATCHIE O. MANSO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

EDUARDO OLVERA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

FRANCISCO RINCON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

WALLACE W. ROLLINS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

TAYLOR S. SCHENCK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

WILLIAM D. SWENSON

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be captain

PAUL S. RUBEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

JOSEPH L. COFFEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

NICHOLAS W. DIGEORGE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

COLIN R. YOUNG

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTION 2121(E):

To be captain

ERIN N. ADLER

BRADFORD E. APITZ
WILLIAM L. ARRIET
MATTHEW J. BAER
JONATHAN BATES
KRISTI L. BERNSTEIN
MARC BRANDT
VERONICA A. BRECHT
JASON A. BRENNELL
RANDALL E. BROWN
JONATHAN A. CARTER
MICHAEL A. CILENTI
DANIEL H. COST
CHRISTOPHER F. COUTU
THOMAS D. CRANE
PATRICK A. CULVER
THOMAS C. DARCY
CARMEN S. DEGEORGE
KELLY K. DENNING
JOSE E. DIAZ
KEITH M. DONOHUE
ERIC D. DREY
DAVID M. DUBAY
JEFFREY T. ELDRIDGE
JOHN A. ELY
BRIAN C. ERICKSON
SEAN C. FAHEY
JOSHUA W. FANT
AMY E. FLORENTINO
BENJAMIN M. GOLIGHTLY
JEFFREY R. GRAHAM
JASON B. GUNNING
MATTHEW W. HAMMOND
SEAN P. HANNIGAN
JOHN HENRY
EDWARD J. HERNAEZ
WESLEY H. HESTER
TEDD B. HUTLEY
MICHAEL S. JACKSON
ANDREW S. JOCA
ERIC J. JONES
WARREN D. JUDGE
DANIEL P. KANE
BRAD W. KELLY
DIRK L. KRAUSSE
BRIAN C. KRAUTLER
MARK I. KUPERMAN

MICHAEL R. LACHOWICZ
TAYLOR Q. LAM
LEANNE M. LUSK
BENJAMIN J. MAULE
LEON MCCLAIN, JR.
EUGENE D. MCGUINNESS
ZEITA MERCHANT
JOSEPH E. MEUSE
JOSHUA P. MILLER
MATTHEW J. MOORLAG
STEPHANIE A. MORRISON
MAURICE D. MURPHY
BRYAN C. PAPE
JOSE PEREZ
SHANNON M. PITTS
ROBERT H. POTTER, JR.
SCOTT B. POWERS
CLINTON J. PRINDLE
ARTHUR L. RAY
RYAN S. RHODES
LUIS J. RODRIGUEZ
RICHARD M. SCOTT
MICHAEL R. SINCLAIR
JENNIFER A. STOCKWELL
JOHN M. STONE
TODD C. TROUP
DANIEL R. URSINO
DANIEL R. WARREN
CHARLES E. WEBB
MOLLY A. WIKE
ERIN E. WILLIAMS
WILLIAM C. WOITYRA
CHRISTOPHER G. WOLFE
MARC A. ZLOMEK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS OF THE COAST GUARD PERMANENT COMMISSIONED TEACHING STAFF FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTIONS 1944 AND 2126:

To be captain

JOSEPH D. BROWN
THOMAS W. DENUCCI
MICHAEL J. PLUMLEY
KELLY C. SEALS

To be commander

MARIETT C. OGG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTION 2121(E):

To be commander

RYAN G. ANGELO
STEVEN B. ARNWINE
BRIAN D. BACHTEL
ARMELL V. BALMACEDA
CHRISTIAN J. BAERGER
ALEXANDER S. BARKER
TIMOTHY J. BERNADT
MICAH W. BONNER
KURT F. BRANDSTAETTER
ADAM T. CERNOVICH
BRIAN M. CHAPMAN
ALEXANDRA K. CHERRY
LEAH M. COLE
JUDSON A. COLEMAN
JAMES O. CONNER
NEAL A. CORBIN II
BROOKS C. CRAWFORD
BEN W. CROWELL
CHRISTOPHER K. CUMBERLAND
LEO T. DANAHER
KELLY A. DEUTERMANN
RYAN P. DEVLIN
TODD R. DEVRIES
JESSE M. DIAZ
ADAM J. DISQUE
MICHAEL J. DOUGHERTY
TIFFANY A. DUFFY
BROCK S. ECKEL
STEVEN R. ELLIOTT
KRISTOPHER R. ENSLEY
MICHAEL G. FAULKNER
JOEL S. FERGUSON
ARI D. FITZWATER
CHRISTOPHER A. FLOYD
LAUREN U. FULLAM
ANGEL M. GALINANES
GAVIN V. GARCIA
JUSTIN H. GORDON
ANNA A. GRAFCHKOVA
JOSEPH F. GRAHAM
DOUGLAS D. GRAUL II
SIMON C. GREENE
ANDREW T. GREENWOOD
JEREMY M. GREENWOOD
BENEDICT S. GULLO III
MATTHEW A. GULLY
KRISTEN A. HAHN
PETER K. HAHN
ANDREW T. HAWTHORNE
CORYDON F. HEARD
JAMES L. HELLER
ROBERTO R. HERRERA
DANA E. HIATT
SCOTT M. HIGBEE
GREGORY E. HIGGINS
MICHAEL A. HJERSTEDT
MATTHEW M. HOBBS
KENNETH E. HOGUE
GORDON A. HOOD
JUSTIN C. HUNT
THOMAS J. HUNTLEY
WILLIAM J. JACOBS

BEAU J. JAMES
JEFFREY G. JANARO
JEANITA A. JEFFERSON
ROXANNE B. JENSEN
LEE H. JONES II
RYAN P. KELLEY
KALEN M. KENNY
JEREMY A. KIME
JAMIE L. KOPPI
HEIDI L. KOSKI
AARON J. KOWALCZK
FRANK R. KULESA
MARK E. LABERT
JILLIAN M. LAMB
MARC J. LANORE
BRIAN S. LIED
TONYA M. LIM
ASHLEY F. LOVEJOY
RHIANNA N. MACON
JODY J. MAISANO
MARY E. MARTIN
THOMAS P. MARTIN
ROGER M. MASSON
CHARLES R. MATHIS
MARC R. MCDONNELL
MICHAEL S. MCGRAIL
GREGORY A. MCLAMB
CHRISTIAN T. MEDICK
JEANINE M. MENZE
GARRETT R. MEYER
MICHAEL J. MEYER
JAMES R. MILLER, JR.
LAURA S. MILLER
PAUL J. MILLER
JODI J. MIN
DANIEL P. MOCHEN
JOSEPH W. MORGANS
ELLEN M. MOTOI
SEAN M. MURRAY
JUSTIN MYERS
JUSTIN P. NADOLNY
MICHAEL J. NORDHAUSEN
ESTEVAN OLIVERA
CORRINA OTT
JAMES H. PALFORD
ERIC C. PARE
MICHAEL A. PATTERSON
KRYSSTYN E. PECORA
PIERO A. PECORA
SEAN M. PETERSON
WALTER S. PIERCE
DAVID C. PIZZURRO
CHRISTIAN T. POLYAK
JONATHAN H. POTTERTON
DAWN N. PREBULA
MATTHEW J. PRESS
THOMAS E. PRZYBYLA
NICHOLAS O. RAMIREZ
LISA M. RODMAN
JOHNA N. ROSSETTI
BEN P. RUSSELL
KELLY A. SAWYER
DANA E. SCHULMAN
MAEGAN R. SCHWARTZ
BROOK I. SERBU
COURTNEY A. SERGENT
BONNIE M. SHANER
LISA M. SHARKEY
JOHN M. SINGLETARY
MATTHEW B. SMITH
BAXTER B. SMOAK
MATTHEW M. SPOLARICH
LAURA M. SPRINGER
JANNA M. STATON
KELLEY L. STEVENS
DONALD S. STIKER
JUSTIN W. STROCK
CHRISTINA D. SULLIVAN
DANIEL B. SWEIGART
BRYAN J. SWINTEK
MARIO B. TEIXEIRA
MAILE I. TESLER
PAUL D. TESSITORE
BRYAN D. TILEY
TIMOTHY S. TILGHMAN
KELLY J. TONGOL
JUSTIN O. VANDENHEUVEL
JEREMY A. WEISS
EUSTACIA Y. WEIST
KYLE A. WEIST
JENNIFER L. WESCOTT
BRIAN R. WHISLER
DUSTIN R. WILLIAMS
JOSHUA D. WINE
WARREN N. WRIGHT
KISMET R. WUNDER
ADAM K. YOUNG
JEFFREY S. ZAMARIN

WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on October 15, 2019 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:

KIMBERLY BREIER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 20, 2020, VICE ADOLFO A. FRANCO, TERM EXPIRED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 16, 2019.

PATRICK J. BUMATAY, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT

OF CALIFORNIA, VICE MARILYN L. HUFF, RETIRED, PETER M. VITO, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS. VICE CHARLES F. SALINA, TERM EXPIRED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON FEBRUARY 6, 2019. MARSHAL FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK ON MAY 13, 2019.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE FOR RITA AND STEVEN
JEROME

HON. MAX ROSE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. ROSE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring two of my constituents—siblings Rita and Steven Jerome. Their family represents the best that Staten Island has to offer, and now they are continuing their family's legacy of service, not just their fellow Staten Islanders, but the entire country.

On Staten Island, a passion for public service is part of our DNA, and the Jerome family is the perfect example of that. Rita and Steven's father serves as a NYPD lieutenant and their uncle is a pastor. Their paternal grandfather acted as a judge in the New York State Compensation Board and "in 1978 single-handedly apprehended a man threatening to blow up his courtroom in the World Trade Center." Now, Rita and Steven are choosing to follow in those family footsteps by joining the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academies (USMMA), respectively.

Rita isn't just any Air Force Academy cadet, she's making history as part of an increasing percentage of women serving in the Air Force. According to the USAFA Admissions Office, Rita, who is majoring in astronautical engineering, is among the 28.2 percent of women in the Class of 2023. She is also the first alumna from her high school along with the first Staten Island women to be admitted to the USAFA.

Her brother, Steven, recently completed a rigorous regime of academic, military, and physical training at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy after his graduation from Monsignor Farrell High School. Steven, who is earning a four-year degree in maritime logistics and security, will be completing almost three years of classes along with spending a year at sea away from his family.

As Rita and Steven embark on their new careers in service, I know that their entire family will be right there with them.

So, Madam Speaker, today I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in commending Rita, Steven, and the entire Jerome family for the sacrifices they have made, and will continue to make for our nation.

MODESTO JUNIOR COLLEGE HIS-
PANIC EDUCATION CONFERENCE

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. HARDER of California. Madam Speaker, Modesto Junior College (MJC)'s thirty-sixth annual Hispanic Education Conference wel-

comes students from across the Central Valley. This conference celebrates the achievements of Latinx education while exploring the amazing opportunities available to students in the Central Valley. This conference is a time for current students to explore their educational and career paths, and for prospective students to see the best of what Modesto Junior College has to offer.

A tradition started in 1984 by Dean Juan Alvarez and the Modesto Hispanic Leadership Council lives on today as the largest youth conference in the Central Valley. It serves our Central Valley community and promotes enrichment and success in higher education. Its workshops and lectures have inspired many generations of high school students, and are sure to inspire another generation to come. With a student body that's 52 percent Hispanic, Modesto Junior College is one of California's premier Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and no event better celebrates this impressive status than the Hispanic Education Conference.

I am proud to have taught at MJC, and I am proud to dedicate this record to an event that recognizes the opportunity and possibility offered by higher education, the dedication and creativity of its students and faculty, and Latinx achievement in the Central Valley. I'm also proud to recognize the Legacy Award recipient, whose contributions to making this event a reality and a success have been immeasurable. I'm happy to be part of this tradition that's more than three decades old, and I know I can look forward to more successful conferences in the years to come.

HONORING THE 95TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF SMITH CHAPEL AME
CHURCH

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Smith Chapel AME Church, a house of worship located in Inkster, Michigan, on the occasion of its ninety-fifth anniversary service.

Smith Chapel AME Church held its first service on October 5, 1924 when a small, but passionate group of people gathered together to worship. Drawn together under the shared value of creating a caring community, the congregation quickly grew in size and influence. Though the church has witnessed many changes over the years, the congregation continues to gather regularly to nourish the spirit, mind, and body and give back to the surrounding community. In recent years, Smith Chapel has expanded its food pantry program to include a community garden, which is tended by church members, as well as its Summer Youth Café program that offers recreational and character development programs for young people. Whether gathering in prayer, celebrating love in marriage, or marking the

passing of a dear friend and loved one from this life, we all draw great strength from sharing with one another through faith. The history of Smith Chapel AME provides a wonderful example of how much this faith and unselfishness mean to our entire community.

Please join me in recognizing Smith Chapel AME on this milestone as we wish them well in the years to come.

IN MEMORY OF DR. CORNELIUS W.
GRANT

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a strategic thinker, a great motivational speaker, an excellent entrepreneur, a man of God, a friend of longstanding, and my fraternity brother, Dr. Cornelius W. Grant. Sadly, Dr. Grant passed away on Saturday, September 28, 2019, at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in Albany, Georgia. His homegoing service was held on Wednesday, October 2, 2019, at Mount Zion Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia. His passing leaves a tremendous void in the lives of his family, friends, and the countless students he mentored as the Vice President of Student Affairs at Albany State College (now University) and those he touched in his many other endeavors.

Dr. Cornelius "C.W." Grant, also affectionately known as "Dean Grant", was born on February 10, 1931, to the union of the late Reverend Everett Grant and Mrs. Elberta Clark Grant. He was a product of the public-school system in Jacksonville, Florida, graduating from Stanton High School. The next step of his life's journey took him to Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU). He took a brief respite from FAMU to serve our country in the United States Army. After a successful tour of duty, he returned to FAMU and earned his Juris Doctorate Degree. He began his career at Albany State College in 1966 as the Vice President for Student Affairs where he retired in 1996 after an incredible 30-year career.

Because of the solid spiritual foundation that was instilled in him at an early age by his parents, he enjoyed a strong relationship with God. He was an active member of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia for many years, serving under the leadership of Dr. E. James Grant and Dr. Daniel B. Simmons. In later years, he continued his walk with the Lord at Second Mount Zion Baptist Church in Albany under the leadership of Dr. Theodus Drake. God indeed ordered the steps of his life.

He was highly sought-after as a public speaker, lecturer, and consultant. Dr. Grant gave many speeches all across the country. He always left a mark and very often ended his speeches with his legendary phrase, "If it is to be, it is up to me!"

• 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.

Dr. Grant was armed with a servant's heart and gave of himself in selfless service to many local, state, and national organizations to include: The National Association of Student Affairs Professionals (NASAP); the American Association of Law Librarians; the Benevolent Elks; the Pinochle Club; Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity (Delta Delta Chapter); The Boys and Girls Clubs of Albany; Albany Civil Rights Institute; the American Red Cross; The Dougherty County School Board; and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Dr. Grant was a leader and not a follower. He served as President of the Albany Civil Rights Institute Board of Directors, Chairman of the Dougherty School Board and also served as President of NASAP. Dr. Grant was also a trailblazer and a history maker. As a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity, Inc., he holds the distinction of being one of only six members of the fraternity bestowed with both the Elder Watson Diggs Award and the Laurel Wreath, the highest awards given by the fraternity. He also served as the 16th Southeastern Province Polemarch.

Dr. Grant was a man who exuded confidence. He was indeed an original. He made those with whom he came in contact believe that they could accomplish any task. Dr. Grant's life was truly lived in the words of George Bernard Shaw when he said, "Some people see things as they are and they say why, I dream things that never were, and I say why not?" Dr. Grant lived his life with a "Why Not?" philosophy.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the love and support of his family, his late wife, Dr. Velma Fudge Grant, who was a long time professor of English and Language Arts; his two daughters, Cheryl Lawson and Joi Grady; his grandchildren; godsons; and companion, Judge Denise Marshall.

On a personal note, Dr. Grant was my friend and my fraternity brother in both Kappa Alpha Psi and Sigma Pi Phi. He was always encouraging and supportive of my career in Congress and I will indeed miss his candid and cogent advice and counsel.

Madam Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, and the countless others who were touched by this great man, would like to extend our deepest sympathies to the Grant family. We are proud to have known a man who dedicated his life to the uplift of others. To God be the Glory for the life and legacy of Dr. Cornelius W. Grant.

REMEMBERING ENRIQUE
FERNÁNDEZ TOLEDO

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Enrique Fernández Toledo, who sadly passed in late September. Those of us in the Puerto Rican community—on both the mainland and the Island—will remember Enrique as a tireless champion for the Puerto Rican people. He was also a loving husband, a father and, to me, personally, a dear friend.

Enrique began working in Congress in 1993 as a staffer for my former colleague, Rep. Luis Gutiérrez. During Enrique's two decades working for Congress, he fought for fairness and

greater economic security for Puerto Rico's most vulnerable. His unwavering commitment to justice and thoughtful insight earned him the senior position of deputy chief of staff. Over the decades, I came to rely on Enrique's vision and wisdom on a range of issues and he provided invaluable guidance and perspective to many Members of Congress in all Puerto Rico-related discussions on Capitol Hill.

Following Enrique's service on Capitol Hill, he continued amplifying the voice of millions of Puerto Ricans. In 2018, Enrique joined the Center for American Progress (CAP) as the director of relief and economic development policy for Puerto Rico. There, he was critical to Puerto Rico's ability to access relief and assistance after Hurricane Maria and recover from years of economic malaise.

At this time, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Enrique Fernández Toledo. May he always be remembered for his kindness, indefatigable spirit and the millions of lives he positively affected in Puerto Rico, Chicago and elsewhere. I pray his wife, Mayra; three children, Enrique Jr., Carlos, and Mayrita; and all who knew and loved him, draw strength and peace from his manifold contributions.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
GENERAL GEORGE A. BUSKIRK

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today in commemoration and remembrance of General George A. Buskirk, former Adjutant of the Indiana National Guard, who passed away on October 8, 2019.

Born in 1949 in Indianapolis to George and Mary (Carriger) Buskirk, General Buskirk committed his life to serving his fellow Hoosiers and defending the country he loved. His long record of public service is testament to his dedication to our country.

General Buskirk received his business degree from Butler University, as well as a law degree from Indiana University. He enlisted in the Indiana National Guard in January 1978, where he was appointed as First Lieutenant. Throughout a distinguished military career that spanned four decades, General Buskirk served in a variety of roles, including Defense Counsel, Staff Judge Advocate, Brigade Judge Advocate, Assistant Adjutant General and Adjutant General. Outside of his military career, General Buskirk had an esteemed legal career which included his admittance as a member of the bar of the Supreme Court of Indiana as well as his tenure as the President of the Indianapolis Bar Association.

He will also be remembered for his devoted service to our community. General Buskirk served as National Treasurer for the American Legion for more than two decades, President of the Indiana War Memorial Commission, and he was on the Indiana State Armory Board. In addition, he served as Chairman of the Board of Saint Mary of the Woods College in Terra Haute, Indiana and he was a member of the Ivy Tech Foundation Board of Trustees. In 2016, he was appointed to the Indianapolis Board of Public Health and Safety by Mayor Joseph Hogsett.

I am also particularly honored that General Buskirk served on my Service Academy Committee, where for many years he helped me nominate bright young students in our community to the U.S. Armed Forces' storied institutions of higher learning.

General Buskirk lived an honorable life of service to our community and our country, and he will be greatly missed. I send my deepest condolences to his loved ones.

THE MAN WHO SAVED MANKIND

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, South Carolina is fortunate to have Mark Powell as a columnist for the Lexington County Chronicle to highlight unique facts of history. On October 10th, he recognized "The man who saved mankind".

An elderly Russian man was quietly laid to rest outside Moscow last spring. No crowd mourned him. No news articles reported his passing. Yet, if you're age 36 or older, you are alive to read this because of him. And you've never even heard his name.

This is what happened the night Stanislav Petrov saved the world.

It all started in the late 1970s. The United States and the Soviet Union faced off in the Cold War. President Jimmy Carter's foreign policy vacillated between sometimes talking tough, sometimes going out of its way to accommodate the Soviets. Moscow smelled weakness.

So the Soviets deployed their new SS-20 nuclear missiles. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) upped the ante by announcing it would deploy its powerful Pershing II missiles in Western Europe by 1983 in response.

Suddenly, it felt like we were living in Armageddon's shadow. If you are of a certain age, you'll remember massive anti-nuclear war rallies in the northeast U.S. and Europe, some attracting hundreds of thousands of protestors. A TV movie about a post-nuclear attack called *The Day After* got huge ratings. Rock music songs that played on nuclear fears such as *The Final Countdown*, *It's A Mistake*, and *99 Red Balloons* were big hits. People were on edge.

Which brings us to September 1983. Early that month, the USSR shot down an unarmed Korean Air Lines jetliner over Soviet airspace, killing all 239 people onboard—including an American congressman from Georgia. East-West relations were indeed tense.

At that precise moment Stanislav Petrov unknowingly entered the world stage.

A 44 year-old Air Force lieutenant colonel and father of two, he served in the Soviet's prestigious Air Defense Forces. He was part of the elite team that monitored the Russians' satellites which, in turn, kept an eye out for nuclear missile launches by the U.S. via a spiffy new state-of-the-art computerized system.

Petrov worked the overnight shift. Early on the morning of September 26, the unthinkable happened. "The siren howled," he recalled in a 2013 interview. "I just sat there for a few seconds, staring at the big, backlit, red screen with the word 'launch' on it."

But something wasn't right. The system showed five missiles heading for the Soviet Union. Petrov's training had indicated that if a nuclear strike came, dozens of warheads would rain down on Russia, not just five.

What was going on? Time wasn't on Petrov's side. Every minute he spent trying to figure it out was a minute weapons might be speeding toward his sleeping homeland.

And nobody in the entire Soviet Union was aware of it—except Stanislav Petrov. His standing order was to immediately notify the Kremlin's big brass in such an emergency. His gut instinct told him to wait. As he was making up his mind, the word "launch" flashed in his face.

In the end, he didn't notify his superiors as protocol required. Had he done so, they likely would have ordered a massive retaliatory strike on the United States, very probably ending life as we know it. Instead, he waited. "Twenty-three minutes later I realized that nothing had happened," he said. "If there had been a real strike, then I would already know about it. It was such a relief."

It was the closest the world had come to an actual nuclear conflict since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.

It turned out Petrov's instinct was right. The computer system had malfunctioned. At first his superiors were pleased with his coolness amid the ultimate crisis. But the Soviets were world-class bureaucrats, and he was later reprimanded for not filling out the required paperwork while the crisis was underway. "I had a phone in one hand and the intercom in the other, and I don't have a third hand (for filling out forms)," he said.

Petrov eventually left the military to work for the very research institute that designed the faulty monitoring system. He suffered a mental breakdown due to the emotional trauma he had experienced, recovered, and eventually retired to tend to his wife during her final battle with cancer.

He was living alone when he died quietly at age 77 last May 19, such an obscure figure that news of his passing wasn't learned until just a few weeks ago.

"They were lucky it was me on shift that night," Stanislav Petrov once said. That's putting it mildly.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA JUROR PAY PARITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Juror Pay Parity Act to require that DC Superior Court jurors receive the same pay as federal jurors.

Currently, Superior Court jurors are paid \$40 per day, and, under the Home Rule Act, only the DC courts and Congress have the authority to increase Superior Court juror pay. My bill would require that Superior Court jurors receive the same pay as federal jurors.

In the fiscal year 2018 omnibus appropriations bill, Congress increased federal juror pay to \$50 per day, the first increase to federal juror pay in 28 years. My bill would give Superior Court jurors the same pay.

Under the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (Pub. L. 105–33), Congress took responsibility for paying for the DC courts and other state-like functions provide by DC. The DC courts, however, have always been under the control of Congress, even when they were funded by the District. The Home Rule Act prohibits the District government from enacting any law relating to Title 11 of the DC Code. Title 11 provides that the Board of Judges of the Superior Court sets juror pay, but that the pay may not exceed the pay of federal jurors. Therefore, this bill, or action by the DC courts, is necessary to increase Superior Court juror pay.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING FLOYD LOFTON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Floyd Lofton's service to our country during World War II and in celebration of his upcoming 100th Birthday.

Mr. Lofton was born in West Point, Mississippi on February 22, 1920. He joined the Army on December 5th, 1942 in Little Rock, AR. He was trained as a truck driver and qualified as a sharpshooter in riflery training.

During the war he was deployed to the Pacific Theater of operations and served in New Guinea. He spent 2 years, 2 months, and 13 days in theater on foreign soil. As a result of his service, Mr. Lofton was awarded the WWII Victory Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star.

Floyd Lofton is a true American Hero from the greatest generation. I invite Congress to join me in thanking Mr. Lofton for his service to this nation and the free world and in wishing him a happy 100th birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JASBIR "GUDDI" KAUR SIDHU

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mrs. Jasbir "Guddi" Sidhu who tragically passed away on Sunday, October 6, 2019. Guddi will be remembered for her dedicated service to the Sikh community of Fresno, California.

Guddi lived an admirable life and made countless contributions to the city of Fresno. For 25 years, she had a weekly television show and was a founding member of KBIF 900, a local radio station. Her weekend program featured interviews with community members, cultural figures and well-known international songs. Her station was aired not only in Fresno, but also in India and streamed by thousands on social media.

Guddi was a well-known and well-respected leader in the Punjabi Sikh community. She was a member of numerous local groups and

worked hard to preserve the Punjabi culture and Sikh religion for children and families in the community. Guddi was a member of the Sikh Women's Organization for 15 years and was Vice President Sikh Institute of Fresno.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of Jasbir "Guddi" Sidhu. She was a respected member in the community and had a passion for the people of the Central Valley.

HONORING THE LIFE & LEGACY OF MELVIN CURTIS WHITLOCK, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Melvin Curtis Whitlock, Jr.

Melvin Curtis Whitlock, Jr. was born on Saturday, June 8, 1957. He was the first born of Melvin Curtis Whitlock, Sr. and Mary Lean Johnson-Whitlock, or "Mary Lean" as she is most affectionately called. As engaged members of their community, Melvin Sr. and Mary Lean's high-spirited union was further harmonized by the joy and laughter Melvin would bring.

As he grew, Melvin became openly passionate and outgoing through his love of music and baseball. He became a member of the band and joined the baseball team during his trajectory at Jim Hill High School. Melvin had a love for motorcycles, percussion, The Temptations, Good Times, and Sanford & Son.

Following high school, Melvin attended Jackson State University. Upon leaving JSU, he married his high school sweetheart and started a family. From their union came three beautiful children which Melvin would tell everyone were his three greatest accomplishments.

Melvin received certification in masonry from Hinds Community College and spent time working with his father, Melvin Sr.

He was known for the phrase, "Y'all think y'all deserve everything on a silver platter", which encouraged his children and others to appreciate the value of earning whatever they wanted in life.

He was an outstanding, faithful member at his spiritual home, Triumph the Church and Kingdom of God in Christ until his passing on September 24, 2019.

Melvin is survived by his father: Melvin "M.C." Whitlock, Sr., mother: Mary Lean Whitlock, daughter: Niki Whitlock, grandsons: Tyler Nelson and Lance Jones, great granddaughters: BellaKay Jones and Emerson Jones, son: Brian M. Whitlock, son: Gerren K. Whitlock, Sr., grandchildren: Gerren Whitlock, II and Cayla Whitlock, brothers: James Whitlock and Marvin Whitlock, sisters: Sandra Moses, Joyce Whitlock, Debbie Whitlock, and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and legacy of Melvin Whitlock, Jr.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on the following legislative measures. If I were present for roll call votes, I would have voted "aye" for the following vote: Roll Call 540, September 20, 2019: On Passage of H.R. 1423, Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act.

In addition, I would have voted "no" on the following vote: Roll Call 539, September 20, 2019: On Agreeing to the Amendment by Jordan of Ohio Part B Amendment No. 1.

OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
IN MARRAKECH**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, two weeks ago, I participated as Ranking Member with Co-Chairman Congressman ALCEE HASTINGS and Co-Chairman Senator ROGER WICKER of the Joint Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (The Helsinki Commission) to attend the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Marrakech, Morocco, with fellow Congressmen EMANUEL CLEAVER and ANDY HARRIS.

We were warmly welcomed to North Africa by President Mohamed Ennaceur of Tunisia in Tunis. We saw firsthand the vibrant democracy conducting parliamentary and presidential elections. America is ably represented by Ambassador David Blome and Deputy Chief of Mission Gregory LoGerfo. A wreath was placed at the North Africa American Cemetery where over 6,500 Americans are memorialized for liberating North Africa from Nazi occupation, escorted by Superintendent Ryan Blum.

In Jerusalem our dedicated U.S. Ambassador to Israel, David Friedman presented an update on the U.S.-Israeli alliance. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu enthusiastically reviewed the ever-evolving political situation. We were inspired with an audience with the Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos III. Director Ze'ev Orenstein gave an impressive tour of the archeological discoveries of The City of David Ancient Jerusalem.

Chief of Staff Alex Johnson provided well-researched briefing materials for the Assembly in Marrakech. Morocco is a valued Non-NATO Ally of America with a surging economy for the people led by King Mohammed VI.

With parliamentarians from 57 nations it was refreshing that opportunities were available for full participation with members respectful of time constraints led by Assembly President Gigi Tsereteli of Georgia with Secretary General Roberto Montella of Italy.

Co-Chairmen HASTINGS and WICKER hosted a special meeting with nine parliamentarians of different political parties from Ukraine who were appreciative of America's support of their independence. I was grateful to meet dynamic delegates from Andorra, Bulgaria, Kyrgyzstan, San Marino, Serbia, and Tajikistan.

I was fortunate to meet with Speaker of the National Assembly of Burkina Faso Alassane

Bala Sakande who is President of the African Parliamentary Union and Speaker Moustapha Cisse Lo of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) of Senegal.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops, and we will never forget September 11th and the Global War on Terrorism, with the leadership of President Donald Trump.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY
OF MARIE EDITH MUSTILLO**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Marie Edith Mustillo, a woman of strength, honor and good humor, on her 90th Birthday.

Born on October 5, 1929 to John and Rose Perrello, Sicilian immigrants whose American dream was realized as they settled in Buffalo. The third of five children, Marie and her siblings grew up on Myrtle Avenue in Buffalo. She attended Public School 6 Grammar School and went on to the Girls Vocational High School. Cultural stigmas posed no threat to Marie Perrello as she studied business and took a position at Allstate Trucking where she wrote up manifests for the drivers. While employed there, it was not uncommon for a man to tell her that because she was a woman, she was in the wrong job. Marie proved it was those men who were wrong.

She then took her professional skills to W.H. Edgar and Son, a sugar company at the Clinton Market where she worked as a secretary. Marie moved from the market to a doctor's office as she became a trusted podiatry assistant for almost thirty years at the office of Dr. Herbert Shulefand.

As if out of a movie script, this lively, lovely young woman met the love of her life, Louis Mustillo, Sr., on New Year's Eve in 1950. Three years later they married. Always close to her family, married life would not change that as the happy couple lived upstairs from her parents before moving to Mineral Spring Road in 1956 because her grandmother lived on Hayden, the next street over. The Mustillo's finally planted their roots on Edgewood Avenue, in a home where Marie still lives today. At their new South Buffalo home, Marie and Louis, who would become known as Buffalo's most respected professional bartender, raised three beautiful children together: Concetta (Michael Myers), Louis Jr. (Tricia Brown), and Lisa (Mark Vary). Their children's careers in health care, the entertainment industry and social work continue to make a positive impact in the lives of others.

The Mustillo home, like others on Edgewood Avenue, became a gathering place for the families, children and many friends who found an open door, a warm welcome, an invite for dinner and when needed, a look that meant someone would be sent home for misbehaving. A few years ago, there was even a widely attended Edgewood Avenue reunion where neighbors of all generations, present and past, spent the evening reminiscing about the block parties, life-long friendships, shared celebrations and heartache that made Edgewood a very special place to raise a family.

And, Marie and Louis resided in the heart of that street and personified the values of fam-

ily, faith, friendship, hard work, giving back to one's community, pursuing your dreams, loyalty and love of country that they instilled in their children and grandchildren, Michael, Lisa and Concetta Marie. In true Marie Mustillo style, she soldiered on after the loss of her beloved husband in 1998 even comforting a neighbor getting married that day. Now the undisputed matriarch of the Mustillo clan, she is held in high regard by those who know her and love her and those she loves so well.

Her passion for gardening reflects her love of nature, the pride she takes in doing her own planting and then seeing her work come to life as she curates one of the most glorious presentations in the neighborhood. Its inclusion in the South Buffalo Garden Walk makes her home a true destination for residents and visitors alike. You are truly blessed, as I am, to be the recipient of one her aprons as one of Marie's favorite pastimes is sewing. Her handmade aprons have made appearances on national television programs including Mike and Molly, which starred her son Louis Jr. and are permanent fixtures in the wardrobe department at Warner Brothers Studios. These aprons have been gifted to New York State Governor Cuomo as well as several Parisian cafes.

A longtime, active parishioner at St. Thomas Aquinas (STA) Church, it is appropriate that the color representing 90 years is purple, the same color highlighting so many STA banners over the years. Purple represents wisdom, dignity, independence and creativity; all innate qualities found in the fiber and fabric of Marie Mustillo.

Madam Speaker, I thank you for this time to acknowledge Marie Edith Perrello Mustillo who for 90 years has graced the lives of her family she loves and the friends she cherishes as she built relationships that have lasted a lifetime. We send congratulations and best wishes for continued health and happiness as this beloved wife, devoted mother, caring grandparent, generous friend, honorary Edgewood Eagle and South Buffalo Legend will be celebrated at Chef's Restaurant on the date of her birth, October 5.

TRIBUTE TO EMILIO NICOLAS

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Emilio Nicolas who passed away on October 12, 2019. Mr. Nicolas hails from my hometown of San Antonio, Texas. For decades he led the way in providing a voice for Mexican Americans through Spanish-language television. He is survived by his wife Irma, one sister, three children, five grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren. He will be greatly missed.

Emilio Nicolas was born on October 27, 1930 to Mr. and Mrs. Constantino Nicolas in Frontera, Coahuila, Mexico. In 1948, he moved to San Antonio to study chemistry and mathematics at St. Mary's University; graduating in 1951. Later, he received a master's degree from Trinity University in 1952.

In 1955, Emilio Nicolas came to work at KCOR-AM & TV in San Antonio where he produced live programming and television.

Nicolas and investors later purchased KCOR, renaming it KWEX; precursor to Univision. The fourth Television Network, Univision became a major media company catering to Spanish speaking audiences across Texas and the United States.

Emilio Nicolas was known for his commitment to community and family. His work has given a voice to so many Hispanic Americans on a massive, global scale. But he also never forgot the community that made him, and in turn, we can never forget him.

Madam Speaker, we have lost a pioneer whose story and work inspired so many in our community. He's remembered in our words, in our heritage, and most importantly, in all the stories of Hispanic Americans raising their voices because of the road he paved.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I was absent September 18 through 20, 2019 due to a knee injury that inhibited travel to Washington, D.C. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" for H.R. 4378, Making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes, and "no" for H.R. 1423, Forced Arbitration Injustice.

I was absent September 24 through 27, 2019 due to a knee injury that inhibited travel to Washington, D.C. Had I been present, I would have voted: "no" on H.R. 2203, Homeland Security Improvement Act; "no" on Democrat Motion to Table the Question of the Privileges of the House, stating: That the House of Representatives disapproves of the actions of the Speaker of the House, Mrs. PELOSI of California, to initiate an impeachment inquiry against the duly elected President of the United States, Donald J. Trump; "yes" on H. Res. 576, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the whistleblower complaint of August 12, 2019, made to the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community; "no" on H.R. 3525, U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act; "no" on S.J. Res. 54, Relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019; and "no" on Democrat Motion to Table the Question of the Privileges of the House, stating: That the House of Representatives disapproves of the actions of the Speaker of the House, Mrs. PELOSI of California, to initiate an impeachment inquiry

against the duly elected President of the United States, Donald J. Trump.

RECOGNIZING AMERICA'S BREWERS

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate our country's brewers.

This week, some of America's 7,000 beer brewers and importers are in our nation's capital as part of the Beer Institute's beer jobs showcase. They are meeting with lawmakers to discuss how they're creating more than 2.1 million good-paying jobs and generating \$328 billion in economic activity.

One beer job contributes to 31 more in a wide range of industries, including farming, manufacturing, trucking and restaurants.

Every congressional district is home to a brewery. My home state of Pennsylvania has a rich history with brewing that dates all the way back to the 1600s. Currently, we have more than 500 breweries that employ 77,000 people.

That's why I'm proud to have co-authored the Craft Beverage Modernization and Tax Reform Act with my friend and colleague Congressman RON KIND of Wisconsin. Today, H.R. 1175 has 288 cosponsors.

Our bipartisan bill would provide permanent federal excise tax relief to America's brewers and beer importers, ensuring they have the resources to reinvest in their businesses, hire new employees and continue to innovate. The federal excise tax cut was enacted in 2017, but it is set to expire at the end of the year. By extending this tax relief, brewers can continue to invest, produce and create America's favorite beers.

Brewers across our nation exemplify the American dream and our country's spirit of entrepreneurship. As Americans, let's raise a glass to our beer-making heritage.

RECOGNIZING VIERA SUNTREE LITTLE LEAGUE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize two exceptional and accomplished

baseball teams from Florida's eighth congressional district for their recent championship wins. The Viera Suntree Little League sent both their Juniors and Majors All-Stars baseball teams to compete in the state championships, bringing home two stunning victories. Not only did both teams win state championships, but the Juniors team went on to play in the Little League World Series where only 16 teams in the entire country are selected to compete. There the Juniors team placed second in the U.S. bracket and fourth in the World, finishing with a 15 and 2 overall record. The magnitude of both teams' accomplishments cannot be understated. Their dedication to excellence in the sport of baseball is evident in this achievement.

I would like to also mention that this is not the first time that Viera Suntree All-Stars teams have competed for championships. They received their first Majors division state championship in 2010. These teams consistently compete at high levels and voluntarily dedicate themselves to countless hours of practice and playing games.

I am incredibly grateful to have such outstanding young men and their coaches represent our district on the national stage. I would like to extend a special congratulations to Manager Jason Allen, Coaches John Glendinning and Dustin Keith, and players Aaron Brand, Luke Campbell, Lucas Glendinning, Apollos Horrell, Luc Iten, Dylan Jordan, Logan Keith, Luke McDonough, Cameron Ruston, Cameron Simpkins, Cole Smith, Blake Strode, Brycen Weeks, and Camden Wicker of the Juniors team.

I would also like to congratulate Manager Russell Cheatham, Coaches Raul Leoni, Clint Marshall, and players Izzy Birru, Robbie Caruso, Micah Cheatham, Brennan Confreda, Finnegan Goldiner, Dominic Leoni, Evan Lipski, Austin Marshall, Colton Marshall, Deaglan McBride, Mikey Minarik, Jonah Peacock, and Brandon Reiter of the Majors team.

I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of both the Juniors and Majors All-Star teams and I look forward to seeing what they can achieve next year.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See *Résumé of Congressional Activity*.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5775–S5802

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2595–2601, and S.J. Res. 57. **Page S5793**

Measures Reported:

S. 2169, to amend section 3116 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the applicability of the appointment limitations for students appointed under the expedited hiring authority for post-secondary students, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 116–129) **Page S5793**

Measures Passed:

Rail Safety Week: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 322, expressing support for the designation of the week of September 22 through September 28, 2019, as Rail Safety Week in the United States, and supporting the goals and ideals of Rail Safety Week to reduce rail-related accidents, fatalities, and injuries, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S5799**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency with respect to narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia that was declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–31)

Page S5790

Barrett Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense. **Pages S5779–84**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 84 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. 314), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5784**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, the cloture motions on the nominations of Frank William Volk, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia, Charles R. Eskridge III, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, David John Novak, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Rachel P. Kovner, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York ripen at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, October 16, 2019; and that notwithstanding Rule XXII, all post-cloture time on the Barrett, Volk, Eskridge, Novak, and Kovner nominations be considered expired at 4:15 p.m. on Wednesday, October 16, 2019.

Page S5784

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the Barrett nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, October 16, 2019. **Page S5799**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Bruce Poliquin, of Maine, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2021.

Peter J. Coniglio, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Export-Import Bank.

John Bobbitt, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

James P. Danly, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2023.

Katharine MacGregor, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

Sean O'Donnell, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency.

Kipp Kranbuhl, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

William Ellison Grayson, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Estonia.

John Hennessey-Niland, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Palau.

Leora Rosenberg Levy, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Chile.

Barbera Hale Thornhill, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Singapore.

Donald Wright, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the United Republic of Tanzania.

Peter Gaynor, of Rhode Island, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Paul J. Ray, of Tennessee, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.

Patrick J. Bumatay, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Sylvia Carreno-Coll, of Puerto Rico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.

John M. Gallagher, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Barbara Bailey Jongbloed, of Connecticut, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut.

Barbara Lagoa, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Robert J. Luck, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Sherri A. Lydon, of South Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina.

Scott H. Rash, of Arizona, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona.

Lawrence VanDyke, of Nevada, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Cory T. Wilson, of Mississippi, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi.

4 Army nominations in the rank of general.

8 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, and Navy.

Pages S5800–02

Nominations Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nominations:

Kimberly Breier, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring September 20, 2020, which was sent to the Senate on January 16, 2019.

Patrick J. Bumatay, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, which was sent to the Senate on February 6, 2019.

Peter M. Vito, of New York, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of New York for the term of four years, which was sent to the Senate on May 13, 2019.

Pages S5802–03

Messages from the House: **Page S5790**

Measures Referred: **Pages S5790–91**

Measures Placed on the Calendar:
Pages S5777, S5791

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S5791**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5791–93**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5793–97**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S5797–99

Additional Statements: **Pages S5786–89**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S5799**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—314) **Page S5784**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:18 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 16, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5799.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 4671–4686 and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 77 and H. Res. 628, 630–631 were introduced.

Pages H8142–44

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H8144–45

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3734, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to report on access to credit for small business concerns owned and controlled by covered individuals, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to report on the veterans interagency task force, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–233);

H.R. 3661, to support entrepreneurs serving in the National Guard and Reserve, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–234);

H.R. 499, to amend the Small Business Act to clarify the treatment of certain surviving spouses under the definition of small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans (H. Rept. 116–235);

H.R. 3537, to amend the Small Business Act to codify the Boots to Business Program, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–236); and

H. Res. 629, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1815) To require the Securities and Exchange Commission, when developing rules and regulations about disclosures to retail investors, to conduct investor testing, including a survey and interviews of retail investors, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3624) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the disclosure of the total number of domestic and foreign employees of certain public companies, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–237).

Page H8142

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Schneider to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H8115

Recess: The House recessed at 2:07 p.m. and reconvened at 3:31 p.m.

Page H8116

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Recognizing Hong Kong's bilateral relationship with the United States, condemning the interference of the People's Republic of China in Hong Kong's affairs, and supporting the people of Hong Kong's right to protest: H. Res. 543, amended, recognizing Hong Kong's bilateral relationship with

the United States, condemning the interference of the People's Republic of China in Hong Kong's affairs, and supporting the people of Hong Kong's right to protest;

Pages H8116–19

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "Recognizing Hong Kong's bilateral relationship with the United States, condemning the People's Republic of China for violating their obligations to the people of Hong Kong, and supporting the people of Hong Kong's right to freedom of assembly and peaceful protest.";

Page H8119

Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019: H.R. 3289, amended, to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992;

Pages H8119–24

Placing Restrictions on Teargas Exports and Crowd Control Technology to Hong Kong Act: H.R. 4270, amended, to prohibit commercial exports of certain nonlethal crowd control items and defense articles and services to the Hong Kong Disciplined Services;

Pages H8124–27

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To prohibit commercial exports of certain nonlethal crowd control items and defense articles and services to the Hong Kong Police, and for other purposes.";

Page H8127

Commending the Government of Canada for upholding the rule of law and expressing concern over actions by the Government of the People's Republic of China in response to a request from the United States Government to the Government of Canada for the extradition of a Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd., executive: H. Res. 521, commending the Government of Canada for upholding the rule of law and expressing concern over actions by the Government of the People's Republic of China in response to a request from the United States Government to the Government of Canada for the extradition of a Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd., executive;

Pages H8128–29

Permitting the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program to conduct cemetery research and produce educational materials for the Veterans Legacy Program: H.R. 2385, to permit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program to conduct cemetery research and produce educational materials for the Veterans Legacy Program, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 409 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 556;

Pages H8129–30, H8137–38

VA Website Accessibility Act of 2019: H.R. 1199, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study regarding the accessibility of

websites of the Department of Veterans Affairs to individuals with disabilities; **Pages H8130–32**

Designating the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Odessa, Texas, as the “Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic”: H.R. 2334, to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Odessa, Texas, as the “Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic”; and

Pages H8132–35

Homeless Veteran Families Act: H.R. 95, to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that children of homeless veterans are included in the calculation of the amounts of certain per diem grants, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 408 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 557. **Pages H8135–37, H8138–39**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:37 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H8137**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress of the continuation of the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995 with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia, is to continue in effect beyond October 21, 2019—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 116–74).

Page H8137

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8137–38 and H8138–39. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Committee Meetings

SEC DISCLOSURE EFFECTIVENESS TESTING ACT; OUTSOURCING ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2019

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 1815, the “SEC Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act”; and H.R. 3624, the “Outsourcing Accountability Act of 2019”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 6–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1815, the “SEC Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act”, and H.R. 3624, the “Outsourcing Accountability Act of 2019”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1815, the “SEC Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate on the bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides

that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116–34, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered 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, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part B of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 3624, the “Outsourcing Accountability Act of 2019”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate on the bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule makes in order as original text for the purpose of amendment the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in part C the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. Each such amendment may be offered 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, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in Part C of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Waters and Representative McHenry.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D977)

H.R. 831, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to request nominations for and make determinations regarding roads to be designated under the national scenic byways program. Signed on September 22, 2019. (Public Law 116–57)

H.R. 1200, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2019, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans. Signed on September 26, 2019. (Public Law 116–58)

H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020. Signed on September 27, 2019. (Public Law 116–59)

H.R. 1058, to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism. Signed on September 30, 2019. (Public Law 116–60)

H.R. 4285, to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend and modify certain authorities and requirements relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs. Signed on September 30, 2019. (Public Law 116–61)

S. 163, to prevent catastrophic failure or shutdown of remote diesel power engines due to emission control devices. Signed on October 4, 2019. (Public Law 116–62)

S. 1689, to permit States to transfer certain funds from the clean water revolving fund of a State to the drinking water revolving fund of the State in certain circumstances. Signed on October 4, 2019. (Public Law 116–63)

H.R. 1590, to require an exercise related to terrorist and foreign fighter travel. Signed on October 9, 2019. (Public Law 116–64)

S. 239, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe. Signed on October 9, 2019. (Public Law 116–65)

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 16, 2019**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine feeding America, focusing on making sustainable offshore aquaculture a reality, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the impacts of diseases on wildlife conservation and management, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine United States-Iran policy, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Carmen G. Cantor, of Puerto Rico, to be Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, Michael George DeSombre, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, Sung Y. Kim, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, Morse H. Tan, of Illinois, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice, and Kelley Eckels Currie, of Georgia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations; to be immediately followed by a Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy hearing to examine the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act in action, focusing on implementation and the Indo-Pacific strategy, 2 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine lending opportunities, focusing on homeownership in Indian country, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Barbara Lagoa, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, Robert J. Luck, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, Sylvia Carreno-Coll, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, John M. Gallagher, to be United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and Sherri A. Lydon, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine fall prevention, focusing on national, state, and local solutions to better support seniors, 9:30 a.m., SD–562.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "NASA's Proposal to Advance the Next Moon Landing by Four Years", 9:45 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Food and Nutrition Service: Policy and Program Overview", 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "E-cigarettes: An Emerging Threat to Public Health", 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Intelligence and Emerging Threats and Capabilities; and Subcommittee on Readiness, joint hearing entitled "Resiliency of Military Installations to Emerging Threats", 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Strengthening Our Fiscal Toolkit: Policy Options to Improve Economic Resiliency", 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services, hearing entitled "Examining the USDA's Proposed Cuts to Free School Meals", 2 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology; and Subcommittee on

Consumer Protection and Commerce, joint hearing entitled “Fostering a Healthier Internet to Protect Consumers”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Legislation to Reverse the Youth Tobacco Epidemic”, 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Who is Standing Up for Consumers? A Semi-Annual Review of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development, and Insurance; and Subcommittee on National Security, International Development and Monetary Policy, hearing entitled “Protecting America: The Reauthorization of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and International Terrorism, hearing entitled “Syria Study Group: Recommendations for U.S. Policy”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Public-Private Initiatives to Secure the Supply Chain”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4617, the “Stopping Harmful Interference in Elections for a Lasting Democracy Act”, 2 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3942, the “Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act”; H.R. 886, the “Veteran Treatment Court Coordination Act of 2019”; H.R. 835, the “Rodchenkov Anti-Doping Act of 2019”; H.R. 4258, the “Reauthorizing Security for Supreme Court Justices Act of 2019”; H.R. 3713, to amend title 28, United States Code, provide an additional place for holding court for the Western District of Washington, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1123, the “Divisional Realignment for the Eastern District of Arkansas Act of 2019”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States, hearing on H.R. 3160, the “Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act”; and S. 46, the “Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Repeal Act”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “SBA Management Review: SBA IG Report on the Most Serious Management and Performance Challenges Facing the SBA”, 11:30 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled “Examining the Future of Transportation Network Companies: Challenges and Opportunities”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4625, the “Protect the GI Bill Act”; H.R. 3749, the “Legal Services for Homeless Veterans Act”; H.R. 4613, the “VA Reporting Transparency Act”; H.R. 4477, the “Reducing High Risk to Veterans and Veterans Services Act”; H.R. 4162, the “GI Bill Planning Act of 2019”; and H.R. 561, the “Protecting Business Opportunities for Veterans Act of 2019”, 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Broken Promises: Assessing VA’s Systems for Protecting Veterans from Clinical Harm”, 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The House Calendar and Schedule: Evaluating Practices and Challenges”, 10 a.m., H–313 Capitol.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine measuring economic inequality in the United States, 2:15 p.m., 2020, Rayburn Building.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of October 16 through October 18, 2019

Senate Chamber

On *Wednesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense, post-cloture.

At 11 a.m., Senate will vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Frank William Volk, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia, Charles R. Eskridge III, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, David John Novak, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Rachel P. Kovner, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

At 4:15 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, and, if cloture is invoked, on confirmation of the nominations of Frank William Volk, Charles R. Eskridge III, David John Novak, and Rachel P. Kovner.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: October 17, to hold hearings to examine implementing the 2018 Farm Bill, 10 a.m., SR–328A.

Committee on Appropriations: October 17, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission, focusing on the spectrum auctions program, 10 a.m., SD–138.

Committee on Armed Services: October 17, to hold closed hearings to examine the situation in Syria and the wider region, 9:30 a.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: October 17, to hold hearings to examine the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s semi-annual report to Congress, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: October 16, to hold hearings to examine feeding America, focusing on making sustainable offshore aquaculture a reality, 10 a.m., SH-216.

October 17, Subcommittee on Security, to hold hearings to examine improving security at America's airports, focusing on stakeholder perspectives, 10:30 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: October 17, to hold hearings to examine the status of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and related energy security issues, 10:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: October 16, to hold hearings to examine the impacts of diseases on wildlife conservation and management, 10 a.m., SD-406.

October 17, Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine reducing emissions while driving economic growth, focusing on industry-led initiatives, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: October 16, to hold hearings to examine United States-Iran policy, 10 a.m., SD-419.

October 16, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Carmen G. Cantor, of Puerto Rico, to be Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, Michael George DeSombre, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, Sung Y. Kim, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, Morse H. Tan, of Illinois, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice, and Kelley Eckels Currie, of Georgia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations; to be immediately followed by a Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy hearing to examine the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act in action, focusing on implementation and the Indo-Pacific strategy, 2 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Indian Affairs: October 16, to hold an oversight hearing to examine lending opportunities, focusing on homeownership in Indian country, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: October 16, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Barbara Lagoa, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, Robert J. Luck, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, Sylvia Carreno-Coll, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, John M. Gallagher, to be United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and Sherri A. Lydon, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, 10 a.m., SD-226.

October 17, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 2132, to promote security and provide justice for United States victims of international terrorism, S. 2511, to amend title 40, United States Code, to provide the Marshal of the Supreme Court of the United States and Supreme Court Police with the authority to protect the Chief Justice of the United States, any Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and other individuals in any location, and the nominations of Halil Suleyman Ozerden, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the

Fifth Circuit, David B. Barlow, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, John Fitzgerald Kness, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, R. Austin Huffaker, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama, Lee Philip Rudofsky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas, Justin Reed Walker, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky, Eleni Maria Roumel, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, Danielle J. Hunsaker, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Steven J. Menashi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, William Joseph Nardini, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Jodi W. Dishman, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, Karen Spencer Marston, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Richard Earnest Myers II, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Sarah E. Pitlyk, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, Anuraag Singhal, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Daniel Mack Traynor, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota, and David M. DeVillers, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Special Committee on Aging: October 16, to hold hearings to examine fall prevention, focusing on national, state, and local solutions to better support seniors, 9:30 a.m., SD-562.

House

Committee on Agriculture, October 17, Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research, hearing entitled "To Review Implementation of USDA Farm Bill Research Programs", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, October 17, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Oversight Hearing: Chronic Wasting Disease", 10 a.m., 2008 Rayburn.

October 17, Subcommittee on the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Oversight Hearing: The Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Program", 2 p.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Labor, October 17, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3, the "Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, October 17, Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets, hearing entitled "Examining Corporate Priorities: The Impact of Stock Buybacks on Workers, Communities, and Investors", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

October 17, Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion, hearing entitled "Promoting Inclusion: Examining the Need for Diversity Practices for America's Changing Workforce", 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

October 18, Task Force on Artificial Intelligence, hearing entitled “AI and the Evolution of Cloud Computing: Evaluation How Financial Data is Stored, Protected, and Maintained by Cloud Providers”, 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, October 17, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery, hearing entitled “Defending the Homeland from Bioterrorism: Are We Prepared?”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

October 17, Subcommittee on Oversight, Management, and Accountability, hearing entitled “The Public’s Right to Know: FOIA at the Department of Homeland Security”, 2 p.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, October 17, Subcommittee on Elections, hearing entitled “Voting Rights and Election Administration in America”, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, October 17, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, hearing entitled “Legislative Proposals to Strengthen the Voting Rights Act”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

October 17, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing entitled “Oversight Hearing on the Federal Bureau of Prisons and Implementation of the First Step Act”, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

October 18, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law, hearing entitled “Online Platforms and Market Power, Part 3: The Role of Data and Privacy in Competition”, 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, October 17, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, hearing on H.R. 2420, the “National Museum of the American Latino Act”, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

October 17, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled “The Case for Climate Optimism: Realistic Pathways to Achieving Net Zero Emissions”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

October 17, Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife, hearing on H.R. 2795, the “Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act of 2019”; and H.R. 3742, the “Recovering America’s Wildlife Act of 2019”, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, October 17, Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, hearing entitled “The Administration’s Decision to Deport Critically Ill Children and Their Families”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, October 17, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4091, the “ARPA-E Reauthorization Act of 2019”; H.R. 2051, the “Sustainable Chemistry Research and Development Act of 2019”; and H.R. 1709, the “Science Integrity Act”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, October 17, Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access, hearing entitled “Can Opportunity Zones Address Concerns in the Small Business Economy?”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, October 17, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “China’s Maritime Silk Road Initiative: Implications for the Global Maritime Supply Chain”, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, October 17, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Investing in The U.S. Health System by Lowering Drug Prices, Reducing Out-Of-Pocket Costs, and Improving Medicare Benefits”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, October 17, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Solving the Climate Crisis: Cleaner, Stronger Buildings”, 9 a.m., 2020 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: October 16, to hold hearings to examine measuring economic inequality in the United States, 2:15 p.m., 2020, Rayburn Building.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3 through September 30, 2019

	<i>Senate</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Total</i>
Days in session	140	143	..
Time in session	727hrs. 24'	585 hrs, 34'	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	5,765	8,083	..
Extensions of Remarks .....	..	1,231	..
Public bills enacted into law	16	45	61
Private bills enacted into law .....	..	..	..
Bills in conference	1	1	..
Measures passed, total	361	448	809
Senate bills	69	20	..
House bills	45	293	..
Senate joint resolutions	24	5	..
House joint resolutions	4	7	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	11	4	..
House concurrent resolutions	8	10	..
Simple resolutions	200	109	..
Measures reported, total	*202	210	412
Senate bills	143	..	..
House bills	17	167	..
Senate joint resolutions .....	..	..	..
House joint resolutions .....	..	1	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	3	..	..
House concurrent resolutions .....	..	2	..
Simple resolutions	39	40	..
Special reports	18	8	..
Conference reports	1	1	..
Measures pending on calendar	168	54	..
Measures introduced, total	3,033	5,325	8,358
Bills	2,594	4,571	..
Joint resolutions	56	76	..
Concurrent resolutions	26	68	..
Simple resolutions	357	610	..
Quorum calls	2	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	313	243	..
Recorded votes .....	..	311	..
Bills vetoed	1	1	..
Vetoes overridden .....	..	..	..

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 3 through September 30, 2019

Civilian nominees, totaling 458, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	266
Unconfirmed	176
Withdrawn	16
Other Civilian nominees, totaling 1,004, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	987
Unconfirmed	16
Withdrawn	1
Air Force nominees, totaling 5,816, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	5,653
Unconfirmed	163
Army nominees, totaling 6,444, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	6,409
Unconfirmed	35
Navy nominees, totaling 4,609, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	2,989
Unconfirmed	1,620
Marine Corps nominees, totaling 1,430, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,425
Unconfirmed	5
<i>Summary</i>	
Total nominees carried over from the First Session	0
Total nominees received this Session	19,761
Total confirmed	17,729
Total unconfirmed	2,015
Total withdrawn	17
Total returned to the White House	0

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 128 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 219 reports have been filed in the House.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, October 16

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense, post-cloture.

At 11 a.m., Senate will vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Frank William Volk, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia, Charles R. Eskridge III, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, David John Novak, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Rachel P. Kovner, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

At 4:15 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, and, if cloture is invoked, on confirmation of the nominations of Frank William Volk, Charles R. Eskridge III, David John Novak, and Rachel P. Kovner.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, October 16

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E1281
 Carson, André, Ind., E1282
 Castro, Joaquin, Tex., E1284
 Costa, Jim, Calif., E1283
 Crawford, Eric A. "Rick", Ark., E1283, E1285

Davis, Danny K., Ill., E1284
 Harder, Josh, Calif., E1281
 Higgins, Brian, N.Y., E1284
 Kelly, Mike, Pa., E1285
 Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E1283
 Posey, Bill, Fla., E1285

Rose, Max, N.Y., E1281
 Thompson, Bennie G., Miss., E1283
 Tlaib, Rashida, Mich., E1281
 Velázquez, Nydia M., N.Y., E1282
 Wilson, Joe, S.C., E1282, E1284



Congressional Record

printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through the U.S. Government Publishing Office, at www.govinfo.gov, free of charge to the user. The information is updated online each day the *Congressional Record* is published. For more information, contact the GPO Customer Contact Center, U.S. Government Publishing Office. Phone 202-512-1800, or 866-512-1800 (toll-free). E-Mail, contactcenter@gpo.gov. ¶To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197-9000, or phone orders to 866-512-1800 (toll-free), 202-512-1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202-512-2104. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record*, U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.