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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 16, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DEAN PHILLIPS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

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

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SODDY-DAISY

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

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the great people of Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee, as we all celebrate the 50th anniversary of this community.

Mr. Speaker, I am so privileged and honored to represent 11 wonderful east Tennessee counties in this great people's House. My largest county is Ham-

ilton County. Perhaps you have heard of a city there called Chattanooga. That is our largest city. But right up the road is a very special place: Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee.

Soddy-Daisy has a great history. It has been a city for 50 years. But long before that, it all started with the construction of Poe's Tavern in 1819, which Hasten Poe of Soddy-Daisy called home. In the years to follow, the tavern served as a hospital during the Civil War and was torn down later, but a replacement is there today.

Depending on whom you ask, you may get one of several stories about how Soddy-Daisy got its name. Some say it was an adaptation of an Indian name meaning "sipping place"; others will tell you it derived from the name of a trading post owned by William Sodder, nicknamed "Soddy."

As time went on after the Civil War, it was home to mostly Scots; then, later, Welshmen came, and they brought coal mining to the region. The industry grew and the Daisy Coal Company was founded by Thomas Parks, who named it after his daughter, Daisy. The coal company expanded, and the region became known as "Daisy."

Mr. Speaker, in 1969, America put a man on the Moon, and a little ball club I am very fond of in New York, the Mets, won the world series. I was 7 years old then, and I didn't know that somewhere in Hamilton County, Tennessee, the great people of Soddy and Daisy were coming together to put together a beautiful city.

About a week or two ago, I celebrated their 50th anniversary as a city. And today, joining us in this great people's House are the men and women who serve on that commission. These are people who volunteer. They serve without pay. These are truly great American citizens. I want to talk about them right now.

We have got Mayor Gene-o Shipley and his wife, DeDe; Vice Mayor Robert

Cothran and his wife, Wanda; Commissioner Jim Adams and his wife, Shirley; Commissioner Max Lowe and his wife, Teresa; and Commissioner Rick Nunley and his wife, Katherine.

I also want to recognize Soddy-Daisy City Manager Janice Cagle; and at that celebration, the very first mayor of Soddy-Daisy, Max Orr, was present, and he is still a prominent figure in that great community today.

I know in Soddy-Daisy and in Sale Creek and communities in Hamilton County today, right now, Mr. Speaker, schoolchildren are watching us in the public schools. I want to tell them that their parents, grandparents, and the founders of this great community have been great Americans.

Soddy-Daisy has a rich past. I have been with this wonderful community in times of triumph and in times of tragedy. I have been there when they had floods. Their community is a great community—good, good people, wonderful people.

Now, as bright as the past has been, I want to tell the students who are watching today that the future is going to be even brighter for Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee. This is a community that loves God, loves our country, and loves our veterans. It is a special place.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Soddy-Daisy and the great citizens there a very happy birthday and Godspeed.

HONORING GURU NANAK

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an important historical figure in the Sikh community on what will soon be the 550th anniversary of the Sikh religion.

Guru Nanak was the founder of Sikhism, the fifth largest religion in the world, but his story is largely unknown to the Western world.

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

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



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Guru Nanak was born in November of 1469 in present-day Pakistan. According to Sikh traditions, the birth and early years of his life were marked with many events that demonstrated that he had been marked by divine grace.

He traveled far and wide, teaching people the message of one universal creator and that God is good and that God is everywhere. Guru Nanak also preached the universal message of justice and equality for all women's empowerment, service to others, and a devotion to nature and the environment.

Every year, Sikh pilgrims travel to his birthplace to remember his life and his message of love, compassion, and kindness, these values that we hold true every day.

I know from personal experience in my interactions with the Sikh leaders across my district and throughout this country that these values are instilled in each and every one of us and them.

Unfortunately, one such Sikh leader tragically passed away a week ago, and her loss is heavily felt by so many members, not only throughout California, but in India.

HONORING JASBIR "GUDDI" SIDHU

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate a beloved member of the Sikh community in my home of Fresno, California: Ms. Jasbir "Guddi" Sidhu.

Guddi lived an admirable life and made so many, countless contributions to our communities. For 25 years, she produced a weekly television show and was a founding member of KBIF 900, a local radio station.

Her weekend programming featured interviews with community members and cultural figures. She was a role model and a leader to all, especially young girls and women. It not only aired in Fresno, but also halfway around the world, in India. It was also streamed by thousands on social media.

Guddi was a member of numerous local organizations and worked hard to preserve the Punjabi culture and Sikh religion for children and families in her community and helped those assimilate who came from Punjab.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the service of Jasbir "Guddi" Sidhu, a beloved member of our community, who had a passion for people and made a difference.

SYRIA CRISIS

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the recent events transpiring in northern Syria.

Turkey's continuing actions against the Kurds in northern Syria is not only appalling, but it is unjustifiable, and it is not right.

The Kurds have courageously fought side by side with our troops and deserve better, losing over 10,000 of their soldiers in defeating ISIL as the caliphate, but yet ISIL could come back. They are also guarding thousands of ISIS prisoners.

The Kurds have been our partners. The United States must immediately

impose sanctions on Turkey for their irresponsible and outrageous behavior.

This White House's actions, I believe, have made the situation possible; and now Congress must act to confront this unfolding humanitarian disaster, which is also a threat to our national security and damaging to our international reputation.

I will be supporting bipartisan legislation to confront the administration and Turkey on this matter later this week. I support H.J. Res. 77, which expresses the Congress' opposition to the administration's abandonment of our Kurdish allies.

Though Turkey is a NATO ally, we cannot stand by and let this happen in the face of reckless and irresponsible behavior on Turkey's part. And this isn't the first time Turkey has acted in this way.

This action has become necessary because of the unilateral actions that the President took without consulting Congress or our European allies. It makes no sense.

It is critical that we maintain our friendships and our alliances. America needs to have our alliances. We need to have friends.

When there is no longer a priority for this administration to embark upon maintaining our relationships with our allies—our friends—we go down a perilous path, mark my words. The United States needs its friends, and actions like this undermine our global image and risk us being seen as an unreliable partner in international affairs. We don't want to be seen as an unreliable partner in international affairs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in calling for responsible leadership, on a bipartisan basis, on this issue.

RURAL BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue that is incredibly important to me as a senior member of the House Agriculture Committee.

My vision for the future of rural America includes rebuilding the communities that provide much of our food, fiber, and energy, and to provide support for a robust rural economy. Of course, this is virtually impossible without reliable, high-speed, 5G broadband connectivity.

In the late 1800s, Thomas Edison created the first practical incandescent lightbulb. By 1925, half of all homes in the United States had electricity. Today, we take electricity for granted. We don't think twice when we flip a switch.

As we continue to experience today's modern technical revolution, it is my goal to see 5G broadband just as commonplace. Twenty-four million Ameri-

cans still do not have access to broadband, and the vast majority of these people live in rural areas.

A 2017 study by the United States Department of Agriculture discovered that 29 percent of American farmers did not have reliable internet access, despite the fact that agriculture is all about technology today. Without reliable broadband access, we are leaving money on the table, and the American economy is failing to meet its fullest potential.

Connectivity and competition go hand in hand, and we can continue to invest in rural communities with 5G. Agriculture, healthcare, energy, education, and so many other industries demand this level of service.

In 2018, we ushered in a new farm bill that underscored the importance of broadband in rural America. Under broadband guaranteed lending programs, larger rural communities are permitted to build infrastructure for telecommunication networks.

The farm bill also supports broadband development where it is most needed by prioritizing funds to rural communities that are at least 90 percent unserved.

We can also encourage innovation on this front through opportunity zones. Established by the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, Mr. Speaker, opportunity zones incentivize long-term investments—private-sector investments—in rural, underserved, or economically distressed areas across the Nation through public-private partnerships.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, there are 300 opportunity zones—there are 18 congressional districts—and I am proud that 31 of these are in my district.

To tackle broadband development head-on, the FCC has introduced the idea of gigabit opportunity zones, and the proposal has a promising future ahead of it. Gigabit opportunity zones are designed specifically to address underserved areas by incentivizing State and local governments to foster connectivity, ultimately streamlining regulations, supporting job creators, and strengthening our neighborhoods.

Mr. Speaker, with continued investment in 5G broadband development, the future of rural America looks bright.

□ 1015

LOW-INCOME SENIORS DRUG COVERAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4669, the Maximizing Drug Coverage for Low-Income Seniors Act.

This past week, I joined my colleagues, HALEY STEVENS, JAHANA HAYES, and TERRI SEWELL to introduce this commonsense legislation that will

help to ensure that low-income seniors are matched with the Medicare part D prescription drug program that is best for them.

I continue to hear from folks in New Hampshire who are struggling to pay for Medicare prescription drugs, often being forced to choose between groceries or rent, and the medications that they need.

Far too many Americans are forced to make these impossible choices between basic necessities for their families and their prescription medications. This legislation will help some of our most vulnerable Americans afford the medications they depend on to stay healthy, and it will save taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this important bill.

STATEWIDE AWARD FOR HOMETOWN HERO STEVE BOT

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

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Michael's city administrator, Steve Bot, for receiving the 2019 James F. Miller Leadership Award from the League of Minnesota Cities.

This award is the most prestigious award for nonelected public servants in the State of Minnesota. Our office has the honor of working with Steve through his role as chair of the I-94 West Corridor Coalition which works to expand and improve this vital transportation route in Minnesota's Sixth District.

We recently joined Steve at St. Michael's new public works facility and saw firsthand the incredible work he is doing in St. Michael. It is evident that Steve's efforts to improve his community have been noticed by many, at home and around the State of Minnesota.

I congratulate Steve on this well-deserved award and thank him for everything he does for our community.

RECOGNIZING LAKE RIDGE CARE CENTER FOR 100 YEARS OF EXCELLENT CARE

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lake Ridge Care Center in Buffalo, Minnesota, for providing outstanding care for our seniors.

This year marks the center's 100th anniversary. For a century, this facility has offered short- and long-term care for older adults. Since a large number of residents are not mobile, the staff of this 100-year-old facility found a new way to get residents moving by starting a "Daily Boogie Walk" with music playing over a sound system.

With music requests from the 1950s and beyond, residents have been motivated to exercise. As a result, the center's quality measures rose from 41 percent to 70 percent of residents walking. They rose by 130 spots in our State's rankings.

Congratulations to the staff at Lake Ridge Care Center for their innovation

and going above and beyond, and thanks for caring for our seniors with a profound level of care.

CONGRATULATING BRYAN SCHAFFER ON 33 YEARS OF SERVICE

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bryan Schaffer, development director of planning and community for the city of Blaine. He has done an incredible job. Bryan is officially retiring after 33 years of service.

Bryan started with the city in June of 1986 as a code compliance officer. Later, he became the city planner. Since 2000, he has been the director for the city. Bryan has left a lasting impact on our community.

Bryan's fingerprints are on the largest projects in Blaine, from the TPC Twin Cities golf course, which is home of the 3M Open—PGA Tour event, to the largest housing development Blaine has seen thus far, The Lakes, which added revenue and growing families to the city. Most notably, Bryan secured 580 acres of land that now serves as the Blaine Wetland Sanctuary.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Bryan for his service to the city. Good luck to him in his retirement.

EISENHOWER PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend I had the honor of being back in my home State in Abilene, Kansas to honor our 34th President's 129th birthday, and to rededicate the newly remodeled Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum.

I got to see old friends. I got to play in an old-timers baseball game. I got to hear part of Ike's story through the eyes of his granddaughter, Mary Jean, and his great-grandson, Merrill Atwater.

I have had a special connection to this Presidential museum since I was 9 years old when my dad was honored to be part of the honor guard for Ike's funeral procession.

Though I have been to the Eisenhower Library and Museum numerous times, I was once again enthralled with Ike's story. I was so impressed with the beautiful new layout and the modernization of the museum. This is, indeed, a great place to take children, to help them learn about the story of America.

Ike's story, his words, his Kansas values from over 60 years ago, ring as true today as they did then. Ike, who was born on the wrong side of the track, literally, held hard work and education in the highest regard. He often spoke of his home as the heartland of America. He spoke of the value of being part of a community and a humble lifestyle.

Ike was a visionary in many ways. He is now credited as being one of the top five Presidents in American history, and perhaps one of the greatest commanding generals of all time.

He started the fight for civil rights. He started NASA, the FAA, as well as the Department of Education. And, of course, he was responsible for the Interstate Highway System which we rely upon today. But of all the things which I saw, what struck the loudest chord was Ike's battle to end war, or as he called it "waging peace." In Ike's words, "I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can . . ."

Ike was the first one to coin the phrase "peace through strength."

Ike went on to say: "Our economic strength and military strength are our Nation's shields—without which peace could never be preserved, nor freedom defended."

Dwight D. Eisenhower embodied the American ideal of success through hard work, opportunity, and a purposeful life. I am thrilled this great American and Kansan will soon be honored with a national monument here in Washington, D.C. to celebrate his life and legacy.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, for over 30 years, I wore a pink tie like the one I have on today to work almost every day. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, but what most people don't realize, is that one out of eight women develop breast cancer in their life.

As an obstetrician and gynecologist, I have had to tell hundreds of women that very bad news. That is why I try to remember every October, remember to encourage women to go get their mammogram done. If you are over the age of 35 and it has been over a year since your last mammogram, please call your physician's office, talk to a nurse and ask her: Is it time for you to go get your next mammogram done?

I think it is good for us to talk about risk factors for breast cancer, and, of course, everyone knows that the risk of a family member having breast cancer increases your risk, and that may encourage you to get your mammogram done more often and at a younger age.

If you have more than one first-degree relative with breast cancer, you want to talk to your doctor about some genetic studies to see if, indeed, you are carrying some type of a gene mutation that would increase your risk for breast cancer.

But there are other risk factors as well that people don't often think about. A poor diet that is high in fat increases your risk of breast cancer; obesity increases your risk of breast cancer; lack of exercise increases your risk of breast cancer; smoking increases your risk of breast cancer; and a history of radiation exposure to the chest increases your risk of breast cancer.

So a good diet, regular exercise—30 minutes of walking every day—will decrease your risk. What people often ask me about, though, are the ways that you can prevent breast cancer and decrease your risk. I have already mentioned a good diet and exercise, but

breastfeeding also protects you and decreases your risk for breast cancer, one more reason why women should consider breastfeeding when they have their baby.

But what I want to emphasize today is that most new people diagnosed with breast cancer had no risk factors. Let me say that again: Most women who are diagnosed with breast cancer have no risk factor at all. That is why it is important to get your mammogram done on a regular basis.

The mammogram can pick up breast cancer 2 or 3 years before you can feel something, making the cancer much more treatable.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 23 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Father Brian K. Burgess, Christ Church Episcopal, Woodbury, New Jersey, offered the following prayer:

O Lord our Governor, we beseech Thee to bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to the other nations of the Earth.

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, mayors of cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

To Senators and Representatives and those who make our laws in States, cities, and towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

To the judges and officers of our courts, give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

And finally, teach our people to rely on Thy strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society, that we may serve Thee faithfully in our generation and honor Thy holy name.

For Thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and Thou art exalted as head above all. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's pro-

ceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COMER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

PRAISING SAGE SAVOIA-DI GREGORIO

(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 would like to take a moment to praise my district's 2019 Congressional Award winner, Ms. Sage Savoia-Di Gregorio from Maplewood, New Jersey.

This award is given to youth who achieve extraordinary results in four different categories: public service, physical fitness, personal development, and geographic exploration.

Sage was more than up to the challenge: She joined AmeriCorps and built outdoor trails in Virginia; she renovated museums and education centers in New Jersey; she helped clean and maintain a natural park in Kentucky; and she provided disaster relief to victims of Hurricane Florence in South Carolina—all this, while she maintained a strict workout regime every week.

She deserves this award, and I am proud to call her a resident of the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey.

ADAM SCHIFF CENSURE

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

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, we have the solemn duty to find the facts, to be stewards of the truth. It is the truth that must guide our work. When the truth is contorted, twisted, and disregarded, the American people lose. The fabric of the institution starts to erode.

Sadly, that is exactly what is happening with the House Intelligence Committee under Democratic leadership. It should not have to come to this.

On numerous occasions, as outlined in this resolution, the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee has used

his position to mislead the American people.

But this resolution is about more than the actions of one individual. When false evidence is entered into the official record or communicated directly to the American people, the people's House loses the credibility it needs to function properly.

If the credibility is not restored, if the American people cannot trust that the process will be fair and that the information will be honestly shared, they will lose trust in the soundness of our system of government.

This is what this resolution is all about, and I want to thank Congressman BIGGS for introducing it: to protect the integrity of our proceedings, which censure is designed to do; to restore a process that is fair, objective, and fact-based; and to reassure the American people that the stakes and intensity of our current debate will not overwhelm their government.

We face a critical moment in the life of Congress in the history of this country. History will judge what happens on this floor.

Mr. Speaker, it should not have to come to this, but it has. This is not a decision we take lightly, but it is the right thing to do.

We serve on this floor as Americans, not as in a party. We have to stand for truth. We have to stand for a committee that many of us don't even have the capability or the opportunity to read what happens. We put a trust into those individuals to be honest with us and to the American public.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I urge all of my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution: to bring integrity back to this floor and to this body.

COMMEMORATING THE LEGACY OF ATATIANA JEFFERSON

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, one of my favorite pastimes is playing video games with my 13-year-old son, just as Atatiana Jefferson was doing with her 8-year-old nephew when she was murdered by a police officer in front of him in Fort Worth, Texas, this past weekend.

I rise today to commemorate the legacy of Atatiana, also known as "Aunt Tay" by her 8-year-old nephew, and call on our law enforcement to stop these killings now.

It only took 3 seconds before a police officer fatally shot this woman in front of her 8-year-old nephew while they were playing video games. She didn't even have a chance to show her hands.

The reality for many Black and Brown people in this country is that this is our America, this is the America that we live in every day. It doesn't matter what neighborhood we live in or how much money we make. This is what we face.

Until law enforcement reforms their culture of rogue policing that has led

to the slaughtering of so many people in this country, justice cannot fully be served.

Nothing is going to bring Atatiana or all of those who have been unjustly killed back, but we have to do better. We have to hold our law enforcement accountable and fix the systematic failures that have brought us here today. Until then, our communities cannot have full confidence in those who are tasked in protecting all of us.

ADAM SCHIFF CENSURE

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

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, today, I will make the motion regarding H. Res. 630, a motion to condemn and censure the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, ADAM SCHIFF.

I am going to let some of my colleagues explain further, but I want to explain to you what the rules are designed to do in the body that we serve in. They are designed to protect the voice and the rights of the minority. That is the way it is.

The majority does not need the rules to protect its rights because it has the power to vote at any time what it wants to happen. But we follow rules so that all Americans can be represented, even when they are represented by the minority party.

That is not happening today. That is why we have to introduce this motion to censure. No more secret proceedings. No more Soviet-style proceedings.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all to vote for my motion to censure.

GENERAL MOTORS

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

Mr. HIGGINS of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I stand today in solidarity with 46,000 United Automobile Workers who are now entering their fifth week on strike following the expiration of their contract in September.

Ironically, this September also marked the end of GM's third quarter, where it sold 737,000 vehicles, more than any other U.S. automaker, recording record profits and capturing nearly 18 percent of market share.

GM cited product quality and reliability for its continued strong sales. The United Automobile Workers made those 737,000 vehicles with pride and dedication and attention to detail.

The United Automobile Workers made sacrifices to keep GM whole when the automaker faced bankruptcy 10 years ago. Now those workers simply want to keep their families whole with good healthcare, fair wages, and job security.

With record sales, a fair deal is within reach, one that secures the long-term success of General Motors and a better future for United Automobile Workers. Let's get the deal done.

ADAM SCHIFF CENSURE

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

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I arrived yesterday, as all 435 Members did, to hopefully do the work of the people in the United States Congress. What did I find? No legislation to vote on this week. We are basically not doing anything other than listening to secret testimony about impeaching this President who was duly elected in 2016.

Here are some questions for the American people:

Why are we not voting on lowering prescription drug prices?

Why are we not voting on USMCA, which will help every manufacturer and every business in this country?

Why are we not voting on securing our border?

Why are we not having a budget?

Why are we not reducing regulations to help this great economy?

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better than this. I will sign the censure to hold ADAM SCHIFF accountable, which should be done. I urge my other colleagues to do the same.

□ 1215

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LIEUTENANT DETECTIVE GIUSEPPE "JOE" PETROSINO

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

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Lieutenant Detective Giuseppe "Joe" Petrosino, who, 110 years ago, was assassinated in Sicily while investigating organized crime. He was the first NYPD officer killed overseas in the line of duty.

Born in Padula, Italy, in 1860, Petrosino arrived in America as a teenager. In 1883, he joined the NYPD and became the first Italian-language speaker in the department's history. Lieutenant Petrosino was a passionate crusader against organized crime, and he eventually rose to lead the Italian Squad, an elite group of officers tasked with taking down organized crime groups in the city.

While on a special mission to infiltrate the Italian Mafia in Sicily, Lieutenant Petrosino was assassinated. His memory still lives on. Today, the Lieutenant Petrosino associates in New York, Padula, and Sicily continue to preserve his values and dedication to the NYPD.

We welcome the delegates of the Lt. Det. Joseph Petrosino Association in America to the Capitol and thank them for all they do to sustain his memory of this New York City police detective and great American.

Fighting crime requires the sacrifice of an untold number of men and women in blue. We thank them and their families for putting themselves in harm's way on our behalf.

ATTEMPTED COUP NEEDS TO STOP NOW

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, what is going on with regard to the attempted coup on a United States President is really outrageous. It is playing out now in the House of Representatives.

I am on the Judiciary Committee, as are other friends. ANDY BIGGS—who just addressed us—our friend, ANDY HARRIS, and others went down to the SCIF where there is supposedly a hearing going on about impeachment. I was not allowed in, nor were the others with me who are Members of Congress.

We were told: No, you are not allowed in.

I asked: Who gave that order? Because until a vote is held on the rules to change the rules of precedent, it goes through the Judiciary Committee. They couldn't explain.

They said: Well, our staff boss says an elected Member of Congress cannot go sit in on a hearing like that.

It is outrageous. They couldn't say who said it. It is outrageous. This coup needs to stop now.

STOP DEMONIZING IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, last week President Trump held a rally in the Twin Cities where, once again, immigrants and refugees were demonized. This time it was the Somali and east African communities who call Minnesota home who were attacked.

We should call those attacks on those who have come to the United States seeking a better life for what they are: racist and wrong.

Since the rally, members of the Somali community have come forward publicly to share their fear of being targeted: fear to go to work, fear to go to school, fear to gather socially in public.

Minnesota has a long and proud history of welcoming refugees. Minnesotans will always stand up for our values and our neighbors. To my Somali and east African neighbors, my message is clear: You are welcome in Minnesota. You are an important part of the fabric of our community, and the contributions you make to the State we all love makes Minnesota stronger.

Your friends and neighbors stand with you, and together we will continue to defend our long and proud history of welcoming refugees.

SUPPORT THE CENSURE RESOLUTION

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, it seems when I came to work this week, I was coming to work in Moscow, or Beijing, or Pyongyang, or Havana; not in the Capital of the free world where we treasure fairness. Because what are we doing? We are holding kangaroo courts; Star Chamber, Soviet-style secret trials that are used to depose political opponents. That is what is going on.

Mr. Speaker, I went back to my district. I had three townhalls in the last 4 days. I come from a district who voted for this President and wants a chance to vote for him again in 12 months. They asked me: Where is the evidence against this President?

So I went downstairs today to try to find it. I went down to the SCIF, and as you heard from the gentleman from Texas, we were told that I could not read the testimony of Mr. Volker. It was refused.

I asked: Who refused it? They wouldn't tell me.

I asked to go into the hearing today. They have a hearing today. They said to a Member of Congress: You can't go.

I said: Who refused? They wouldn't tell me.

So, Mr. Speaker, it appears that someone has made a decision, with no rhyme or reason, of who gets invited to these things. We have got to stop this. What are they hiding?

Mr. Speaker, I support the censure resolution. Open up the windows.

RURAL BROADBAND CRISIS

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

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an urgent crisis in our communities: access to rural broadband. Over the district work period, I held a field hearing on rural broadband with FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks, where New York's 19th Congressional District residents shared their stories about the need to improve rural broadband internet in upstate New York. The commissioner heard from educators, healthcare providers, and small business owners all impacted by this issue.

Following that hearing, I have introduced the Broadband Speed Act and the Community Broadband Mapping Act. This legislative package will address flawed broadband mapping practices that result in the FCC overcounting rural communities and require that projects funded with FCC money are future-proof, or built to withstand changes in technology.

This legislation would also allow local governments, co-ops, community groups, and small providers to access funding that would allow them to collect information on local broadband service in order to challenge a finding that they are, in fact, served.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to take up this legislation and close the digital divide.

SCHIFF CENSURE RESOLUTION

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a concerning issue. The chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, whom House Democrats have chosen to lead their sham impeachment inquiry process, has brazenly misled the American people and has hidden the truth.

Chairman SCHIFF must be held accountable for his actions, and this body must take a vote on H. Res. 630. As House Democrats pursue their partisan impeachment inquiry and clandestine Soviet-style hearings, this majority has proven that they cannot be trusted to act with integrity.

If House Democrats want to impeach President Trump, they should do so in a transparent, nonpartisan process. The American people won't be fooled by these cheap tricks. It is time to restore order and decorum to this House.

MAKE IT EASIER TO GET MENTAL HEALTHCARE

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

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to make it easier to get mental healthcare. We should pass the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act and make 988 the national number for mental health emergencies.

When your house is on fire, you don't have to look for a phonebook to know who to call. You just dial 911. Mr. Speaker, it ought to be the same way for mental health emergencies as well. And that is just the beginning.

Let's lead by example and change our culture so getting a mental health checkup is just part of routine life.

Deployed servicemembers can set an example by getting a mental health checkup within 2 weeks of returning home from their deployments. That bipartisan requirement is in the House version of the NDAA.

Let's start a conversation in this country so that getting mental healthcare is a regular part of life.

NATIONAL PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, October is National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month, and I rise today on behalf of every parent who has suffered a miscarriage, a stillbirth, or an infant loss.

The unanswered questions and mystery, as well as the feelings of guilt that surround pregnancy loss and the

death of a newborn, add to the excruciating heartache. We see you.

No one should grieve alone. We stand alongside those who have experienced this great tragedy and do our best to comfort, listen, and support. We also vow to honor the legacy of those precious lives lost by working to eliminate preventable infant deaths.

Today, we remember the 1 million pregnancies in the United States that end in miscarriage, stillbirth, or the death of a newborn baby each year. Their intrinsic value, no matter how short their lifespan, is profound.

CONGRATULATING EAGLE SCOUT NATHAN MATTIAS

(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. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to congratulate Nathan Mattias of Woolwich Township in south Jersey. He achieved the honor of being an Eagle Scout.

For his Eagle Scout project, Nathan built benches with an improved design to accommodate those in wheelchairs for easier access when gardening for the Sisters of St. Francis, a retirement facility for nuns in the Philadelphia area.

Through this project, Nathan discovered his passion of engineering and plans on continuing his interest when he is in college. It is people like Nathan who enact change by listening to the needs of those in our local communities.

Keep up the good work, Nathan. I thank him for all he does for south Jersey, and for the United States of America. He is truly our hero and we are truly proud of him.

SUPPORT THE CENSURE RESOLUTION

(Mrs. LESKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I have to say that I am a proud cosponsor of the resolution before us today to censure Congressman ADAM SCHIFF. And I want to thank my fellow Arizona Congressman for leading the effort on this great job.

We have watched Congressman SCHIFF say now for 2 years that he had evidence that President Trump and his campaign colluded with Russia, but then when we saw the Mueller report, we determined that that just was not accurate.

Then in committee recently Mr. SCHIFF read a false, made-up narrative of a conversation he purported to be between President Trump and the Ukrainian President. It was absolutely made up and false, I believe, to try to deceive the American public.

Then on national TV, Mr. SCHIFF said: No—when asked—no, our office did not have any prior contact with the

whistleblower. And then we found out that that was untrue.

So I support the resolution to censure Congressman ADAM SCHIFF.

WE ARE IN A NATIONAL SECURITY CRISIS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, the headline of The New York Times yesterday said: "Syrian Forces Rush Into U.S. Void. Battle Lines Shifting to the Benefit of Iran, Russia and ISIS," to the negative impact of the national security of the United States of America, because of one simple phone call of this President to President Erdogan, and within minutes, the release of vital U.S. troops to the slaughter of the heroic Kurdish troops who lost their lives and those remaining, and the release of ISIS family members and ISIS.

We are in a national security crisis. I believe we should be asking for a no-fly zone of Turkey over northern Syria, and we need to find a way to rebuild Humpty Dumpty's house.

Let me also indicate that there is no indication that anything is awry in the investigation that is proceeding. It is proceeding in a manner where Democrats and Republicans are able to ask questions of witnesses, along with their staff. This is not an independent counsel, and so our committees are doing the investigation.

All parties are able to be part of that investigation. And as well, there is no preclusion to what ultimately may be open hearings.

Let us be patient. Let us be sober and somber for this important responsibility under the Constitution of the United States of America. That is the way this Congress should behave.

□ 1230

OUR REPUBLIC IS UNDER THREAT

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

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and an honor to be recognized to address you here on the floor of the House of Representatives. I come here to the floor to address the circumstances that are historic in the way they are shaking the very foundation of this Republic.

Our Constitution is under threat, and our Republic is under threat. There are secret meetings taking place down in the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the most confidential place in this place, but they are talking about finding a way to impeach the President of the United States.

They don't have a charge yet. They are still looking for one. We went through 2 years of the Mueller investigations, and now we are grinding

through this under the guidance of ADAM SCHIFF, who has a resolution here that has been presented to this floor to censure him for the misinformation that came out clearly in front of all the public.

They are cherry-picking quotes from the people who are testifying. They refused to allow us, just an hour ago, to go in and even read the Volker transcript. They are allowing no exculpatory evidence that is coming in that might defend our President. There is no representation for the President. They have turned this committee into a partisan committee.

Mr. Speaker, I will submit that it is going to be awfully hard for this select committee to ever function again if it is going to be a partisan, secret committee attempting to overturn the election of the President of the United States.

LOWER PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES

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

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on the alarming rise in prescription drug costs. America is the richest, most developed nation in the world, yet one in four Americans has a hard time affording lifesaving prescriptions. Families are making impossible choices between paying the mortgage, putting food on their tables, or buying lifesaving medications.

We turned a blind eye to the prescription drug ecosystem, and now the system has become unsustainable. Americans are getting ripped off while other countries pay far less for the same drugs.

In 2017, the U.S. spent \$333 billion on prescription medication, up from \$236 billion in 2007, an increase of more than 40 percent over 10 years. That is unacceptable.

I have listened to my constituents who struggle to afford the prescriptions they need, and they want us to act. This isn't a partisan issue. It is a people issue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support legislation like H.R. 3 so that the American people no longer are left with false choices.

CENSURE REPRESENTATIVE ADAM SCHIFF

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

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my colleague ANDY BIGGS' resolution to censure ADAM SCHIFF for the way he has conducted this impeachment inquiry behind closed doors and in secret.

We have seen this pattern of misinformation time and time again, where he throws out false information, like when he said he had more than cir-

cumstantial evidence that the President colluded with Russia. Then, after the Mueller report comes out, we find out there was no collusion. Not once did he try, by the way, Mr. Speaker, to present that evidence because there was no evidence.

Then he goes on and gives this false representation of the whistleblower report. Of course, we now have seen the transcript. We know what happened. There was no quid pro quo, even though he was alleging quid pro quo.

Now he is holding meetings in secret, behind closed doors, to impeach a President of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, we had an election in 2016; Donald Trump was elected. We have another election next year, and the people will decide who the President is, not Speaker PELOSI and not ADAM SCHIFF behind closed doors.

We need transparency, and we need to end this kangaroo court witch hunt. Let's get back to the people's work here in this House.

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

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

The form of the resolution is as follows:

House Resolution 630. Condemning and censuring ADAM SCHIFF, Representative of California's 28th Congressional District.

Whereas President Trump released the transcript of a call between him and the President of Ukraine;

Whereas President Trump subsequently released the whistleblower complaint of August 12, 2019;

Whereas, in a September 26, 2019, hearing on the whistleblower complaint, House Intelligence Committee Chairman ADAM SCHIFF purported to relay the content of the phone call to the American people;

Whereas, instead of quoting directly from the available transcript, Chairman SCHIFF manufactured a false retelling of the conversation between President Trump and President Zelensky;

Whereas this egregiously false and fabricated retelling had no relationship to the call itself;

Whereas these actions of Chairman SCHIFF misled the American people, bring disrepute upon the House of Representatives, and make a mockery of the impeachment process, one of this Chamber's most solemn constitutional duties;

Whereas, for more than 2 years, Chairman SCHIFF has spread false accusations that the Trump campaign colluded with Russia;

Whereas, on March 20, 2017, then-Ranking Member SCHIFF read out false allegations from the Steele dossier accusing numerous Trump associates of colluding with Russia;

Whereas then-Ranking Member SCHIFF falsely claimed in a March 2017 interview to have “more than circumstantial evidence” of collusion with Russia;

Whereas then-Ranking Member SCHIFF negotiated with Russian comedians whom he believed to be Ukrainian officials to obtain materials to damage the President of the United States politically;

Whereas, according to a New York Times article on October 2, 2019, Chairman SCHIFF’s committee staff met with the whistleblower prior to the filing of his complaint, and staff members communicated the content of the complaint to Chairman SCHIFF;

Whereas Chairman SCHIFF concealed his dealings with the whistleblower from the rest of the Intelligence Committee, and when asked directly in a television interview whether he had any contact with the whistleblower, he lied to the American people and said, “We have not spoken directly with the whistleblower.”;

Whereas members of the Intelligence Committee have lost faith in his objectivity and capabilities as chairman, with every Republican member on the committee having signed a letter calling for his immediate resignation as chairman; and

Whereas Chairman SCHIFF has hindered the ability of the Intelligence Committee to fulfill its oversight responsibilities of the intelligence community, an indispensable pillar of our national security: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

One, the House of Representatives censures and condemns Representative ADAM SCHIFF for conduct that misleads the American people in a way that is not befitting an elected Member of the House of Representatives;

Two, Representative ADAM SCHIFF will forthwith present himself in the well of the House for the pronouncement of censure; and

Three, Representative ADAM SCHIFF will be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker.

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

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

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

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. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 629 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 629

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 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. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and amendments specified in this section and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill, 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 report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each such further 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 in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such further amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. At any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 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 com-

panies, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this 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 in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 629, providing for consideration of H.R. 1815, the SEC Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act. The rule provides for consideration of the legislation under a structured rule. It provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member on the Committee on Financial Services. It self-executes a manager’s amendment that makes technical changes. It also makes in order four amendments, two Democratic and two Republican.

The rule also provides for consideration of H.R. 3624, the Outsourcing Accountability Act, under a structured rule. It provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member on the Committee on Financial Services. Finally, it makes in order two Republican amendments to H.R. 3624.

Mr. Speaker, the bills before us this week are consumer protection bills. Together, these bills make an effort to give everyday Americans access to clear, digestible information that will help them make informed investment decisions.

Mr. Speaker, inequality in this country is at a historic level. The experience right now is on par with the Great Depression and the gilded age. Without adjustments like the ones proposed in these bills, it can only get worse.

The most visible indicator of wealth inequality in America today may be the Forbes magazine list of the Nation's 400 richest Americans. In 2018, the three men at the top of this list—Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, Microsoft founder Bill Gates, and investor Warren Buffett—held combined fortunes worth more than the total wealth of the poorest half of Americans. Three men had more wealth than 160 million Americans.

□ 1245

In 1989, the bottom 90 percent of the U.S. population held 33 percent of all wealth. By 2016, the bottom 90 percent of the population held only 23 percent of wealth. The wealth share of the top 1 percent increased from about 30 percent to approximately 40 percent over the same period of time. The tax bill just passed by the House last session doubles down on this troubling trend.

In 2019, a person in the bottom 10 percent gets a \$50 tax cut, and a person in the top 1 percent gets a \$34,000 tax cut. At the same time, millions of poor and middle-class people are expected to see their taxes either stay the same or actually increase in the long run.

Before us today, the Outsourcing Accountability Act makes one simple but meaningful change to existing reporting requirements. It would add a requirement for publicly traded companies to annually report foreign and domestic employment statistics to the SEC: Are your employees working in the United States or are they working overseas?

By publicly reporting this data that already is collected, companies are providing important information to their investors, consumers, and American workers, with no additional burden on their business.

As Heather Slavkin Corzo of the AFL-CIO said recently: "What gets measured gets paid attention to by a company"—and, I would add, their investors.

As a former union member and a current member of the House Committee on Education and Labor, I think we in Congress should do everything we can

to incentivize companies to invest in American workers and not to offshore their work.

This administration has done everything in its power, in my view, to give corporations even more power at the expense of their employees—and these effects are being felt in households across this country.

Mr. Speaker, the other bill before us is the SEC Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act. All we are asking for in this bill is to make sure that the data we are collecting for consumers is easy to understand so it can be used in the way it was intended.

Field testing allows average investors to pilot a form that the SEC is planning to use and be a focus group on whether it is user friendly and the results are understandable.

A recent form that was field-tested revealed that everyday Americans were "deeply confused" about the information the form was supposed to be communicating. In this specific instance, we are talking about how a company discloses any conflicts of interest it may have in providing investment advice.

Close to 7 million people in my home State of California and 55 million people nationwide, most of them low and middle income, don't have access to retirement benefits at work. We are talking about people who work for small businesses, whose companies just cannot afford the expense of financial products on the market.

In stark contrast, the financial sector takes around 25 percent of all corporate profits in the United States, represents 7 percent of the U.S. economy, and creates a mere 4 percent of jobs.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes it easier for people who are trying to build a secure retirement for themselves and their families to understand the investment advice they are receiving and whether it is in their best interest. We have an obligation to our workers who sacrifice and provide so much for our country to give them something in return.

These two bills, taken together, help put consumers in the driver's seat. One requires information already collected by companies to be shared, and the other makes sure that consumers understand the information they are being given.

The only people who should be opposed to these bills are big businesses who may be afraid of what the public will learn about their practices.

The goal should be to give every American worker a secure retirement and protect consumers. Why wouldn't we want to take every step to get there?

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

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. DESAULNIER), my friend, for yielding me the time today.

Ordinarily, Mr. Speaker, what folks decide they are going to highlight on the House floor are all of our disagreements. In fact, the 1 minutes today highlighted that.

My friend from California and I were talking before debate began—and I certainly include you in this partnership, Mr. Speaker. You lock a couple of us in the room together, we can solve about 90 percent of what ails this country. But the media wins—often distracts—from what is going on, and that is my frustration today, Mr. Speaker.

I don't really have any objection with the rule as it sits before us. We heard testimony last night from the ranking member of the Committee on Financial Services.

To paraphrase his words, he said these bills were so flawed that he didn't even offer any amendments in committee to try to make them better because there was no hope for these bills, no hope in two senses, Mr. Speaker: no hope for these bills in that they were so poorly drafted and poorly directed that they would not benefit the American people in the ways that they were intended; and no hope for these bills in that the Senate will never take them up and the President will never put his signature on them because they are so flawed.

I can't take responsibility for what the Committee on Financial Services did, Mr. Speaker, because I don't sit on that committee. I can take responsibility for what the Rules Committee did last night, Mr. Speaker.

I will tell you that it is the first time I have had the privilege of coming to the House floor and speaking on a rule where Republicans got as many amendments as Democrats did. It is a big day. I feel a partnership breaking out. I say to the gentleman from California (Mr. DESAULNIER), if we can keep this going, we might really be able to make a difference.

It has been a frustration of ours, as you well know, Mr. Speaker, that, when you are in a majority-driven institution like this one, being in the majority has privileges; and a privilege is that you get to draft the legislation and then you get to draft the rule to bring the legislation to the floor, and you can jam anything through this institution if you want to.

Generally, our best work isn't the work we jam through the institution. Generally, our best work is the work that we spend, not hours, not days, but weeks and months crafting together in partnership. Most of that work doesn't happen here on the House floor. That work happens in committees. It actually happens, oftentimes, behind closed doors, where earnest members can talk about what their constituents need.

We can pass this rule this afternoon, and I will offer, later on, an amendment, if we defeat the previous question. I think it will make the rule better.

But I do believe we have a missed opportunity, Mr. Speaker. There is a lot of work that needs to be done.

I have one of my bosses in town today, Mr. Speaker. Colonel Dennis Brown is a county commissioner in Forsyth County.

I was telling him the story that one of my former bosses said: If you ever wanted a real job, he was going to run for county commissioner, because when you are county commissioner, everything you do impacts somebody's life. And nobody shows up at the county commission and says, "I have a problem, and if you are a Republican, I would like for you to fix it, but if you are a Democrat, it doesn't matter to me," or vice versa. Folks show up and say, "I have a problem. I need you all to work together to fix it."

We have real problems here, Mr. Speaker. We all know, as we heard during the 1-minute time this morning, that drug pricing is a challenge in this country, and there are lot of different solutions. There are some more liberal solutions; there are some more conservative solutions; and there are some middle-of-the-road solutions that bring people together. I wish we had those on the floor this week.

We all know that we have immigration challenges in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that about 27 percent of my bosses are first-generation Americans back home, folks who so believed in America that they traded away their entire family's life back in their home country to come and try to make a new life here in America. I love that we have those stories to tell.

But we all know the immigration system is broken. Men and women who are trying desperately to get here the right way can't; men and women who are coming here the wrong way can. We all know that there are opportunities to do better there. We should have those provisions on the floor.

We all know that Social Security is underfunded, and in just a few short years men and women who are dependent on that program are going to run into that shortfall.

We can't do those hard things in unified government, Mr. Speaker. When Republicans win back the House next year and win the Presidency back and continue control of the Senate, that is going to be the wrong time to do fundamental reforms to Medicare and Social Security and Medicaid. It is going to be the wrong time to do the big things that need to be done to get our fiscal house in order.

The right time is in divided government, where we have an opportunity to put everybody's fingerprints on a solution, not that yanks the pendulum left or right, but that moves the country deliberately in a direction that we can all agree on.

But, sadly, that is not why we are here today, Mr. Speaker.

I listened to the Reading Clerk read the bill, as is always done, read the rule, and I think back to some of those days where the Reading Clerk is reading the appropriations bills or actually

going through meaningful legislation line by line, opening it up so that every Member, no matter whom he or she represents, has an opportunity to come and offer amendments and make the bill better.

The ranking member's testimony is the bills are so flawed, the committee didn't even bother considering amendments to make them better. I am pleased that the Rules Committee is going to offer an opportunity to make them a little bit better with the amendments that are made in order today, Mr. Speaker.

But it is my great hope that we will be able to move past these messaging bills. Consumer protection isn't just a political message. Consumer protection is a shared goal, from the coast of California to the coast of Georgia. It is something that unites us in this institution, not divides us.

I regret that the apparent legislative agenda for the week is going to be to consider bills that get approved or defeated on straight party-line votes. We can do better.

In this current political environment, the American people may not expect better, but I know that my bosses do, and I will continue to press for that.

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

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to make a comment to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL), my friend, as we do this.

I, first of all, express my respect and affection for him in the short time I have gotten to serve with him, and I agree with almost everything he said in his statement, with a possible exception of his prediction on the next election.

But other than that, I, too, yearn to be part of this institution, this marvelous institution that solves problems as a premium, where you take a liberal perspective and a conservative perspective, where both respect one another and understand that, by listening to both, we actually get a product that is more reflective of the whole.

Having been someone who served at the city level, the county level—county commissioner—at the State level, and now in Congress, it is discouraging to be here and not be as engaged as I hoped to in problem-solving and respecting differences of opinion.

So we will get through this. The Speaker likes to quote Lincoln: With public sentiment, anything is possible; without it, nothing is possible.

I believe he continued on to say: No statute has real force.

So that is good for us to remember, that we have to go back to our townhalls, as we all do, and sometimes some of the most difficult parts of those townhalls is telling friends that you disagree with them, that there is another side of the story.

So, with that, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL), my good

friend, for his reflections and his hopes for this institution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

If the gentleman from California is going to start quoting Lincoln, I am going to have to bring out some Franklin.

I remember in the summer of 1787, as folks were taking a break, it had been hard and they were worried they weren't going to be able to reach a conclusion on language for our Constitution, Franklin admonished the members there: Don't go home and find folks who agree with you, who are going to tell you how right you are; go and find folks who disagree with you and listen closely to what it is they are saying and what their concerns are that we may come back together and bridge a divide.

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question today, I am going to offer an amendment to the rule, and that amendment is going to try to do exactly what I believe Members in this institution want, and that is to get back to some of the real problem-solving that goes on.

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, the amendment is going to prioritize the work that we all know America wants us to do. I went through some of those items earlier: work for the chronically ill, for our seniors; folks struggling with prescription medications; folks who were concerned about congestion; folks—go right on down the list of all the priorities that we all hear from our constituents on a regular basis.

If we defeat the previous question, it will amend the rule to allow an opportunity to move forward on these priority issues. I don't mean priority from a Republican perspective; I don't mean priority from a Democrat perspective. I mean priority from an American perspective.

I serve on the House Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress here, Mr. Speaker. In fact, we just had a hearing upstairs in the Rules Committee, and it is a different dynamic.

Mr. DESAULNIER and I serve on a committee of 13 people. There are no time limits on discussion in our committee. That committee has a majoritarian tilt—nine members in the majority, four in the minority—so you know where the vote is going to go. But because it is a small committee, because it allows for open debate, it creates a relationship among the members that isn't possible, say, for the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, on which I sit, that has more than 70 members on it.

□ 1300

I have a chance to listen every day to the opinions and the concerns of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, as well as on my side of the aisle.

What we concluded, as we were working on scheduling issues in the Modernization Committee—because we have so many young families here, folks who are trying to balance their obligations as a mother or a father with their obligations as a Member of Congress, and we all know how taxing that can be.

And one of our witnesses, who has vast experience trying to work on House schedules, cautioned us against believing that you could wave a scheduling wand and suddenly create a more productive institution, that productivity comes from those relationships, productivity comes from that sincere effort to do better.

We are here on financial services today. I cannot tell you that, in my time on Capitol Hill, the Committee on Financial Services is the committee I would pick out as the single most collegial committee on Capitol Hill.

I think back to some of the discussions that have happened over the years there. It is a committee that takes on difficult issues and often divides along partisan lines.

We have two Members from Georgia on the Financial Services Committee, Mr. Speaker: a gentleman from the metro Atlanta area (Mr. SCOTT) and a gentleman from farther west in Georgia (Mr. LOUDERMILK). One is a Republican. One is a Democrat.

And, odds are, when we get into the real issues that are really going to make a difference for families across the district, they vote the same way.

Whenever I go and try to get into the meat of a financial services issue, I can go to what my friends, Mr. SCOTT and Mr. LOUDERMILK, are saying. Again, opposite sides of the political spectrum, but a shared goal of trying to serve the men and women of Georgia as best they can.

I confess, I don't have high hopes we are going to defeat the previous question and amend the rule and get back to focusing on what I would think are those common goals that we share. But I have been surprised before. And I have been surprised in ways that disappoint me, and I have been surprised in ways that make me proud.

I will just say to my colleagues: If you are thinking about busting out of the box a little bit, if you are thinking about should we do things the same way we have always done them or should we try something new, if you are thinking about it is working great the way it has been going or thinking maybe we can improve on it a little bit, just consider the Woodall amendment to the rule today.

Let's defeat the previous question; let's amend the rule; and then let's see if, perhaps, we can break out a new day of productivity, not based on Republicans and Democrats, but based on

Americans who are facing real problems back home and the real solutions that we are very honored to be able to work to provide.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I say to my friend from California, I don't have any speakers here. I want to encourage my friends to defeat that previous question. In the absence of defeating the previous question, Mr. Speaker, I would ask folks to defeat the rule, give us a chance to go back up to the Rules Committee room with these 13 members and try to craft something even better than what we have here today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend as well. It is always a pleasure to hear the gentleman's words of wisdom.

I am reminded of a story that you will hear if the docent has the time at Monticello, when somebody asked Jefferson when he first opened: Mr. Jefferson, why do you have a bust of Mr. Hamilton opposite you? You don't agree on anything with Hamilton.

Jefferson said: That is the point. That is why it is there.

So, I appreciate the comments. I look forward to further conversations up in that room.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank my colleagues—Congresswoman AXNE, Congressman CASTEN, and Chairwoman WATERS—for their leadership on these commonsense bills to protect American consumers and workers, and I urge a "yes" vote on the rule and the previous question.

The material previously referred to by Mr. WOODALL is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 629

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution, the Committees on the Judiciary, Ways and Means, Financial Services, Oversight and Reform, and Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence shall suspend pursuing matters referred to by the Speaker in her announcement of September 24, 2019, until such time as bipartisan legislation to lower prescription drug prices and limit patients' out of pocket costs is signed into law.

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

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

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.

OPPOSING THE DECISION TO END
CERTAIN UNITED STATES
EFFORTS TO PREVENT TURKISH
MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST
SYRIAN KURDISH FORCES IN
NORTHEAST SYRIA

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 77) opposing the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 77

Whereas thousands of Syrian fighters, including Syrian Kurds, fought courageously with the United States against the brutality of ISIS throughout Syria, liberating nearly one-third of Syrian territory from ISIS' so-called "caliphate.":

Whereas, on October 6, 2019, the White House announced "Turkey will soon be moving forward with its long-planned operation into Northern Syria" while the "United States Armed Forces will not support or be involved in the operation, and United States forces . . . will no longer be in the immediate area.":

Whereas, on October 6, 2019, the White House announced "Turkey will now be responsible for all ISIS fighters in the area captured over the past two years . . .":

Whereas an October 10, 2019, White House statement said, "This morning, Turkey, a NATO member, invaded Syria. The United States does not endorse this attack and has made it clear to Turkey that this operation is a bad idea.":

Whereas Turkey has historically threatened, forcibly displaced, and killed Syrian Kurds, including during military operations in the Afrin District;

Whereas, on August 1, 2019, Special Envoy James Jeffrey stated in reference to the Syrian Kurds and Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), "We are committed to defeating ISIS in northeast Syria. The SDF . . . is our partner there. We are committed to those who have fought with us not being attacked and not being harmed by anyone. The President made that clear publicly. That includes our concerns about the Turks.":

Whereas in January 2019, Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats stated in Congressional testimony that "The conflicts in Iraq and Syria have generated a large pool of skilled and battle-hardened fighters who remain dispersed throughout the region . . . and the group has returned to its guerilla-warfare roots while continuing to plot attacks and direct its supporters worldwide. ISIS is intent on resurging.":

Whereas, during the counter-ISIS campaign in Syria, the SDF captured thousands of ISIS fighters, including foreign terrorist fighters from around the world who pose threats to our allies in the region;

Whereas in addition to ISIS fighters in detention approximately 70,000 women and children are currently held at the Al-Hol internally displaced persons camp and at other camps in northeast Syria;

Whereas the Lead Inspector General for Combined Joint Task Force Operation Inherent Resolve stated in August 2019, ISIS is already “seeking to establish safe haven in al-Hol” aiming to recruit individuals who are “susceptible to ISIS messaging, coercion, and enticement.”;

Whereas the SDF has warned the United States and international community that a Turkish incursion into Northeast Syria would significantly decrease the SDF’s ability to combat ISIS and to continue providing security and management for ISIS detainees and their family members;

Whereas, on October 6, 2019, President Trump conducted a call with President Erdogan in which, according to the official White House press release, they discussed the upcoming Turkish incursion, and soon after this call, a White House press release announced the withdrawal of the United States military from the immediate area, which was completed within hours; and

Whereas an abrupt withdrawal of United States military personnel from certain parts of Northeast Syria is beneficial to adversaries of the United States government, including Syria, Iran, and Russia: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress—

(1) opposes the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria;

(2) calls on Turkish President Erdogan to immediately cease unilateral military action in Northeast Syria and to respect existing agreements relating to Syria;

(3) calls on the United States to continue supporting Syrian Kurdish communities through humanitarian support, including to those displaced or otherwise affected by ongoing violence in Syria;

(4) calls on the United States to work to ensure that the Turkish military acts with restraint and respects existing agreements relating to Syria; and

(5) calls on the White House to present a clear and specific plan for the enduring defeat of ISIS.

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 may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.J. Res. 77.

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, since the beginning of this Congress, when I became chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, I have tried to work across the aisle to advance a bipartisan vision of what American foreign policy should be, what it can be, when we are at our

best. And that is a foreign policy rooted in our values—values like support for human rights and human dignity, a foreign policy that projects American leadership as a force for good in the world, a foreign policy that thrives on the power of partnerships and alliances.

I have worked with my friend from Texas, the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee (Mr. MCCAUL) to make sure that this vision is enshrined in the committee’s work and that we do all we can to push the administration toward this approach.

So, Mr. Speaker, for me, the last week has been just devastating. A week ago, President Trump had a phone call with Turkey’s thuggish leader, President Erdogan.

Against the advice of national security experts and military advisers, the President gave Erdogan the green light to charge into northern Syria, unleashing what has become a brutal campaign of violence against the Syrian Kurds—our partners, the Syrian Kurds, who courageously stood alongside us for many, many months and years in the fight against ISIS.

Mr. Speaker, that reckless and impulsive decision was a betrayal of our partners. It was a gift to Russia, a gift to Iran, a gift to ISIS, and a gift to Assad. And it was a blow to our national security.

Now, a week later, the same Kurdish forces who fought with American Special Forces to combat ISIS are now fighting tooth and nail to survive Turkey’s slaughter. Russian and Syrian regime forces have quickly filled the vacuum left by the United States.

President Trump’s decision has allowed ISIS fighters in northern Syria to escape from prison, paving the way for a resurgence of the terrorist group. It is a “Get Out of Jail Free” card, if you remember Monopoly from the old days.

And the humanitarian crisis is staggering. Already, tens of thousands have been displaced: families, women and children. There are stories of gruesome beheadings, torture, and abuse, all set into motion, unfortunately, by the actions of the President of the United States.

What kind of message does this send to the world? How can America be trusted to keep its word when we betray one of our close partners, our loyal and faithful partners, just throw them out like an old shoe?

How can America be trusted to keep its word when we make impulsive decisions that have such an immediate, catastrophic impact on so many thousands of people?

Congress must speak out against this disgrace.

The measure we are considering today will send an unambiguous, bipartisan, and, hopefully, bicameral rejection of Trump’s policy in Syria.

This measure calls on the White House to develop a strong, clear strategy on how to defeat ISIS now that

President Trump has sparked its resurgence. It expresses strong support for Syrian Kurdish forces, recognizing their commitment and sacrifices in the fight against ISIS. And it calls on Turkey to immediately stop its military action in Syria.

At President Trump’s hands, American leadership has been laid low and American foreign policy has become nothing more than a tool to advance his own interests.

Today, we make clear that the Congress is a coequal branch of government and that we want nothing to do with this disastrous policy.

So, Mr. Speaker, I say to our colleagues: It is on us. It is on us to uphold our country’s values, to strengthen our national security, to defend America’s standing in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I call on all Members, on both sides of the aisle, to support this resolution and make it clear where we stand, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to first begin with thanking Chairman ENGEL for his bipartisan work to craft legislation in response to this week’s developments.

We often say in our committee that politics stops at the water’s edge. And, in this time of crisis, I am proud to work with him to lead the most bipartisan committee in the Congress.

Today may be a dark day, but it would be much darker if we were divided instead of standing united.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this joint resolution. Simply put, the catastrophe that has unfolded in Syria over the past 10 days is almost beyond words.

I am concerned about the extreme, long-term damage this has caused the United States interests in the Middle East and to the Syrian people, including the Kurds.

The United States has worked for years to prevent an armed conflict between our NATO ally Turkey and our Syrian Kurdish partners. Our presence in Syria was critical to countering and defeating ISIS, and, until last week, it helped prevent unnecessary bloodshed.

Working with the Syrian Democratic Forces, the U.S. and our coalition partners eliminated ISIS’ control of territory in Syria and were continuing to fight ISIS insurgents.

I understand the administration’s legitimate concerns about engaging our U.S. forces in long-term military operations. I, too, want to wind down our overseas conflicts and bring our troops home. But, leaving northwest Syria now does not resolve the problem that brought us there in the first place; it only creates more.

We need a residual force in place. The consequences of this decision have already unfolded before our very eyes. We have betrayed the trust of our Kurdish partners who fought bravely with us against ISIS to defeat and destroy the caliphate, and they paid a heavy price in thousands of lives lost.

We must remember that Turkey's offensive affects not only Kurds but also the people of northeastern Syria. So far, dozens of civilians have been killed and over 160,000 people have been displaced.

Islamic State prisoners, Jihadists and affiliates, are already breaking free, reversing our hard-fought gains to defeat these dangerous terrorists.

And, now, our Syrian Kurdish partners have struck a deal with the Syrian regime. This gives Assad and his Russian and Iranian backers more territory and opportunity to advance their destabilizing agendas, including their war on the Syrian people.

□ 1315

My colleague ELIOT ENGEL and I drafted this resolution to show that we do not support this decision by the administration and to call on Turkey to end this destructive campaign in Syria.

We urge the United States to support the affected communities of northeast Syria, including the Kurds. We call upon the administration to support our Kurdish partners and stand with them just like they have stood with us for so long.

Given the grave implications that an ISIS resurgence would have for our homeland security, we call on the administration to provide an updated counter-ISIS strategy.

I do support the administration's decision to impose sanctions on key Turkish officials and make clear that there are more consequences for continuing this invasion. But more pressure is needed.

Congress is only just beginning its work to repair the damage this decision has caused. Chairman ENGEL and I are working together on a bipartisan bill to sanction Turkey for as long as it continues this destructive offensive. I look forward to working with the chairman to bring this bill to the floor as soon as possible.

I urge all Members to support this joint resolution.

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE), a valued member of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

I rise today with a heavy heart. Ten days ago, President Trump sealed the fate of our Kurdish partners in Syria when he gave President Erdogan of Turkey the green light to invade.

I believe this callous and reckless decision will go down in history not only for its disregard for human life but for the strategic malpractice of placing American troops in harm's way, allowing thousands of ISIS prisoners to go free, and ceding influence over the region to Russia and the Assad regime. It was truly an unbelievably dangerous and stupid decision that undermines our national security and diminishes our moral authority in the world.

I am pleased that this resolution has widespread bipartisan support. We need to pass it and get it on the President's desk as quickly as possible.

But resolutions—and sanctions, when they come—can't bring Kurdish children back to life. They can't reclaim our American military positions and equipment seized by the Russians. They can't restore our credibility, which has been squandered as we have betrayed the trust of our Kurdish allies.

I am sickened by this administration's actions. We need to do everything we can, as a Congress, to make this right.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan resolution. I thank Mr. MCCAUL and Mr. ENGEL for working together, in a bipartisan way, to send a very strong message that the Congress of the United States does not support this horrific decision that betrayed our allies and undermines American leadership in the world.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HURD).

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding.

I am proud to rise today in support of this bipartisan resolution that opposes this disastrous decision to remove U.S. Forces from northern Syria and abandon our allies, the Kurds, to a Turkish invasion.

Since 2014, the U.S. and our allies in the global coalition to defeat ISIS have fought side by side with the Kurds to end the caliphate and degrade the threat of terrorism to our homeland.

Today, ISIS is beaten, but it is not broken. They remain a threat that requires continued engagement by both the United States and our partners.

Just as the Kurds had our backs against ISIS, we need to have theirs. Instead, we are abandoning not just the Kurds but also our coalition allies in Syria. We are eroding all the progress we have made. We are showing our friends and our enemies that a partnership with America means nothing.

We are providing ISIS with the opportunity to reemerge and once again threaten the United States. We are allowing Bashar al-Assad and Vladimir Putin to play the role of humanitarian saviors in Syria.

As an undercover CIA officer, I chased terrorists around the globe and saw firsthand the threats facing our Nation from the Middle East. One of the things I learned when I was in the CIA was to be nice with nice guys and tough with tough guys, not the other way around.

Because of this decision, and all the actions and inactions that led up to this decision, we have let our friends down; we have hurt our national security; and we have ceded leadership in the region to Russia and Iran.

I hope we can change our course, but I fear it may be too late.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOULTON).

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, right now, with President Trump's permission, Turkey is slaughtering our Kurdish allies, the only people who stand between us and ISIS, men and women who have died by the thousands to protect Americans from terrorism, the families of our American constituents, like Seyhmus Yuksekkaya from my district.

As a result, Russian and Syrian forces are taking our positions next to them. ISIS prisoners are escaping, and, Mr. Speaker, the crisis has only just begun.

We must act today because the President has taken the side of dictators and butchers. The President has never put his life on the line for our country, like our Special Forces soldiers who have been fighting terrorists in Syria, whom he mocked earlier today by saying they are shooting each other.

Perhaps if he had not dodged the draft by lying about his feet, sending another American in his place to Vietnam, he would know something that all veterans know well, that there are a lot of ways you can fail in battle. You can fail physically. You can fail to summon the mental courage. You can have a bad strategy or bad tactics. But nothing is worse, nothing is more evil, than betrayal.

Yet, betrayal is exactly what this President has done. It sends exactly the wrong message to our allies, to our troops, and to our enemies.

Our Commander in Chief should lead with American values. He should lead by the idea that there is no better friend and no worse enemy than the United States of America.

Today's vote is necessary because there has been no worse enemy to the Kurds and no better friend to our enemies than this President.

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

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) and my friend from New York (Mr. ENGEL) for their leadership on this issue and the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. Speaker, let me be clear: I did not support the failed Obama-Kerry policy in Syria. During 2017 and 2018, I was proud to see President Trump hold Assad accountable for his use of chemical weapons.

However, I have not supported the United States disengaging from Syria without a strategy since such was first proposed by the President in December.

So I rise in disappointment today over this policy change and Turkey's violations of all of its "promises."

A small group of American Forces in northeast Syria advising and assisting local forces in order to prevent instability from coming to power does not constitute an "endless war."

Despite being in NATO, Turkey is not acting as an ally. By our actions in this House today, Turkey will pay a steep price for its provocation.

I have been told by experts with contacts on the ground that American lives are at risk directly because of Turkish actions. U.S. Forces have been shelled by Turkish artillery. Our NATO ally since 1952, Turkey, which we allowed to conduct this mission, has thanked us by shelling American positions.

What a sad day for the Atlantic alliance that has shouldered so many burdens and shared so much loss in men and treasure.

Syrian Kurds also announced that they had come to an agreement with the Assad regime's forces to help against the Turkish invasion, which further entrenches Russia, Mr. Speaker, in this conflict. So now Assad and his Russian backers will bring their bloodbath over the Euphrates.

We also put all the gains we have made against Daesh at risk of reversal.

This all could have been avoided. Mr. Speaker, when critical American leadership disengages, America's global adversaries fill the void.

Turkey must cease its military invasion of Syria. The United States must support the Kurdish communities that have been our allies against ISIS. And the White House must present a clear and specific plan for ensuring the defeat of ISIS and border integrity with Turkey.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the passage of this important legislation.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO), the vice chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we are in the midst of a foreign policy disaster that will be a stain on the conscience of our Nation for many years to come. The situation in Syria is costing lives as we speak.

Until recently, our strategy to defeat ISIS by, through, and with our allies was working. Our small military presence in Syria was a sustainable force that denied ISIS the ability to plan and launch attacks from Syria or resurge back into Iraq.

The President's impulsive decision to leave Syria without any deliberation has ignited a conflict in one of the most volatile regions on Earth. This administration has managed to turn our Middle East policy on its head in a week's time.

Turkey is slaughtering the Kurdish forces that have fought and died on our behalf in the fight against ISIS. In our place, Syria and Russia have quickly filled the void of American leadership.

We have betrayed our allies. This is not a foreign policy that displays America's core values. It is a shameful choice that will cause irreparable damage to American interests and alliances around the world.

I believe this joint resolution is what we need in this moment to combat this

President's worst instincts. The joint resolution will rebuke the White House and attempt to rebalance the situation in Syria. I urge all of my colleagues, Republican and Democrat, to support it.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. REED).

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member and the chairman for their work on this proposed resolution. But I want to remind my colleagues that one of the problems that we face in Turkey and Syria today is the failure of congressional leadership to address this issue.

When I stood on this very floor during the Obama administration and the question of Syria came up, I remember many of my colleagues agreeing with me that we should not be in Syria with boots on the ground, risking our most precious assets of our young men and women, without a clear Authorization for Use of Military Force and congressional approval of a resolution to do so.

We failed in the leadership here in this body. That is why, as we go through this resolution, I understand the Turkish sanctions. I understand. But make no mistake about it, by voting "yes" on this resolution, you are authorizing the use of military force of our men and women on Syrian soil.

If force needs to be redeployed to this area, I do not want to hear from any Member of this Chamber, nor the Senate, that we have not authorized our men and women to be there.

It is time for us to set aside political cowardice because we cannot make the hard choices of approving a military force resolution. We should join and unite—the House, the Senate, and the White House—in one congressional declaration that we, if we put our men and women in harm's way, stand by it and stand by the Commander in Chief in regard to that request.

□ 1330

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW).

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the distinguished chair and ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. ENGEL and Mr. McCAUL, for their leadership in crafting this joint resolution condemning the administration's decision to withdraw and abandon our Kurdish allies in Syria and leave them to an unlawful assault by Turkish forces.

As a combat veteran, I know firsthand the strength of our Nation is tied to our partnerships and alliances around the globe. During my three deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, I counted on our local partners for the safety of our soldiers. And those partners depended on the U.S. commitment to them. That relationship forged in a combat zone is built on trust and the belief that our word is our bond.

The administration's reckless decision to withdraw U.S. forces has under-

mined the value of our commitment, not only to our Kurdish allies, who are now isolated in fighting enemies on all sides, but also our other allies around the world. The message that we are sending is that the American handshake doesn't matter. Our withdrawal is an abdication of our moral responsibility to the Kurds and undermines the belief that America is a resolute partner. It has also led to our adversaries like Russia, Iran, the Assad regime, and ISIS exerting greater influence in the region.

Let me be clear, the President's decision makes us less safe and further isolates us from the very allies from whom we have drawn so much strength. The President must immediately reverse his decision to withdraw U.S. personnel from Syria, recommit to our Kurdish allies, and take a firm stance against any further aggression by Turkey against the Kurdish people.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ).

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, if Turkey is not acting like a NATO ally, perhaps the sensible solution is to remove Turkey from NATO, rather than keeping the United States inserted in Syria, presumably forever. This is why I oppose this resolution.

I have heard my colleagues say we should not leave Syria without a strategy. Perhaps it is equally logical that we should not stay in Syria without a strategy, because in Syria we have tens of Americans stuck between armies of tens of thousands who have been fighting each other for hundreds of years and who will likely be fighting each other hundreds of years from now.

Our mission to deprive ISIS of caliphate land has largely been accomplished with the help of the Kurds and with over \$9 billion being paid to the Kurds. The Kurds have been fighting bravely where they live, but they have been trained, funded, and equipped by the United States. And we cannot accept the proposition that if we support a group of people because our interests align in one case that this somehow morally binds our country to every conflict that they have past, present, or future; to do this would constrain the utility of America's future alliances, not strengthen them.

The blood of America's patriots is among our Nation's most sacred currency, and it must be spent only when absolutely vital to protect American interests. We are not the world's police force. We are not the world's piggy bank. I support an America first foreign policy, and I oppose this resolution.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation, a very senior and valued member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution, and I rise in

opposition to the recent decision of the Trump administration.

We had a situation in Syria that was stable. We had a modest deployment of American troops. We were successful in limiting American casualties to a very low number. We had defeated the caliphate. Our friends, the Kurds, who had incurred most of the deaths by the many thousands necessary to destroy the ISIS caliphate, were safe. In other words, the situation was stable and favorable to the United States.

Now we have taken an action in which America is humiliated, the Kurds are subject to slaughter, our word means less in the world, and ISIS stands to be revitalized. This is such an obvious mistake. It is hard to find anyone with any knowledge of foreign policy that regards it as anything other than an unforced error. It is such a great mistake that it makes you wonder whether it was an intentional mistake designed to give Russia territory in northeast Syria, for whatever reason we might want to do that.

It is time to reevaluate our policies toward Turkey. Since the 1940s, we have safeguarded Turkey through our membership in NATO and theirs. We protected Turkey from subversion in the 1940s and protected it from the Soviet Union for decades. Recently, over the last 20 years, we have had a policy of obsequious humiliation in our approach to Turkey. We have kowtowed to Ankara in failing to recognize the Armenian genocide.

In doing so, we have taken a foreign policy normally based on truth and honor, and instead, humiliated ourselves through silence and concealment. It is time to recognize the Armenian genocide by an overwhelming vote here in the House. It is time for us to stop dishonor in our relationship with Turkey.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS).

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, it is great to come down here today and talk on this issue. I have been a little bit outspoken since the decision was made by the executive branch, so it is great to see the legislative branch take a stand and talk about what this policy decision has made. And I am good friends with Chairman MCCAUL and, of course, ELIOT ENGEL who is the chairman of the committee.

As someone who served for many years in the military, and I am very involved with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and our alliances—alliances and values are important. Walking away from friends is the sad indication of policy that we don't want to support, we don't want to condone. Yes, we want America to be great, but we are also great because of our friends and our allies.

Coalitions are not bad. Coalitions strengthen our public policy around the world. And our relationship with the Kurds goes way back to the first Gulf war and the protection of the

northern Iraqi Kurdish area protecting the air space.

Talk to people in uniform who have been protected by Kurdish fighters throughout these 20 years of involvement in Syria. We give them our word that we will be with them. I liken it to being in a foxhole with someone from another country, and the attack is coming. You don't get out of the foxhole and go to the rear and leave your ally in the foxhole to defend themselves.

We see what is going on. I think this could have been predicted. It is unfortunate. I don't know how we get the genie back in the bottle, but I am glad we are getting a chance to make a statement from Article I of the Constitution to the legislative branch that we think this policy has been wrong and failed and we do it in a strong bipartisan matter.

So I thank both of you for bringing this, and I look forward to voting "yes" on it.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. FRANKEL).

Ms. FRANKEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of our Syrian Kurdish allies who have lost thousands of men and women in the fight against ISIS at the behest of the United States of America.

And I join my colleagues on a bipartisan basis to call on Turkey to end its invasion of northern Syria. Giving Turkey the green light to go into this area will go down in history as a moral and strategic disaster.

There so many consequences, Mr. Speaker. Our Kurdish friends were betrayed and slaughtered and are now forced to align with Syrian forces backed by Iran creating an even bigger threat to our friend Israel. ISIS is now unleashed, Russian troops filling our vacuum, and our other allies wondering if we can ever be trusted again.

The Trump administration's weak sanctions are like an arsonist calling in the fire department. Mr. Speaker, we must protect United States soldiers, secure our nuclear weapons in Turkey, provide humanitarian support to the Kurds, and impose crippling sanctions on Turkey until they end their Syrian campaign, and most importantly, pursue a diplomatic solution to end the conflict.

I want to end by thanking Mr. ENGEL and Ranking Member MCCAUL for their bipartisan leadership. I urge adoption of this resolution.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, in the years I have served in this body, I have watched Presidents of both parties make a lot of tough foreign policy decisions; many good, many bad, but I cannot think of a foreign policy decision more reckless and short-sighted than this one. Through all the years that I have been working on the Foreign Affairs Committee, frankly, I have never seen a

President do something that is as aggravating and that should have never been done as what the President did last week.

You know, when the President announced that we were going to leave several months ago, it forced the resignation of the Defense Secretary, Mr. Mattis at the time, who was so upset. That was unprecedented in American history. This is something that is unbelievable and could have been avoided.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I love my 1 minute. I also love my glasses, so I can read what I want to say here. Thank you very much. I rushed up from my office. I was on a conference call. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for keeping it open.

I want to thank Mr. MCCAUL for helping to bring this to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, Americans, of course, knew when President Trump took office that he was inexperienced in foreign policy and national security. That doesn't mean he didn't have opinions, he did. But he hasn't been in the day-to-day work. That was alarming. But also from my view, alarming is his penchant for putting his own self interests ahead of America's interests and America's national security. That troubles the world.

The disastrous consequences are becoming obvious to Americans more and more each day as we watch thousands of our Kurdish allies. And this is not an issue without some complexity, I understand that, but our Kurdish allies fleeing, ISIS gathering strength, and Iran and Russia and Assad advantaged.

There has rightly been broad bipartisan shock and condemnation that President Trump would so recklessly endanger America's allies, permit the release of thousands of violent ISIS extremists and give in to Vladimir Putin's aims in Syria.

In short, he just opened the door for ISIS to reclaim some power.

Any terrorist attack they now take part in will be as a direct result of this action. President Trump has betrayed the trust, in my opinion, of the American people. He has also betrayed America's friends.

The Kurdish forces in northern Syria have been among America's most reliable and effective local allies. It was their blood and sacrifice that led, in part, to us being significantly successful against ISIS. It is their young men and women in uniform who have been guarding ISIS prisoners, who, if released, have vowed to resume attacking Americans and destabilizing the Middle East. And in that effort, we may lose further American lives precious to us, precious to their families, precious to our country.

Our Kurdish allies trusted us to have their backs. Loyalty is a two-way street. It took years to build them into an effective fighting force, now America is turning its back and undoing

years of efforts and progress. How shameful. How irresponsible.

The President said he took this action because he had pledged to get American troops out of the Middle East.

□ 1345

Ironically, he took out about 2,000, or put them someplace else. And guess what? He sent an additional 2,000 troops to the Middle East. Now, it is Saudi Arabia, where ISIS is not, hopefully, doing much, at least where we are sending the troops. But how ironic it is to say that we are going to take troops out of the Middle East, and at the same time, we send more troops into the Middle East.

America's reputation as a world leader depends on the bond of our word. Can we be trusted, or are we simply responsive that day for that issue?

If we abandon our allies, we will have none when we need them to stand with us.

Not only has President Trump abandoned the Kurds, but he has also refused to join with world leaders in considering the Turkish attack in the United Nations.

Instead, he chose to stand with Vladimir Putin and is doing his bidding once again by handing large swaths of Syria over to his control. He is moving in as we speak.

Indeed, as the front page of *The Washington Post* pointed out this week, Russia is now the one country that every country in the Middle East talks to and trusts to be a mediator.

Is that an America that is great? America has abandoned that role and the power it brings.

President Trump has also chosen to stand with Bashar al-Assad, as I said, a tyrant who has gassed his own people with chemical weapons, murdered hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians, and caused the extraordinary refugee challenge that the Europeans have.

He has chosen to play into the hands of the Iranian ayatollahs. The President says Iran is not our friend. He is right. We played into their hands with this action.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, the President's actions empower ISIS, betray our Kurdish allies, embolden Russia, reward the Assad regime, benefit Iran, and endanger Israel.

These developments were sadly predictable.

Experts like Brett McGurk and Secretary Mattis said this is not the right thing to do.

This is not a partisan issue. This is about America. This is about our allies. This is about international security and stability.

From the moment the President made clear he wanted to abandon America's strategic interests in Syria, both McGurk and General Mattis, Secretary Mattis, expressed their opposition.

These developments confirm the worst fears of so many Americans from

both parties who have long questioned this President's wisdom or interest to protect our country and keep it safe in a dangerous world.

It is critical, Mr. Speaker, that this House, the peoples' House, make clear to the world that President Trump's reckless actions do not carry the support of the American people. It is critical that we condemn Turkey's incursion as well, and to do so in a bipartisan way.

That is what this legislation will do.

Mr. Speaker, I commend all of those from the Foreign Affairs Committee who brought this to the floor. I know it was difficult for some, but it is the right thing to do.

The House will do everything in its power to reassure our allies and remind our adversaries that America does not cut and run, that we stand by our word, hold true to our values, and stand with our friends.

I hope they will hear us and understand that this action by this President must not mar the goodwill or erode the steadfast principles upon which our country has engaged with the world throughout our history and surely again in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

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

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

This is one of those rare moments in Congress when we see both sides coming together, exercising our Article I constitutional responsibilities on foreign policy. I can't think of a better committee than this, the Foreign Affairs Committee, to stand unified as a Congress.

This is not just the House, Mr. Speaker. This is a joint resolution with the Senate. This is going to pass the House and the Senate, sending a strong message about our foreign policy.

I believe that we learn from history. The National Archives has an inscription that says, "What is past is prologue." You see, history repeats itself, and we need to learn the lessons from history.

I remember after we withdrew out of Europe after World War I, it allowed the forces of Nazi Germany and Adolf Hitler to raise its ugly head, and it took the Marshall Plan to finally put an end to it.

Then as recently as 2011, in the previous administration, President Obama pulled 10,000 troops out of Iraq. My side of the aisle strongly objected to that foreign policy decision, arguing that it would create a wave of terrorism, and we were right. ISIS reared its ugly head, and the caliphate was formed.

Mr. Speaker, you and I served on the Homeland Security Committee. In the years 2015 to 2016, the terror threat was frightening. My threat briefings were frightening in the SCIF.

External operations being plotted out of Iraq and Syria to kill Americans in the United States, almost one per month, we stopped 95 percent of those threats. The 5 percent is what the American people know about.

But I will tell you this—from that experience, have not we learned anything?—that we need a residual force, if anything, to protect the homeland from terror threats.

Now we have over 10,000 ISIS in-country and over 70,000 family members that are there as part of the insurgency. We had over 30,000 at the time of the peak of the ISIS caliphate. And we can't go back.

I am concerned, Mr. Speaker, that this move will embolden the Russians. The Russians have already gone to our military's campsites and mocked us. They are mocking the United States of America. Iran is there, and ISIS is now emboldened.

We need a residual force to protect us, as we had in Iraq. We need that in Syria, and, yes, we need that in Afghanistan. We can wind down the number of troops, but we need that residual force.

Mr. Speaker, I want to close by saying that I will never forget talking to Condoleezza Rice after she retired at Stanford, and she said that one axiom is true in foreign policy: Your allies must trust you.

Our allies are questioning us right now. We told them, "Trust us. We have your back."

What is happening now, the Kurds are being slaughtered as I speak in northern Syria.

She also said another thing: Our allies must trust us, and our enemies must fear us.

That is my foreign policy. It is Condoleezza Rice's foreign policy. I think it is a good foreign policy.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for working with me to stand up on this very important issue.

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the chairman and ranking member for coming together.

I was on the floor earlier, and I held up *The New York Times* that says: "Syrian Forces Rush Into U.S. Void," and, "Battle Lines Shifting to the Benefit of Iran, Russia and ISIS."

We worked very hard to get Turkey into NATO and to respect it for its secular position and its embracing of the ideals of democracy, but to now be the cause of thousands fleeing out of violence and bombing, now being the cause of ISIS supporters and families escaping, now being the cause of ISIS fighters escaping, and not listening to any form of reconciliation to put Russia as the mainstay is absolutely unacceptable.

I believe that these sanctions and this rebuke and this resolution that

has indicated it was wrong to greenlight the Turkish military incursion into Syria's Kurdish territory, expressing strong support for Syrian Kurdish forces who were our allies, and calling on Turkey to immediately cease military action in northeast Syria is a question of our national security.

I add that there should be a no-fly zone. I know how challenging that would be for Turkey not to be flying over northern Syria.

It is important that we do what we need to do to save the precious lives of those children, some of whom have already died, and those who are fleeing the violence.

Mr. Speaker, let us pass this resolution, H.J. Res. 77, but let us find a way to bring some peace and stand down in that region, and also to thank the United States military, which should not have been moved. I ask my colleagues to support H.J. Res. 77.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned before, in the years I have served in this body, I have watched Presidents of both parties make a lot of tough foreign policy decisions, many good, many bad, but I cannot think of a foreign policy decision more reckless and shortsighted than this one that was made by President Trump.

The President of the United States, as a result, has empowered ISIS; betrayed our loyal partners, the Kurds; and jeopardized our national security.

Congress must condemn this loudly and clearly. Today's resolution sends a resounding message to the White House and the world: We reject President Trump's disgraceful failure in foreign policy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to stand by our partners, stand by our promises, stand by our values, and support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my partner on the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. MCCAUL. It takes a lot of courage to do what he did today, and I thank him for it. That is why, as he and I both mentioned, we are proud that the Foreign Affairs Committee is perhaps the most bipartisan committee in Congress.

When we go abroad, partisanship should stop at the water's edge. We all, Democrat and Republican, feel outraged at what the President did. We all feel that our allies need to be supported. That transcends any kind of partisan politics.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to support this bipartisan measure, 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 pass the joint resolution, H.J. Res. 77.

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. ENGEL. 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.

□ 1400

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 629;

Adoption of House Resolution 629, if ordered; and

The motion to suspend the rules and pass H.J. Res. 77.

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

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1815, SEC DISCLOSURE EFFECTIVENESS TESTING ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3624, OUTSOURCING ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 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, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 228, nays 191, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 558]

YEAS—228

Adams	Bonamici	Casten (IL)
Aguilar	Boyle, Brendan	Castor (FL)
Allred	F.	Castro (TX)
Axne	Brindisi	Chu, Judy
Barragan	Brown (MD)	Cicilline
Bass	Brownley (CA)	Cisneros
Beatty	Bustos	Clark (MA)
Bera	Butterfield	Clarke (NY)
Beyer	Carbajal	Clay
Bishop (GA)	Carson (IN)	Cleaver
Blumenauer	Cartwright	Clyburn
Blunt Rochester	Case	Cohen

Connolly	Kaptur	Porter
Cooper	Keating	Pressley
Correa	Kelly (IL)	Price (NC)
Costa	Kennedy	Quigley
Courtney	Khanna	Raskin
Cox (CA)	Kildee	Rice (NY)
Craig	Kilmer	Richmond
Crist	Kim	Rose (NY)
Crow	Kind	Rouda
Cuellar	Kirkpatrick	Roybal-Allard
Cunningham	Krishnamoorthi	Ruiz
Davids (KS)	Kuster (NH)	Ruppersberger
Davis (CA)	Lamb	Rush
Davis, Danny K.	Langevin	Sánchez
Dean	Larsen (WA)	Sarbanes
DeFazio	Larson (CT)	Scanlon
DeGette	Lawrence	Schakowsky
DeLauro	Lee (CA)	Schiff
DelBene	Lee (NV)	Schneider
DeGado	Levin (CA)	Schrader
Demings	Levin (MI)	Schrier
DeSaulnier	Lewis	Scott (VA)
Deutch	Lieu, Ted	Scott, David
Dingell	Lipinski	Serrano
Doggett	Loeback	Sewell (AL)
Doyle, Michael	Lofgren	Shalala
F.	Lowenthal	Sherman
Engel	Lowey	Sherrill
Escobar	Lujan	Sires
Eshoo	Luria	Slotkin
Espallat	Lynch	Smith (WA)
Evans	Malinowski	Soto
Finkenauer	Maloney,	Spanberger
Fletcher	Carolyn B.	Speier
Foster	Maloney, Sean	Stanton
Frankel	Matsui	Stevens
Fudge	McAdams	Suozi
Gallego	McBath	Swalwell (CA)
Garamendi	McCollum	Takano
Garcia (IL)	McGovern	Thompson (CA)
Garcia (TX)	McNerney	Thompson (MS)
Golden	Meeks	Titus
Gomez	Meng	Tlaib
Gonzalez (TX)	Moore	Tonko
Gottheimer	Morelle	Torres (CA)
Green, Al (TX)	Moulton	Torres Small
Grijalva	Mucarsel-Powell	(NM)
Haaland	Murphy (FL)	Trahan
Harder (CA)	Nadler	Trone
Hastings	Napolitano	Underwood
Hayes	Neal	Van Drew
Heck	Neguse	Vargas
Higgins (NY)	Norcross	Veasey
Hill (CA)	O'Halleran	Vela
Himes	Ocasio-Cortez	Velázquez
Horn, Kendra S.	Pallone	Visclosky
Horsford	Panetta	Wasserman
Houlihan	Pappas	Schultz
Hoyer	Pascrell	Waters
Hudson	Payne	Watson Coleman
Huffman	Perlmutter	Welch
Jackson Lee	Peters	Wexton
Jayapal	Peterson	Wild
Jeffries	Phillips	Wilson (FL)
Johnson (GA)	Pingree	Yarmuth
Johnson (TX)	Pocan	

NAYS—191

Abraham	Cheney	Gonzalez (OH)
Aderholt	Cline	Gooden
Allen	Cloud	Gosar
Amash	Cole	Granger
Amodei	Collins (GA)	Graves (GA)
Armstrong	Comer	Graves (LA)
Arrington	Conaway	Graves (MO)
Babin	Cook	Green (TN)
Bacon	Crawford	Griffith
Baird	Crenshaw	Grothman
Balderson	Curtis	Guest
Banks	Davidson (OH)	Guthrie
Barr	Davis, Rodney	Hagedorn
Bergman	DesJarlais	Harris
Biggs	Diaz-Balart	Hartzler
Bilirakis	Duncan	Hern, Kevin
Bishop (UT)	Dunn	Herrera Beutler
Bost	Emmer	Hice (GA)
Brady	Estes	Higgins (LA)
Brooks (AL)	Ferguson	Hill (AR)
Brooks (IN)	Fitzpatrick	Holding
Buchanan	Fleischmann	Hollingsworth
Buck	Flores	Huizenga
Bucshon	Fortenberry	Hunter
Burchett	Fox (NC)	Hurd (TX)
Burgess	Fulcher	Johnson (LA)
Byrne	Gaetz	Johnson (OH)
Calvert	Gallagher	Johnson (SD)
Carter (GA)	Gianforte	Jordan
Carter (TX)	Gibbs	Joyce (OH)
Chabot	Gohmert	Joyce (PA)

Katko Newhouse Stauber Golden Luján Sarbanes Reschenthaler Smith (NE) Walden
 Keller Norman Stefanik Gomez Luria Scanlon Rice (SC) Smith (NJ)
 Kelly (MS) Nunes Steil Gomez Lynch Schakowsky Riggleman Smucker Walorski
 Kelly (PA) Olson Steube Gottheimer Schiff Roby Spano
 King (IA) Palazzo Green, Al (TX) Malinowski Schneider Rodgers (WA) Stauber
 King (NY) Palmer Grijalva Carolyn B. Schrader Roe, David P. Stefanik
 Kinzinger Pence Haaland Maloney, Sean Schrier Rogers (AL) Steil
 Kustoff (TN) Perry Taylor Harder (CA) Matsui Scott (VA) Rogers (KY) Steube
 LaHood Posey Thompson (PA) McAdams Scott, David Stewart
 LaMalfa Ratcliffe Thonberry Hastings Hayes McBath Rose, John W. Steward
 Lamborn Reed Timmons Heck Serrano Rouzer Royer Williams
 Latta Reschenthaler Tipton Higgins (NY) McGovern Sewell (AL) Roy Thompson (PA) Wilson (SC)
 Lesko Rice (SC) Turner Hill (CA) McNeerney Shalala Sherman Thornberry Wittman
 Long Riggleman Upton Himes Meeks Sherrill Schwiokert Timmons Womack
 Loudermilk Rodgers (WA) Wagner Walberg Sires Scott, Austin Sensenbrenner Tipton Wright
 Lucas Roe, David P. Walden Horsford Moore Morelle Smith (WA) Upton Young
 Luetkemeyer Rogers (AL) Walker Hoyer Moulton Soto Simpson Wagner Zeldin
 Marchant Rogers (KY) Walorski Hufman Mucarsel-Powell Soto Simpson Wagner Zeldin
 Massie Rose, John W. Waltz Watkins Jackson Lee Jayapal Nadler Sherman Sherrill
 Mast Rouzer Weber (TX) Jayapal Nadler Sherman Sherrill
 McCarthy Roy Rutherford Rutherford Scalise Schweikert Timmons Womack
 McCaul Rutherford Royer Rutherford Scalise Schweikert Timmons Womack
 McClintock Scalise Schweikert Timmons Womack
 McHenry Scott, Austin Westerman Williams Wilson (SC) Wittman
 McKinley Scott, Austin Westerman Williams Wilson (SC) Wittman
 Meadows Sensenbrenner Simpson Smith (MO) Woodall
 Meuser Shimkus Simpson Smith (NE) Wright
 Miller Smith (MO) Wittman Woodall
 Mitchell Smith (MO) Woodall
 Moolenaar Smith (NE) Wright
 Mooney (WV) Smith (NJ) Young
 Mullin Smucker Young
 Murphy (NC) Spano Zeldin

NOT VOTING—13

Bishop (NC) Lawson (FL) Rooney (FL)
 Budd Marshall Ryan
 Cárdenas McEachin Yoho
 Cummings Omar
 Gabbard Roby

□ 1427

Messrs. HUNTER, MULLIN, WESTERMAN, BRADY, and WALBERG changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered. The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 228, nays 190, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 559]

YEAS—228

Adams Castor (FL) DeFazio
 Aguilar Castro (TX) DeGette
 Alfred Chu, Judy DeLauro
 Axne Cicilline DelBene
 Barragán Cisneros Delgado
 Bass Clark (MA) Demings
 Beatty Clarke (NY) DeSaulnier
 Bera Clay Deutch
 Beyer Cleaver Dingell
 Bishop (GA) Clyburn Doggett
 Blumenauer Cohen Doyle, Michael
 Blunt Rochester Connolly
 Bonamici Cooper Engel
 Boyle, Brendan Correa Escobar
 F. Costa Eshoo
 Brindisi Courtney Espaillat
 Brown (MD) Cox (CA) Evans
 Brownley (CA) Craig Finkenauer
 Bustos Crist Fletcher
 Butterfield Crow Foster
 Carbajal Cuellar Frankel
 Cárdenas Cunningham Fudge
 Carson (IN) Davids (KS) Gallego
 Cartwright Davis (CA) Garamendi
 Case Davis, Danny K. García (IL)
 Casten (IL) Dean García (TX)

Golden Luján Sarbanes Reschenthaler Smith (NE) Walden
 Gomez Luria Scanlon Rice (SC) Smith (NJ)
 Gonzalez (TX) Lynch Schakowsky Riggleman Smucker Walorski
 Gottheimer Schiff Roby Spano
 Green, Al (TX) Malinowski Schneider Rodgers (WA) Stauber
 Grijalva Carolyn B. Schrader Roe, David P. Stefanik
 Haaland Maloney, Sean Schrier Rogers (AL) Steil
 Harder (CA) Matsui Scott (VA) Rogers (KY) Steube
 Hastings Hayes McBath Rose, John W. Steward
 Heck Serrano Rouzer Royer Williams
 Higgins (NY) McGovern Sewell (AL) Roy Thompson (PA) Wilson (SC)
 Hill (CA) McNeerney Shalala Sherman Thornberry Wittman
 Himes Meeks Sherrill Schwiokert Timmons Womack
 Horn, Kendra S. Meng Moore Morelle Smith (WA) Upton Young
 Horsford Moore Morelle Smith (WA) Upton Young
 Houlihan Moulton Soto Simpson Wagner Zeldin
 Hoyer Moulton Soto Simpson Wagner Zeldin
 Hufman Mucarsel-Powell Soto Simpson Wagner Zeldin
 Jackson Lee Jayapal Nadler Sherman Sherrill
 Jayapal Nadler Sherman Sherrill
 Jeffries Napolitano Neal Neguse Norcross
 Johnson (GA) Johnson (TX) Johnson (TX) Johnson (TX)
 Kaptur Norcross O'Halleran Ocasio-Cortez
 Keating Kelly (IL) Pallone Panetta Pappas
 Kennedy Khanna Kildee Pappas
 Kim Kim Payne Payne
 Kind Perlmutter Peterson Peterson
 Kirkpatrick Krishnamoorthi Kuster (NH) Lamb
 Krishnamoorthi Kuster (NH) Lamb
 Lamb Langevin Larsen (WA)
 Langevin Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT) Lawrence
 Lawrence Lee (CA)
 Lee (CA) Quigley Raskin
 Lee (NV) Raskin Rice (NY)
 Levin (CA) Richmond Richmond
 Levin (MI) Rose (NY) Rouda
 Lewis Rouda Roybal-Allard
 Lieu, Ted Rouda Roybal-Allard
 Lipinski Loeb sack Ruiz
 Loeb sack Ruiz Ruppertsberger
 Lofgren Ruppertsberger
 Lowenthal Rush Sánchez
 Lowey Sánchez

NAYS—190

Abraham Duncan Joyce (PA)
 Aderholt Dunn Katko
 Allen Emmer Keller
 Amash Estes Kelly (MS)
 Amodei Ferguson Kelly (PA)
 Armstrong Fitzpatrick King (IA)
 Arrington Fleischmann King (NY)
 Bacon Flores Kinzinger
 Baird Fortenberry Kustoff (TN)
 Balderson Foxx (NC) LaHood
 Banks Gaetz LaMalfa
 Barr Gallagher Lamborn
 Bergman Gianforte Latta
 Biggs Gibbs Lesko
 Bilirakis Gohmert Long
 Bishop (UT) Gonzalez (OH) Loudermilk
 Bost Gooden Lucas
 Brady Gosar Luetkemeyer
 Brooks (AL) Granger Marchant
 Brooks (IN) Graves (GA) Massie
 Buchanan Graves (LA) Mast
 Buck Graves (MO) McCarthy
 Bucshon Green (TN) McCaul
 Burchett Griffith McClintock
 Burgess Grothman McHenry
 Byrne Guest McKinley
 Calvert Guthrie Meadows
 Carter (GA) Hagedorn Meuser
 Carter (TX) Harris Miller
 Chabot Hartzler Mitchell
 Cheney Hern, Kevin Moolenaar
 Cline Herrera Beutler Mooney (WV)
 Cloud Hice (GA) Mullin
 Cole Higgins (LA) Murphy (NC)
 Collins (GA) Hill (AR) Newhouse
 Comer Holding Norman
 Conaway Hudson Olson
 Cook Huizenga Palazz
 Crawford Hunter Palmer
 Crenshaw Hurd (TX) Pappas
 Curtis Johnson (LA) Pence
 Davidson (OH) Johnson (OH) Perry
 Davis, Rodney Johnson (SD) Posey
 DesJarlais Jordan Ratcliffe
 Diaz-Balart Joyce (OH) Reed

Smith (NE) Walden
 Smith (NJ) Walker
 Smucker Walorski
 Spano Waltz
 Stauber Watkins
 Stefanik Weber (TX)
 Steil Webster (FL)
 Steube Westrup
 Stewart Westerman
 Stivers Williams
 Taylor Wilson (SC)
 Thompson (PA) Wittman
 Thornberry Womack
 Timmons Woodall
 Tipton Wright
 Turner Young
 Upton Zeldin
 Wagner Zeldin
 Walberg Zeldin

NOT VOTING—14

Babin Gabbard Omar
 Bishop (NC) Hollingsworth Rooney (FL)
 Budd Lawson (FL) Ryan
 Cummings Marshall Yoho
 Fulcher McEachin

□ 1434

So the resolution was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against: Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 559.

OPPOSING THE DECISION TO END CERTAIN UNITED STATES EFFORTS TO PREVENT TURKISH MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST SYRIAN KURDISH FORCES IN NORTHEAST SYRIA

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 joint resolution (H.J. Res. 77) opposing the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

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 pass the joint resolution.

This will be a 5-minute vote. The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 354, nays 60, answered “present” 4, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 560]

YEAS—354

Adams Bilirakis Bustos
 Aderholt Bishop (GA) Butterfield
 Aguilar Bishop (UT) Calvert
 Allred Blumenauer Carbajal
 Amodei Blunt Rochester Cárdenas
 Armstrong Bonamici Carson (IN)
 Arrington Bost Carter (GA)
 Axne Boyle, Brendan Cartwright
 Bacon F. Case
 Balderson Brady Casten (IL)
 Banks Brindisi Castor (FL)
 Barr Brooks (IN) Castro (TX)
 Barragán Brown (MD) Chabot
 Bass Brownley (CA) Cheney
 Beatty Buchanan Chu, Judy
 Bera Buck Cicilline
 Beyer Bucshon Cisneros

Clark (MA) Hudson
 Clarke (NY) Huffman
 Clay Huiזנגא
 Cleaver Hurd (TX)
 Cline Jackson Lee
 Cloud Jayapal
 Clyburn Jeffries
 Cohen Johnson (GA)
 Cole Johnson (LA)
 Collins (GA) Johnson (OH)
 Conaway Johnson (SD)
 Connolly Johnson (TX)
 Cook Joyce (OH)
 Cooper Kaptur
 Correa Katko
 Costa Keating
 Courtney Keller
 Cox (CA) Kelly (IL)
 Craig Kelly (PA)
 Crawford Kennedy
 Crenshaw Khanna
 Crist Kildee
 Crow Kilmer
 Cuellar Kim
 Cunningham Kind
 Curtis King (NY)
 Kinzinger Kinzinger
 Davis (CA) Kirkpatrick
 Davis, Danny K. Krishnamoorthi
 Davis, Rodney Kuster (NH)
 Dean Kustoff (TN)
 DeFazio LaHood
 DeGette LaMalfa
 DeLauro Lamb
 DelBene Lamborn
 Delgado Langevin
 Demings Larsen (WA)
 DeSaulnier Larson (CT)
 Deutch Latta
 Diaz-Balart Lawrence
 Dingell Lee (CA)
 Doggett Lee (NV)
 Doyle, Michael Levin (CA)
 F. Levin (MI)
 Emmer Lewis
 Engel Lieu, Ted
 Escobar Lipinski
 Eshoo Loeb sack
 Espaillat Lofgren
 Evans Lowenthal
 Ferguson Lowey
 Finkenauer Lucas
 Fitzpatrick Lujan
 Fletcher Luria
 Flores Lynch
 Fortenberry Malinowski
 Foster Maloney,
 Foxx (NC) Carolyn B.
 Frankel Maloney, Sean
 Fudge Marchant
 Gallagher Matsui
 Gallego McAdams
 Garamendi McBath
 Garcia (IL) McCarthy
 Garcia (TX) McCaul
 Gianforte McCollum
 Golden McGovern
 Gomez McHenry
 Gonzalez (OH) McKinley
 Gonzalez (TX) McNerney
 Gottheimer Meeks
 Granger Meng
 Graves (LA) Mitchell
 Graves (MO) Moolenaar
 Green (TN) Moore
 Green, Al (TX) Morelle
 Griffith Moulton
 Grijalva Mucarsel-Powell
 Grothman Murphy (FL)
 Guthrie Nadler
 Haaland Napolitano
 Hagedorn Neal
 Harder (CA) Neguse
 Hartzler Newhouse
 Hastings Norcross
 Hayes Nunes
 Heck O'Halleran
 Hern, Kevin Ocasio-Cortez
 Herrera Beutler Olson
 Higgins (LA) Pallone
 Higgins (NY) Palmer
 Hill (AR) Panetta
 Hill (CA) Pappas
 Himes Pascrell
 Holding Payne
 Horn, Kendra S. Perlmutter
 Horsford Perry
 Houlahan Peters
 Hoyer Phillips

Pingree
 Pocan
 Porter
 Pressley
 Price (NC)
 Quigley
 Raskin
 Ratcliffe
 Reschenthaler
 Rice (NY)
 Richmond
 Riggelman
 Roby
 Rodgers (WA)
 Roe, David P.
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rose (NY)
 Rouda
 Rouzer
 Roybal
 Royal-Ballard
 Ruiz
 Ruppersberger
 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 (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (WA)
 Smucker
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Spano
 Stanton
 Stauber
 Stefanik
 Steil
 Stevens
 Stewart
 Stivers
 Suozzi
 Swalwell (CA)
 Takano
 Taylor
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Thompson (PA)
 Thornberry
 Timmons
 Tipton
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres Small
 (NM)
 Trahan
 Trone
 Turner
 Underwood
 Upton
 Van Drew
 Vargas
 Veasey
 Vela
 Velázquez
 Visclosky
 Wagner
 Walden
 Walker
 Walorski
 Waltz
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Welch
 Wenstrup
 Westerman

Wexton
 Wild
 Wilson (FL)
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Woodall
 Wright
 Yarmuth
 Young
 Zeldin

(H.R. 3889) to amend the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 1998 to make technical corrections, as amended.
 The Clerk read the title of the bill.
 The text of the bill is as follows:
 H.R. 3889
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 “ONDCP Technical Corrections Act of 2019”.
SEC. 2. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.
 (a) OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—The Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 1998 (21 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) is amended—
 (1) by striking “National Drug Control Program Agency” and inserting “National Drug Control Program agency” each place it appears;
 (2) by striking “National Drug Control Program Agencies” and inserting “National Drug Control Program agencies” each place it appears;
 (3) in section 702(15), by striking “tribal” each place it appears and inserting “Tribal”;
 (4) in section 703—
 (A) in subsection (a)—
 (i) in paragraph (4), by striking “program,” and inserting “programs,”; and
 (ii) in paragraph (6), by striking “High-Intensity” and inserting “High Intensity”; and
 (B) in subsection (d), by striking “chapter” each place it appears and inserting “title”;
 (5) in section 704—
 (A) in subsection (a)(1)—
 (i) in subparagraph (C)—
 (I) in clause (i), by striking “section 704(c)(4)” and inserting “subsection (c)(5)”; and
 (II) in clause (iv), by striking “section 704(j)” and inserting “subsection (j)”; and
 (ii) in subparagraph (D)—
 (I) by striking “The Director shall determine whether the coordinator position is a noncareer” and inserting “For purposes of carrying out the previous sentence, the Director shall designate or appoint an”; and
 (II) by striking “a career” and inserting “an”;
 (B) in subsection (b)(21)(A)(iii), by striking “chapter” and inserting “title”;
 (C) in subsection (c)—
 (i) in paragraph (2)(A)(ii), by striking “fo” and inserting “of”;
 (ii) in paragraph (3)(E)(ii)—
 (I) in subclause (I), by striking “subparagraph (A)” and inserting “clause (i)”; and
 (II) in subclause (II), by striking “clause (i)” and inserting “subclause (I)”; and
 (iii) in paragraph (5)(B)—
 (I) by striking “The Director shall determine whether the coordinator position is a noncareer” and inserting “For purposes of carrying out subparagraph (A), the Director shall designate or appoint an”; and
 (II) by striking “a career” and inserting “an”;
 (D) in subsection (d)—
 (i) paragraph (8)—
 (I) in subparagraph (E)—
 (aa) in clause (iii), by moving subclauses (I) through (V) two ems to the left so that the left margin of such clause is aligned with the margin of clause (iii);
 (bb) by moving clause (iii) two ems to the left so that the left margin of such clause is aligned with the margin of subparagraph (E); and
 (cc) by redesignating clause (iii) as subparagraph (F); and
 (II) in subparagraph (F), as so redesignated—

NAYS—60

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—4

NOT VOTING—14

□ 1444

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

Mr. GOSAR changed his vote from “present” to “nay.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I was in the Rayburn room meeting with constituents and was not alerted to the vote being called. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 560.

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, it was my intention to vote yea on Representative ELIOT ENGEL of New York’s House Joint Resolution 77 (Roll Call Vote no. 560) on October 16, 2019.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BUDD. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes today to attend the funeral of a family friend. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 558, “nay” on rollcall No. 559 and “nay” on rollcall No. 560.

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 the additional motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any recorded vote on the postponed question will be taken later.

ONDCP TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2019

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(aa) by redesignating subclauses (I) through (V) as clauses (i) through (v), respectively; and

(bb) in clause (v), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(ii) in paragraph (9), by striking “section 704(f)(5);” and inserting “subsection (f)(5); and”;

(E) in subsection (j)—

(i) by striking “The Director shall determine whether the coordinator position is a noncareer” and inserting “For purposes of carrying out the previous sentence, the Director shall designate or appoint an”;

(ii) by striking “a career” and inserting “an”;

(iii) by inserting “section” before “706”;

(6) in section 705—

(A) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “that every” and inserting “than every”; and

(B) in subsection (f)—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting “; and”;

(II) in subparagraph (C)—

(aa) by inserting “that may impede applicants” after “barriers”; and

(bb) by striking “impediments” and all that follows through “agencies”; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), in the heading, by striking “DRUG CONTROL” and inserting “DRUG CONTROL PROGRAM”;

(7) in section 707(o)(2)(B), by striking “802(33)” and inserting “802(33)”; and

(8) in section 709—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in the heading, by inserting “AND CONTINUING” before “THREATS”;

(ii) by striking “The Director shall determine whether the coordinator position is a noncareer” and inserting “For purposes of carrying out the previous sentence, the Director shall designate or appoint an”;

(iii) by striking “a career” and inserting “an”;

(B) in subsection (d)—

(i) in paragraph (3)(F), by striking “response of” and inserting “response to”;

(ii) in paragraph (4)(B)(iii), by inserting “the” before “plan, where”;

(C) in subsection (f)(1), by striking “sub-title” and inserting “subsection”.

(b) REPEAL OF ANNUAL REPORT REQUIREMENT.—The Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-469; 120 Stat. 3502) is amended—

(1) by repealing section 203; and

(2) in section 1(c), in the table of contents, by striking the item relating to section 203.

(c) TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION ACT OF 2018.—

(1) AMENDMENTS.—The Substance Abuse Prevention Act of 2018 (subtitle K of title VIII of Public Law 115-271) is amended—

(A) in section 8203—

(i) in subsection (a)—

(I) in the heading, by striking “NATIONAL NARCOTICS LEADERSHIP ACT OF 1988” and inserting “ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT OF 1988”;

(II) in paragraph (1), by striking “the National Narcotics Leadership Act of 1988” and inserting “subtitle A of title I of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988”;

(III) by striking paragraph (3);

(IV) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3); and

(V) in paragraph (3)(A), as so redesignated, by striking “National Narcotics Leadership Act of 1988” and inserting “Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988”;

(ii) in subsection (b)—

(I) in the heading, by striking “NATIONAL NARCOTICS LEADERSHIP ACT OF 1988” and inserting “ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT OF 1988”;

(II) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “National Narcotics Leadership

Act of 1988” and inserting “Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988”;

(III) in paragraph (4)(B), by striking “in section 1032(b)(1)(A) (21 U.S.C. 1532(b)(1)(A)), by striking clause (iii) and inserting the following” and inserting “by amending section 1032(b)(3)(D) (21 U.S.C. 1532(b)(3)(D)) to read as follows”;

(iii) in the quoted matter added by subsection (b)(4)(B)—

(I) in clause (iii), by moving subclauses (I) and (II) two ems to the left so that the left margins of such subclauses are aligned with the margin of clause (iii);

(II) by moving clause (iii) two ems to the left so that the left margin of such clause is aligned with the margin of subparagraph (B) of subsection (b)(4);

(III) by redesignating clause (iii) as subparagraph (D); and

(IV) in subparagraph (D), as so redesignated—

(aa) by redesignating subclauses (I) and (II) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively; and

(bb) in clause (ii), as so redesignated, by striking “tears” and inserting “years”; and

(B) in section 8221—

(i) in the quoted matter added by subsection (a), by striking “SEC. 706. NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY.”; and

(ii) in subsection (a), by striking “amended to read as follows:” and inserting “amended—

“(1) by striking subsections (a) and (b);

“(2) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (h) and (i), respectively; and

“(3) by inserting before subsection (h), as so redesignated, the following:”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Substance Abuse Prevention Act of 2018 (subtitle K of title VIII of Public Law 115-271).

(3) MATCHING REQUIREMENT REVIVED AND RESTORED.—Section 1032(b)(1)(A)(iii) of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 (21 U.S.C. 1532(b)(1)(A)) is revived and restored as if the amendment made by section 8203(b)(4) of the Substance Abuse Prevention Act of 2018 (subtitle K of title VIII of Public Law 115-271) had never been enacted.

(4) ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO THE OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998.—Section 706 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 1998 (21 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1)(N)—

(A) in clause (ii), by striking “Programs” and inserting “Program agencies”; and

(B) in clause (iii), by striking “Agencies” and inserting “Program agencies”;

(2) in subsection (c)(2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “paragraph (1)” and inserting “paragraph (1)(M)”;

(3) in subsection (f)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “office” and inserting “Office”; and

(B) in paragraph (3)(A)(ii)—

(i) in subclause (III), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting “; and”;

(ii) in subclause (IV), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a period; and

(4) in subsection (g)(3), in subparagraph (B), by striking “chapter;” and inserting “title;”.

(e) ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT.—Section 4 of Public Law 107-82 (21 U.S.C. 1521 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “The Director” and inserting “Beginning in fiscal year 2020, the Director”;

(B) by striking “, using amounts authorized to be appropriated by subsection (d),”;

and

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

“(d) ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT.—

“(1) DURATION.—With respect to a grant made under subsection (a) in fiscal year 2020, the term of the grant shall be 4 years.

“(2) DISBURSEMENT.—To the extent amounts are provided in appropriation Acts for such grant, the Director shall disburse the amount of the grant made under subsection (a) on an annual basis.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support this bipartisan legislation that will make technical changes to the reauthorization of the Office of National Drug Control Policy included in last year's SUPPORT Act.

As we all know, we are in the midst of a substance use disorder epidemic fueled by the proliferation of opioids, exacerbated by synthetic opioids like fentanyl, and increased use of methamphetamines, among other threats.

This year, Americans will lose close to 70,000 friends and family and loved ones due to drug overdoses. More Americans are now dying annually due to overdose than at the height of the AIDS crisis or during the entire Vietnam war.

No community is unaffected by the crisis. In my home of Orange County, California, drug and alcohol overdose deaths have increased by 82 percent since 2000. Across our country, our constituents are asking us to advance solutions to address this epidemic.

Last year, Congress passed and President Trump signed the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, a wide-ranging, bipartisan bill aimed at addressing treatment, prevention, recovery, and enforcement.

The SUPPORT Act represents an important step in the right direction to reverse the tide of overdose deaths. The SUPPORT Act included provisions to reauthorize and reform the Office of National Drug Control Policy, a component of the Executive Office of the President.

ONDPC plays a critical role in overseeing the Federal Government's drug control efforts. However, there were several technical issues in the SUPPORT Act that must be corrected to ensure that the office can properly carry out its duties as Congress intended and improve the Federal Government's response to this crisis.

The ONDCP Technical Corrections Act of 2019 would ensure the integrity of the performance measurement system, help ONDCP hire the best people to address the addiction crisis, and improve the effectiveness of grant programs. These corrections would help ONDCP's efficient and effective execution of its mission: preventing, combating, and treating the effects of drug proliferation throughout our Nation.

I thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS), my fellow Member, for joining me in introducing this bill and the committee staff on both sides of the aisle for working diligently to develop and advance it. I look forward to the House of Representatives passing this bill today.

There is much more to be done to address the addiction crisis, and I look forward to continued work with all of my colleagues on this important issue.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, October 15, 2019.

Hon. ELLJAH E. CUMMINGS,
Chair, Committee on Oversight and Reform,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CUMMINGS: I write concerning H.R. 3889, the "ONDCP Technical Corrections Act of 2019," which was additionally referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

In recognition of the desire to expedite consideration of H.R. 3889, the Committee on Energy and Commerce agrees to waive formal consideration of the bill as to provisions that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. The Committee takes this action with the mutual understanding that we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues within our jurisdiction. I also request that you support my request to name members of the Committee on Energy and Commerce to any conference committee to consider such provisions.

Finally, I would appreciate the inclusion of this letter into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 3889.

Sincerely,

FRANK PALLONE, Jr.,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM,
Washington, DC, October 16, 2019.

Hon. FRANK PALLONE, Jr.,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN PALLONE: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 3889, the ONDCP Technical Corrections Act of 2019. As you know, the bill was referred primarily to the Committee on Oversight and Reform with an additional referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

I thank you for allowing the Committee on Energy and Commerce to be discharged from further consideration of the bill to expedite floor consideration. This discharge in no way affects your jurisdiction over the subject matter of the bill, and it will not serve as precedent for future referrals. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Energy and Commerce represented on the conference committee.

I would be pleased to include this letter and any response in the Congressional Record during floor consideration to memorialize our understanding.

Sincerely,

ELLJAH E. CUMMINGS,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3889, the ONDCP Technical Corrections Act of 2019. Simply, this bill makes technical amendments to a law we passed last Congress.

We moved quickly last Congress to reauthorize the Office of National Drug Control Policy. The reauthorization was drafted to reinvigorate the office and give the Trump administration additional authorities to address the opioid crisis.

Last Congress, the Committee on Oversight and Reform worked across party lines on a policy solution. President Trump appointed Jim Carroll to lead that office. The Senate confirmed his nomination earlier this year.

Since then, Director Carroll has twice testified before the Committee on Oversight and Reform about the good work the administration is doing to combat the crisis. This bill will help to further support this administration's good work.

I want to congratulate the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) for his good work on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3889, 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.

PRESIDENTIAL ALLOWANCE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2019

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1496) to amend the Act of August 25, 1958, commonly known as the "Former Presidents Act of 1958", with respect to the monetary allowance payable to a former President, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1496

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 "Presidential Allowance Modernization Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Act entitled "An Act to provide retirement, clerical assistants, and free mailing privileges to former Presi-

dents of the United States, and for other purposes", approved August 25, 1958 (commonly known as the "Former Presidents Act of 1958") (3 U.S.C. 102 note), is amended—

(1) by striking "That (a) each" and inserting the following:

"SECTION 1. FORMER PRESIDENTS LEAVING OFFICE BEFORE PRESIDENTIAL ALLOWANCE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2019.

"(a) Each";

(2) by redesignating subsection (g) as section 3 and adjusting the margin accordingly; and

(3) by inserting after section 1, as so designated, the following:

"SEC. 2. FORMER PRESIDENTS LEAVING OFFICE AFTER PRESIDENTIAL ALLOWANCE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2019.

"(a) ANNUITIES AND ALLOWANCES.—

"(1) ANNUITY.—Each modern former President shall be entitled for the remainder of his or her life to receive from the United States an annuity at the rate of \$200,000 per year, subject to subsections (b)(2) and (c), to be paid by the Secretary of the Treasury.

"(2) ALLOWANCE.—The Administrator of General Services is authorized to provide each modern former President a monetary allowance at the rate of \$200,000 per year, subject to the availability of appropriations and subsections (b)(2), (c), and (d).

"(b) DURATION; FREQUENCY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The annuity and allowance under subsection (a) shall each—

"(A) commence on the day after the date on which an individual becomes a modern former President;

"(B) terminate on the date on which the modern former President dies; and

"(C) be payable on a monthly basis.

"(2) APPOINTIVE OR ELECTIVE POSITIONS.—The annuity and allowance under subsection (a) shall not be payable for any period during which a modern former President holds an appointive or elective position in or under the Federal Government to which is attached a rate of pay other than a nominal rate.

"(c) COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES.—Effective December 1 of each year, each annuity and allowance under subsection (a) that commenced before that date shall be increased by the same percentage by which benefit amounts under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) are increased, effective as of that date, as a result of a determination under section 215(i) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)).

"(d) LIMITATION ON MONETARY ALLOWANCE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the monetary allowance payable under subsection (a)(2) to a modern former President for any 12-month period—

"(A) except as provided in subparagraph (B), may not exceed the amount by which—

"(i) the monetary allowance that (but for this subsection) would otherwise be so payable for such 12-month period, exceeds (if at all)

"(ii) the applicable reduction amount for such 12-month period; and

"(B) shall not be less than the amount determined under paragraph (4).

"(2) DEFINITION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term 'applicable reduction amount' means, with respect to any modern former President and in connection with any 12-month period, the amount by which—

"(i) the sum of—

"(I) the adjusted gross income (as defined in section 62 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) of the modern former President for the most recent taxable year for which a tax return is available; and

“(II) any interest excluded from the gross income of the modern former President under section 103 of such Code for such taxable year, exceeds (if at all)

“(ii) \$400,000, subject to subparagraph (C).

“(B) JOINT RETURNS.—In the case of a joint return, subclauses (I) and (II) of subparagraph (A)(i) shall be applied by taking into account both the amounts properly allocable to the modern former President and the amounts properly allocable to the spouse of the modern former President.

“(C) COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES.—The dollar amount specified in subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be adjusted at the same time that, and by the same percentage by which, the monetary allowance of the modern former President is increased under subsection (c) (disregarding this subsection).

“(3) DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENT.—

“(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph—

“(i) the terms ‘return’ and ‘return information’ have the meanings given those terms in section 6103(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

“(ii) the term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary of the Treasury’s delegate.

“(B) REQUIREMENT.—A modern former President may not receive a monetary allowance under subsection (a)(2) unless the modern former President discloses to the Secretary, upon the request of the Secretary, any return or return information of the modern former President or spouse of the modern former President that the Secretary determines is necessary for purposes of calculating the applicable reduction amount under paragraph (2) of this subsection.

“(C) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Except as provided in section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may not, with respect to a return or return information disclosed to the Secretary under subparagraph (B)—

“(i) disclose the return or return information to any entity or person; or

“(ii) use the return or return information for any purpose other than to calculate the applicable reduction amount under paragraph (2).

“(4) INCREASED COSTS DUE TO SECURITY NEEDS.—With respect to the monetary allowance that would be payable to a modern former President under subsection (a)(2) for any 12-month period but for the limitation under paragraph (1)(A) of this subsection, the Administrator of General Services, in coordination with the Director of the United States Secret Service, shall determine the amount of the allowance that is needed to pay the increased cost of doing business that is attributable to the security needs of the modern former President.

“(e) WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS.—The widow or widower of each modern former President shall be entitled to receive from the United States a monetary allowance at a rate of \$100,000 per year (subject to paragraph (4)), payable monthly by the Secretary of the Treasury, if such widow or widower shall waive the right to each other annuity or pension to which she or he is entitled under any other Act of Congress. The monetary allowance of such widow or widower—

“(1) commences on the day after the modern former President dies;

“(2) terminates on the last day of the month before such widow or widower dies;

“(3) is not payable for any period during which such widow or widower holds an appointive or elective office or position in or under the Federal Government to which is attached a rate of pay other than a nominal rate; and

“(4) shall, after its commencement date, be increased at the same time that, and by the

same percentage by which, annuities of modern former Presidents are increased under subsection (c).

“(f) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘modern former President’ means a person—

“(1) who shall have held the office of President of the United States of America;

“(2) whose service in such office shall have terminated—

“(A) other than by removal pursuant to section 4 of article II of the Constitution of the United States of America; and

“(B) after the date of enactment of the Presidential Allowance Modernization Act of 2019; and

“(3) who does not then currently hold such office.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Former Presidents Act of 1958 is amended—

(1) in section 1(f)(2), as designated by this section—

(A) by striking “terminated other than” and inserting the following: “terminated—

“(A) other than”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) on or before the date of enactment of the Presidential Allowance Modernization Act of 2019; and”;

(2) in section 3, as redesignated by this section—

(A) by inserting after the section enumerator the following: “AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.”; and

(B) by inserting “or modern former President” after “former President” each place that term appears.

SEC. 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or an amendment made by this Act shall be construed to affect—

(1) any provision of law relating to the security or protection of a former President or modern former President, or a member of the family of a former President or modern former President; or

(2) funding, under the Former Presidents Act of 1958 or any other law, to carry out any provision of law described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 4. APPLICABILITY.

Section 2 of the Former Presidents Act of 1958, as added by section 2(a)(3) of this Act, shall not apply to—

(1) any individual who is a former President on the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) the widow or widower of an individual described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 5. 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. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1496 would amend the former President’s Act of 1958 to cap a former President’s annual pension at \$200,000, indexed to inflation. The bill also would provide an additional annual allowance for expenses that would start at \$200,000.

Under this bill, the annual allowance would be reduced dollar for dollar in instances in which a former President’s adjusted gross income in a taxable year exceeds \$400,000.

Taxpayers should not have to pay for a former President’s allowance if the former President is making a comfortable living earning millions of dollars a year, as many former Presidents do.

This legislation would not affect any funding for the security and protection of former Presidents and their spouses. This legislation would update the pension amount for surviving spouses of former Presidents, which has been unchanged since 1958, by increasing it from \$20,000 to \$100,000.

Mr. Speaker, I believe this bill makes fiscal sense and urge Members to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1500

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. HICE).

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Arizona for yielding.

I rise in support of H.R. 1496, the Presidential Allowance Modernization Act of 2019.

As has already been mentioned, in 1958, Congress passed the Former Presidents Act, and that was at a time period where Presidents did not have the same financial opportunities that they have today.

Recent former Presidents have earned millions of dollars after leaving office from speaking fees, book deals, and other endeavors. For example, President Clinton earned more than \$100 million in speaking fees between 2001 and 2013. President George W. Bush received \$10 million for a book deal. President Obama and the former First Lady reportedly signed a joint book deal worth over \$65 million.

It is just a fact of the modern Presidency that these financial opportunities are now available to former Presidents.

Given these financial benefits, it is no longer necessary to provide the level of taxpayer-funded support that was envisioned back in 1958.

So, H.R. 1496 is an important step to saving taxpayer dollars by amending the law to reflect the financial realities of the modern Presidency.

This bill reforms the pension amount for former Presidents and surviving spouses. This bill also changes the amount and the way that additional benefits to former Presidents are allotted. Currently, former Presidents are

eligible for benefits paid through annual appropriations for things like office space and leases, furniture and supplies, staff salaries, and so forth.

This bill would cut the allowance for those type of expenses to \$200,000 to each former President. This allowance will further be reduced, dollar for dollar, based on the former President's income over \$400,000.

So, in this era of massive Federal deficits, I believe it is important that our former Presidents lead the Nation by example in cutting unnecessary spending.

I want to, again, assure my colleagues that this bill does not affect security in any way.

I want to thank Senator ERNST for a companion bill in the Senate and, also, Chairman CUMMINGS and my colleagues on the other side for supporting this bill.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1496, 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.

MARILYN MONROE POST OFFICE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1252) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6531 Van Nuys Boulevard in Van Nuys, California, as the "Marilyn Monroe Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1252

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

SECTION 1. MARILYN MONROE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6531 Van Nuys Boulevard in Van Nuys, California, shall be known and designated as the "Marilyn Monroe Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Marilyn Monroe Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to

revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. CÁRDENAS), my fellow Representative.

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman ROUDA for this opportunity to speak on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to be a Representative of the San Fernando Valley in the United States House of Representatives.

I rise today to honor two American artists: the great Marilyn Monroe and Ritchie Valens.

I offer these bills, H.R. 1252 and 1253, today on the floor of the House of Representatives to name the post offices of Van Nuys and Pacoima, California, in their honor.

First, I offer H.R. 1252 in celebration of the talented and legendary Marilyn Monroe, who has roots in my district. Marilyn Monroe was born in Los Angeles, California, grew up in Van Nuys, and attended Van Nuys High School. She grew up poor and bounced around orphanages as a child.

Back then, the chances of a poor woman like Marilyn Monroe becoming a national success and musical legend was nearly impossible, but she beat the odds. Despite her turbulent childhood, Marilyn Monroe found stability and joy while living in Van Nuys, California.

Her hard work and perseverance led her to become a timeless, internationally recognized icon.

In a world where many believe wealth, status, or name determine one's destiny, Marilyn Monroe's story defies the odds and inspires many others to believe they, too, can achieve very similar success.

Marilyn Monroe showed us that dreaming big and working hard means something in America. Marilyn Monroe went off to become an artist and a trailblazer, starring in her own movies and setting records during her singing career.

It is with great pride that I introduce this bill to rename the Van Nuys Post Office in celebration of the life and the incredible history of Marilyn Monroe.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1252, introduced by Representative TONY CÁRDENAS. This bill names the post office located in Van Nuys, California, in honor of Marilyn Monroe.

Miss Monroe spent her formative years in Van Nuys and attended the high school in the area. The neighborhood held a special place in her heart.

She has said it—Van Nuys—was a source of joy, as it served as an escape from her turbulent childhood, and it was Van Nuys where she was discovered at the local airport. From there, Marilyn Monroe became one of Amer-

ica's most famous and recognizable pop icons.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1252.

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.

RITCHIE VALENS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1253) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13507 Van Nuys Boulevard in Pacoima, California, as the "Ritchie Valens Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1253

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

SECTION 1. RITCHIE VALENS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13507 Van Nuys Boulevard in Pacoima, California, shall be known and designated as the "Ritchie Valens Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Ritchie Valens Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. CÁRDENAS), my fellow Member.

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank both Representatives who are handling the floor at this moment and paying their proper respects and appropriate comments on these bills.

Mr. Speaker, I have the honor to rise today and offer H.R. 1253, which would designate the post office in Pacoima,

California, as the Ritchie Valens Post Office Building.

Ritchie Valens was born and raised in my home neighborhood of Pacoima and attended San Fernando High School.

The rock and roll legend and father of Chicano rock is celebrated today for pioneering a music style derived from the Chicano culture, and it has reverberated around the world.

He became a nationally renowned rock musician at a time when very few Latinos were recognized in American rock music. Valens' contributions in rock include record-setting hits such as "La Bamba," "Donna," and "Come On, Let's Go."

In March of 2001, Ritchie Valens was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Ritchie Valens continues to inspire generations of musicians and is an example of how, even when it seems like there is no path to your dream, you make your own way and build your own path.

Ritchie Valens is an example of the talent that exists in our community, and his legacy is a source of pride for our Pacoima community.

I am honored to offer H.R. 1253 in celebration of the great Ritchie Valens' life, a true trailblazer.

I can tell you, I have witnessed being outside of the United States, for example, when the song "La Bamba" comes on, and every child, usually from the age of 1, 5, 6, 7, or 8—they just can't help it—they just start to move, and they recognize that beautiful music.

To be able to honor this man and his family by naming a post office after him is truly an opportunity that I appreciate, and the entire community appreciates as well.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1253, introduced by Representative TONY CÁRDENAS. This bill names the post office located in Pacoima, California, in honor of Ritchie Valens.

Valens was born in Pacoima. It was there where he discovered his passion for music. After his raw talent was noticed by a producer at a performance, his career took off.

In his short 17 years of life, Valens recorded classic singles, as we heard, as "La Bamba," "Donna," and "Come On, Let's Go."

Tragically, he was killed in a plane crash along with Buddy Holly and J.P. Richardson, a day now referred to as the day music died.

In 2001, Valens was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Although Valens may no longer be with us, his music will endure for generations.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1253.

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.

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LIEUTENANT MICHAEL R.
DAVIDSON POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1833) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Tulip Avenue in Floral Park, New York, as the "Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1833

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

SECTION 1. LIEUTENANT MICHAEL R. DAVIDSON
POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Tulip Avenue in Floral Park, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Miss RICE).

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 1833, which would rename a postal facility in Floral Park, New York, after FDNY Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson, who tragically lost his life in the line of duty a year and a half ago.

My district on Long Island has a long and proud tradition of service in the New York City Fire Department. For generations, young men and women from New York's Fourth Congressional District have joined the FDNY, following in the footsteps of their parents and grandparents. They choose a life of service and sacrifice and dedicate their lives to protecting others.

Lieutenant Michael Davidson was a part of that tradition. Lieutenant Da-

vidson joined the FDNY in May of 2003. Assigned to Harlem Engine Company 69, Michael had the opportunity to serve side by side with his father, Robert, who spent most of his 26-year career at that same firehouse.

Michael was known among his colleagues for his bravery and lifesaving actions, and he received four citations for valor during his career.

As a "nozzle man," he fought fires from the front of the hose and was often the first sent into burning buildings.

On March 22, 2018, Lieutenant Davidson was called to battle a five-alarm fire on a movie set in Harlem. And, as usual, Davidson was the point man on the team that entered the building's basement to fight the blaze.

Conditions quickly became too dangerous for the firefighters to withstand, and, though the unit was ordered to retreat, Lieutenant Davidson was separated from his team in the thick smoke. His colleagues later found him unconscious, and he tragically passed away the next day at Harlem Hospital.

Lieutenant Davidson's death was a devastating and unshakeable loss for the FDNY; for Engine Company 69; for Floral Park; but, most of all, for his family and friends.

That is why this bill is not just about honoring a fallen hero. It is also about honoring a highly respected member of our community; a beloved neighbor; and, above all, a devoted husband to his wife, Eileen, and a loving father of four young children.

Renaming our post office in Floral Park will ensure that Lieutenant Davidson's treasured memory is always in our hearts and minds and that his service and sacrifice are never forgotten.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in honoring a hero and supporting H.R. 1833.

□ 1515

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1833, to name a post office located in Floral Park, New York, in honor of Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson.

Lieutenant Davidson honorably served the New York City Fire Department for 15 years. On March 22, 2018, Lieutenant Davidson lost his life while responding to a five-alarm fire. In dangerous conditions, Lieutenant Davidson became separated from his unit. When he was found later, he was unconscious. Lieutenant Davidson passed away the very next day.

He was known for his bravery and his devotion to his wife and four young children. Our country owes a debt of gratitude to first responders like Lieutenant Davidson. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1833.

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.

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**SENIOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER
SHANNON M. KENT POST OFFICE**

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2151) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7722 South Main Street in Pine Plains, New York, as the "Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon M. Kent Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2151

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

SECTION 1. SENIOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SHANNON M. KENT POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7722 South Main Street in Pine Plains, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon M. Kent Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon M. Kent Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. DELGADO).

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero, a fallen soldier, Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon Kent of Pine Plains, New York, who was killed at the age of 35 on January 16 of this year by a suicide bombing in Syria during her fifth combat tour in the Middle East.

Senior Chief Kent, a Dutchess County native and Stissing Mountain High School graduate, was a wife, the mother of two beautiful children, and a cancer survivor. She spoke five languages, including six dialects of Arabic, and deployed with the Navy SEALs to Iraq

and Afghanistan on four different occasions.

Senior Chief Kent gave the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country and will be remembered for her courage and determination. She was the recipient of the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, two Joint Service Commendation Medals, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Joint Service Achievement Medal, to name a few.

In 2016, Senior Chief Kent survived thyroid cancer and, in 2018, commissioned for a special officer program to earn a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences.

Because of a flawed DOD policy, she was found medically unfit to pursue this degree and, yet, somehow fit enough to be deployed to Syria. Following this decision, Senior Chief Kent sought a waiver from the Navy to override DOD's finding and, again, was denied.

Prior to her death, Senior Chief Kent worked tirelessly to change the Navy and DOD policies that resulted in her fifth deployment. Due to her work, the Navy has made positive changes to its waiver policy, in Senior Chief Kent's honor. I remain hopeful the DOD will follow in the Navy's footsteps.

Today, I urge the House to pass H.R. 2151 to create a memorial for Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon Kent in Dutchess County and name the post office at 7722 South Main Street in Pine Plains, New York, the Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon M. Kent Post Office.

Senior Chief Kent's memory will live on because she defined what true service means. Honoring Senior Chief Kent in this permanent way will serve as a daily reminder of her heroism and sacrifice.

Senior Chief Kent is survived by her husband, retired Chief Warrant Officer Joseph Kent, and their two young sons. My thoughts remain with her children, husband, and the rest of her family and friends.

I urge my colleagues to make this bill law to honor her life and legacy.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2151. This bill names a post office located in Pine Plains, New York, in honor of Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon M. Kent.

After high school, Petty Officer Kent chose to serve her country, enlisting in the Navy. She discovered a talent for picking up new languages at the Defense Language Institute. After she graduated, she joined the Navy's cryptologic warfare unit.

Between 2007 and 2012, Petty Officer Kent was deployed to Iraq three times and once to Afghanistan.

In 2018, she was deployed to Syria, where she provided intelligence on leaders of the Islamic State to the National Security Agency.

On January 16 of this year, Petty Officer Kent was tragically killed in a

suicide bombing in Manbij, Syria. She was only 35 years old, a mother of two boys.

For her bravery, Petty Officer Kent was the recipient of numerous honors, including the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and multiple commendation medals. Her life was cut short, but her service to our country will not be forgotten.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2151.

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.

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**ELIZABETH BUFFUM CHACE POST
OFFICE**

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2451) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 575 Dexter Street in Central Falls, Rhode Island, as the "Elizabeth Buffum Chace Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2451

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

SECTION 1. ELIZABETH BUFFUM CHACE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 575 Dexter Street in Central Falls, Rhode Island, shall be known and designated as the "Elizabeth Buffum Chace Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Elizabeth Buffum Chace Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE).

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before you today to memorialize the remarkable life and legacy of Elizabeth Buffum Chace, a leader of the abolitionist and suffrage movements in Rhode Island, by naming a post office in her honor in the city of Central Falls.

Born in 1806, Elizabeth Buffum Chace was raised by Quaker parents outspoken about their opposition to slavery, often harboring fugitive slaves in their home seeking refuge in Rhode Island. Elizabeth soon became an activist herself, passing around petitions, organizing groups of abolitionists, and even later opening her own home as a station in the Underground Railroad.

Chace spent most of her life in Smithfield, Rhode Island, and was steadfast in her dedication to advancing women's rights, prison reform, and the abolitionist movement. She became known as the Conscience of Rhode Island for her passion for creating social change and her leadership in the face of adversity.

During her later years, she settled down with her husband in Valley Falls, near the present-day city of Central Falls.

She was committed to bettering the lives of others, serving as president of the Rhode Island Women's Suffrage Association, and helped organize a Female Anti-Slavery Society in Massachusetts. She also served on the Ladies' Board of Visitors to the Penal and Correctional Institutions of the State, which examined conditions in the State prison.

Chace's tireless, lifelong activism embodies the best of Rhode Island's values and remains an inspiration for progress still to come.

Elizabeth Buffum Chace continued fighting for women's rights and prison reform in her later years. She eventually passed away on December 12, 1899, and was buried in Providence, Rhode Island. Her legacy was memorialized in 2002, when a bronze bust of Chace was displayed at the Rhode Island State House, the first woman to receive this honor, in recognition of her extraordinary accomplishments.

The dedication of the Central Falls Post Office will serve to commemorate her impact and advocacy for women, children, and communities of color. Her legacy lives on today through the Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center, founded in 1977 by the Warwick Junior League Women's Club to serve as a shelter offering support and services for women and children suffering from domestic violence.

Rhode Island has been forever changed by Elizabeth Buffum Chace and her life's work creating social change. She was a legendary suffragist and abolitionist in the 19th century, and her importance to the State of Rhode Island should be honored by dedicating the Central Falls Post Office in her name.

I am proud to have had the opportunity to honor such an icon as Eliza-

beth Buffum Chace. I would like to extend my gratitude for the support from my friend and colleague Congressman JIM LANGEVIN and also to thank the mayor of the city of Central Falls, Mayor James Diossa, who generated this idea, for his leadership.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2451, introduced by my friend, Representative DAVID CICILLINE. This bill names a post office located in Central Falls, Rhode Island, in honor of Elizabeth Buffum Chace.

Ms. Chace was born to a Quaker family in 1806 in Providence, Rhode Island. She would spend her life as a civil rights activist and eventually be known as the Conscience of Rhode Island.

She played a crucial role in the anti-slavery movement. She opened her home as a stop on the Underground Railroad and was a key organizer for the abolitionists.

Ms. Chace was also a fierce advocate for women's rights and served as the president of the Rhode Island Women's Suffrage Association.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2451.

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.

JOSE RAMOS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3144) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8520 Michigan Avenue in Whittier, California, as the "Jose Ramos Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3144

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

SECTION 1. JOSE RAMOS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8520 Michigan Avenue in Whittier, California, shall be known and designated as the "Jose Ramos Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Jose Ramos Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ).

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from California for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 3144, a bill to designate the United States Postal Service Facility located at 8520 Michigan Avenue in Whittier, California, as the Jose Ramos Post Office Building.

Jose Guadalupe Ramos was born September 17, 1948, in East Los Angeles. He enlisted in the Army in 1965, while he was a sophomore at Garfield High School.

Mr. Ramos served this country in Vietnam as an Army combat medic, often risking his own life caring for others. Mr. Ramos was wounded in Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart.

Upon returning home, he was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, yet his passion and commitment to our country and his fellow servicemembers didn't end.

Many of our veterans at the time found themselves caught in and confused by the crossfire of the public debate over the war in Vietnam. At times, some faced sharp criticism and isolation. Mr. Ramos saw this and decided that he was going to do something about it.

He dedicated his time delivering a message of his experience and those of his fellow veterans to all those who would listen, traveling to universities, schools, and prisons to carry this message.

He undertook a grueling cross-country bicycle trek to draw attention to and advocate for the long overdue "welcome home" that Vietnam veterans never received.

□ 1530

I was honored to work with Mr. Ramos and the Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans organization that he helped found. At his urging, I used the resources of my office to advocate for a national Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day. In our years of working together in this cause, I had a true friend and a partner in that effort. Mr. Ramos' passion inspired many.

The memories of what he endured in service to our country remained with him throughout his life. At times, they presented obstacles. However, he cherished the time spent with grandchildren, his participation in religious pilgrimages, and enjoying life's simple pleasures, like the sunrise and sunset of each passing day.

We lost Jose Ramos in 2017 to pancreatic cancer, a loss not only for his wife, Sylvia, his children, and grandchildren, his loss also left a hole in our community in Whittier. Renaming the Whittier Post Office in his honor is a fitting tribute to Jose Ramos and a very small token of gratitude from a grateful nation for his service.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3144, introduced by Representative LINDA SÁNCHEZ. This bill names a post office located in Whittier, California, in honor of Jose Ramos.

While still in high school, Jose Ramos enlisted in the Army. He served as a combat medic in Vietnam, during which time he was wounded. For his bravery and service, Mr. Ramos was awarded the Purple Heart.

Later diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, Mr. Ramos dedicated his life to supporting his fellow soldiers. Mr. Ramos understood the criticism and isolation these veterans went through, and he spent many years trying to change the public's perspective of servicemembers.

In his later years, Mr. Ramos spoke at universities and schools about his experiences as a soldier. He was an unforgettable figure in his community.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3144.

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.

RICHARD G. LUGAR POST OFFICE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3152) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the "Richard G. Lugar Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3152

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

SECTION 1. RICHARD G. LUGAR POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the "Richard G. Lugar Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Richard G. Lugar Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON), who happens to have his birthday today. In an effort not to embarrass any Members, we will not sing "Happy Birthday" and simply yield to him to make a few statements.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of a bill to name a U.S. Post Office in Indianapolis in honor of Senator Richard Lugar, who passed away earlier this year.

This bill is supported by the entire Indiana delegation, and I believe it is a wonderful start as we work to advance his iconic legacy.

I was fortunate to know Senator Lugar. He understood what it meant to be a true public servant, and the values he expertly displayed have inspired our work in Congress.

Senator Lugar served as mayor of Indianapolis from 1968 to 1975, and he also represented Indiana honorably in the U.S. Senate from 1977 to 2013.

Senator Lugar was a brilliant scholar, a brave member of our armed services, and a dedicated public servant who championed people and principle over party.

Senator Lugar's distinguished life, Mr. Speaker, is a testament to the type of leader that Indiana cultivates, and his public service is an unquestionable example of his deep commitment to our great country.

A native Hoosier, he studied at Denison University and at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar.

Following graduation, Senator Lugar served in the United States Navy as an intelligence officer.

Senator Lugar rose to prominence in local politics, serving as the mayor of the city of Indianapolis. But it was the Senate where he became venerable, he became known, and he had become the leader that we all came to recognize.

Senator Lugar served as chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, where he garnered bipartisan support for great reforms in domestic policy.

Through his Senate tenure, he is perhaps best remembered for his wide-ranging impact on international affairs.

Senator Lugar served for 34 years on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, including two terms as chair.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Mr. Speaker, Senator Lugar helped reduce the threat of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons through the passage and implementation of the Nunn-Lugar Program. This bipartisan effort, Mr. Speaker, secured and dismantled the former power's most deadly weapons, making our world a safer place.

Senator Lugar also played a very important role in America's enactment of sanctions against the apartheid Government of South Africa and in the United States' recognition of a democratic government in the Philippines.

Senator Lugar contributed to the expansion of the NATO alliance; the implementation of the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, PEPFAR, to end the global AIDS epidemic; and the ratification of antiterrorist treaties.

For all he accomplished, Mr. Speaker, Senator Lugar was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2013 by President Barack Obama, our Nation's highest civilian honor.

In his final years, he served as president of The Lugar Center, a nonprofit organization focused on global food security, combating nuclear proliferation, enhancing foreign aid, and promoting bipartisan governance.

Senator Lugar's tireless efforts and commitment to good governance helped make the world a better and safer place, and his commitment to bipartisanship won the respect of people across the political spectrum, including President Barack Obama.

In our very divided society, Mr. Speaker, it is now more important than ever that we reach across the aisle and listen to each other's concerns the same way Senator Lugar did throughout his many years of public service.

All of us, regardless of our party's affiliation, should draw inspiration from Senator Lugar's dedication to our country, and all of us should strengthen his legacy by pledging to advance the Hoosier values and American values of bipartisanship and cooperation that defined his life. Let this bill be the first step to advance that goal. I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting this effort.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3152. The bill names a post office located in Indianapolis, Indiana, in honor of former Senator Richard G. Lugar.

Even before joining the Senate, Dick Lugar dedicated himself to public service. Senator Lugar worked as an intelligence officer in the Navy, served on the Indianapolis school board, and spent 8 years as the mayor of Indianapolis.

In 1976, Senator Lugar was elected to the United States Senate. Senator Lugar became Indiana's longest serving Senator, serving 36 years until his retirement in 2013.

While in office, Senator Lugar had a wide range of accomplishments that covered many policy areas. He twice chaired the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and worked on bipartisan farm program reforms. Senator Lugar also spent 34 years on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and twice served as chair.

Senator Lugar has received countless awards, including the 2013 Presidential Medal of Freedom and 47 honorary degrees.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3152.

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.

STAFF SERGEANT DYLAN ELCHIN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3207) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 114 Mill Street in Hookstown, Pennsylvania, as the "Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building", as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3207

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

SECTION 1. STAFF SERGEANT DYLAN ELCHIN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 114 Mill Street in Hookstown, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the "Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARSON of Indiana). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. LAMB).

Mr. LAMB. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3207, my bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 114 Mill Street in Hookstown, Pennsylvania, as the Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building.

Staff Sergeant Elchin served our country valiantly in the United States Air Force and was killed in action in November of 2018. He was a special tactics combat controller who was deployed to Afghanistan in August of last year as part of the U.S. Army Special Operations Force Operational Detachment-Alpha team.

Staff Sergeant Elchin's role included advising the ground force commander, directing air support aircraft, and supporting offensive combat operations. Dylan repeatedly disregarded his personal safety to coordinate lifesaving strikes and combat enemy fighters. Dylan's bravery was credited with saving the lives of many of his fellow soldiers and airmen.

At Staff Sergeant Elchin's funeral last year, we heard how, throughout all of the difficult conditions that Staff Sergeant Elchin experienced in Afghanistan, he was always cheerful, always enthusiastic, and always someone who inspired his fellow airmen no matter what. Mr. Speaker, I believe this is because Staff Sergeant Elchin was living his dream.

Staff Sergeant Elchin was born in Brighton Township, Pennsylvania, and grew up in Beaver County, and from the earliest age he had an interest in serving our country. Staff Sergeant Elchin was eager to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather, who served 8 years, himself, in the United States Army.

At the age of 14, Dylan immersed himself in military history, especially the Vietnam and Gulf wars, and this passion fueled his desire to serve.

Dylan enlisted in the Air Force as a special tactics combat controller, the best of the best, immediately after graduating from Hopewell High School in 2012. Dylan was assigned to the 26th Special Tactics Squadron at Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico. Dylan was trained for combat operations, like precision strike and personnel recovery, and he was especially skilled in reconnaissance, air traffic control, and terminal attack control operations.

Staff Sergeant Elchin's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the NATO Medal, and many others. Dylan was incredibly young to be honored in so many ways, which is a testament to his bravery, his skill, and his dedication to his mission.

Mr. Speaker, if we do our job and we pass this bill, the citizens of Hookstown and all over Beaver County will never forget Dylan's name, and they never should.

Dylan joins a long line of western Pennsylvanians who gave what Lincoln called the last full measure of devotion. We are proud of Dylan; we thank him for his service and his sacrifice; we honor him; and we will never forget him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 3207.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3207. This bill names the post office located in Hookstown, Pennsylvania, in honor of Air Force Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin.

In 2012, shortly after high school, Dylan enlisted as an Air Force special tactics combat controller. Dylan was assigned to the 26th Special Tactics Squadron at Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico.

Dylan was deployed to Afghanistan in August of 2018. Just a few months later, he was killed by a roadside bomb.

Staff Sergeant Elchin received several honors, including the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Army Commendation with Valor. Today, we honor Staff Sergeant Elchin's life, bravery, and sacrifice.

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

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

□ 1545

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3207, 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 designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 114 Mill Street in Hookstown, Pennsylvania, as the 'Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building'".

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LAKE HAVASU CITY COMBAT VETERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 3314) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1750 McCulloch Boulevard North in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, as the "Lake Havasu City Combat Veterans Memorial Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3314

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

SECTION 1. LAKE HAVASU CITY COMBAT VETERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1750 McCulloch Boulevard North in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, shall be known and designated as the "Lake Havasu City Combat Veterans Memorial Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Lake Havasu City Combat Veterans Memorial Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 3314 introduced by myself. This bill names a post office as the Lake Havasu City Combat Veterans Memorial Post Office Building.

The post office will honor six brave men from the city who died serving their country.

Carey Dean Harmon lost his life bravely fighting the Tet Offensive.

Scott Broadston fought valiantly in Vietnam and lost his life during a combat assault.

In 2006, Patrick Tinnell was the first from Lake Havasu City to be killed in action during the global war on terror.

Anthony Sausto lost his life fighting in Baghdad, Iraq, in 2007.

Dylan Reid served in Amarah, Iraq, where he died in 2010. He is survived by his daughter, Avery.

Finally, Carl Hammar emigrated from Sweden to the United States and joined the Army while in college. He served two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan, where he died in combat.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of these men and their selfless service to this Nation, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3314.

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.

PAUL EATON POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3329) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5186 Benito Street in Montclair, California, as the "Paul Eaton Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3329

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

SECTION 1. PAUL EATON POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5186 Benito Street in Montclair, California, shall be known and designated as the "Paul Eaton Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Paul Eaton Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES).

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA), my colleague, for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 3329. This bill would rename the post office in Montclair, California, as the Paul Eaton Post Office Building.

The new name would be a tribute to Paul Eaton, who served as Montclair's mayor for 23 years, making him the longest-serving mayor in Montclair's history.

As a former mayor myself, I can tell you that that is dedication. Being mayor means being on the hook for every pothole, every accident, and every crisis that happens in your city. It is not easy work, but Mayor Eaton made it look so easy.

He uplifted the lives of every single person that he encountered. He was a fierce advocate for Montclair residents and a pillar of the Inland Empire community.

His decades of public service earned him the love, respect, and admiration of everyone.

Mayor Eaton began his career at Bethany Baptist Church and the Ontario-Montclair School District. In 1970, he helped found Montclair's Community Action Committee. There, he earned a reputation as a fierce advocate for Montclair's residents.

Later, he was appointed to the Montclair Planning Commission, where he would serve only until he eventually became a member of the Montclair City Council in 1988. Following Mayor Larry Rhinehart's sudden departure, Mayor Eaton was unanimously installed into the position of mayor by his fellow city council members.

His many achievements include construction of a youth center and a senior center, as well as a state-of-the-art police facility, widening Central Avenue on the I-10 freeway, making critical improvements to the Mission Boulevard and Holt corridors, and ensuring future service to the Montclair Transit Center for the Gold Line light-rail service.

His record of service is truly an example for the next generation. His family continues to carry on the legacy, as many of them also work in public service.

Mayor Eaton passed away in July 2018.

He was survived by his wife, Ginger, who became mayor after the passing of Mayor Eaton. He was also survived by four children, nine grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren. He was loved by everyone.

Let us honor Mayor Eaton and his legacy by passing this bill and renaming the Montclair Post Office.

California, Mr. Speaker, has 53 Members of Congress, and I am so proud to have 52 of those members of the California congressional delegation as co-sponsors of this bill, including the distinguished Speaker of the House, NANCY PELOSI, and the Republican minority leader, KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this important bill, and I thank the ranking member, Mr. GOSAR, for his assistance in moving this bill forward.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3329 introduced by Representative NORMA TORRES.

This bill names a post office located in Montclair, California, in honor of Paul Eaton.

Paul Eaton was a dedicated civic leader in Montclair for 48 years of his life. In 1970, he was a founding member of Montclair's Community Action Committee. Mr. Eaton spent 18 years with the Community Action Committee, advocating on behalf of residents.

In 1988, he was elected to the city council. Mr. Eaton went on to become the mayor of Montclair and served for 23 consecutive years, making him the longest-serving mayor in Montclair's history.

Mr. Eaton left a lasting legacy in the city. His achievements include vital improvements to the city's critical infrastructure and facilities.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill for my friend, NORMA TORRES, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. TORRES of California). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3329.

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.

JEANNETTE RANKIN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1972) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 West Kent Avenue in Missoula, Montana, as the "Jeannette Rankin Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1972

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

SECTION 1. JEANNETTE RANKIN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 West Kent Avenue in Missoula, Montana, shall be known and designated as the "Jeannette Rankin Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Jeannette Rankin Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 1972 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 West Kent Avenue in Missoula, Montana, as the Jeannette Rankin Post Office Building.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE), my friend.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 1972, to rename the post office at 1100 West Kent Avenue in Missoula as the Jeannette Rankin Post Office Building.

Born and raised in Montana, Jeannette Rankin was a principled, fearless leader who paved the way for women in public service.

She was a fierce proponent for women's suffrage. She led the successful campaign to secure the right to vote for women in Montana 6 years before ratification of the 19th Amendment that granted women the right to vote throughout our country.

Her dedication to public service did not stop with advocating for women's suffrage. Two years after Montana enfranchised women, Montanans elected Rankin to the U.S. Congress. She became the first woman ever to serve in this body.

Jeannette Rankin was a trailblazer for women's rights in our Nation. It is an honor to recognize her and her lasting contributions to our country.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Jeannette Rankin by renaming the post office in her hometown of Missoula, Montana, in her memory.

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

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, 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. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1972.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1600

JERRY C. WASHBURN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 887) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service lo-

cated at 877 East 1200 South in Orem, Utah, as the "Jerry C. Washburn Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 887

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

SECTION 1. JERRY C. WASHBURN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 877 East 1200 South in Orem, Utah, shall be known and designated as the "Jerry C. Washburn Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Jerry C. Washburn Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 877 East 1200 South in Orem, Utah, as the Jerry C. Washburn Post Office Building.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS), my friend and Western Caucus member.

Mr. CURTIS. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill to designate the United States Postal Service in Orem, Utah, as the Jerry C. Washburn Post Office Building.

This is a great honor for me, Madam Speaker, as I had an opportunity to serve with Mayor Washburn as a newly elected mayor. Not only was Jerry Washburn the longest serving mayor in Orem's history, he was the type of leader that is exactly what is needed today among elected officials.

He knew that, as much as he loved his city, it wasn't enough for his city to be successful; all of the surrounding cities in the community must also be successful. He knew it wasn't enough for him to be a great mayor; he needed the other mayors to be great, as well.

His message was one of optimism, of unity, and of working together as public servants. He was humble and often

soft-spoken. But when he walked into a room, everybody stopped to listen to what Mayor Washburn would have to say, and all of us were edified by his message and knew that we were better off.

He was a personal mentor to me. I found myself often saying: What would Jerry Washburn do? Inevitably, that led me to a better decision.

In addition to being mayor, he served as a board member for the Parks Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He started Washburn Motors in Orem with his father and was dedicated to his family, church, and community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of this bill to name the post office in his honor.

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

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, 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. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 887.

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.

FIRE CAPTAIN CORY BARR POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1196) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1715 Linnerud Drive in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, as the "Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1196

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

SECTION 1. FIRE CAPTAIN CORY BARR POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1715 Linnerud Drive in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, shall be known and designated as the "Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this issue.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1715 Linnerud Drive in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, as the Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building.

Captain Barr first volunteered with the Sun Prairie Fire Department at the age of 18, which earned him the distinction of being the youngest firefighter in the department's history.

On July 10, 2018, Captain Barr was a first responder at the scene of a natural gas leak in downtown Sun Prairie. As Captain Barr was shutting off service and evacuating people nearby, an explosion occurred, killing him. His heroic actions saved over 100 people.

Captain Barr was a beloved member of the Sun Prairie community for 30 years. Beyond his contributions to the fire department, he is remembered as an outgoing and dedicated man. Captain Barr is survived by his wife of 6 years, Abby, and twin 3-year-old daughters, Hailey and Aubrey.

Naming a post office after Captain Barr is the least this country can do to honor his sacrifice and the contributions he has made to his local community.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1196, introduced by Senator TAMMY BALDWIN. This bill names a post office located in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, in honor of Fire Captain Cory Barr.

Cory Barr knew from an early age that he wanted to become a firefighter. At 18, he volunteered with the Sun Prairie Fire Department and became the youngest firefighter in the department's history.

On July 10, 2018, Captain Barr responded to an explosion from a natural gas leak. He, sadly, passed away while working to save over 100 lives from the fire.

Captain Barr is remembered for his service, courage, and dedication to the community. He continues to be an inspiration to young firefighters in Sun Prairie and across the State of Wisconsin.

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

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

Mr. POCAN. Madam Speaker, on July 10, 2018, a natural gas leak in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin resulted in an explosion that killed Fire Captain Cory James Barr. Captain Barr was a first responder on the scene of the explosion and gave his life while working to save more than one hundred people.

Captain Barr was a beloved member of the Sun Prairie community for 30 years. He was born on February 28, 1984 to parents Jack and Janet Barr, and was a brother to siblings Kim and Chad. He is survived by his wife, Abby, and twin daughters, Hailey and Aubrey.

Captain Barr first volunteered with the Sun Prairie Fire Department at age 18, earning him the distinction of the youngest firefighter in the department's history. In addition to his contributions to the fire department, Captain Barr owned The Barr House in downtown Sun Prairie and worked as a realtor. He is remembered as an outgoing, dedicated man who touched the lives of all his fellow community members.

Hundreds of first responders attended a memorial service in July 2018 to celebrate Captain Barr's life. Sun Prairie Fire Chief Christopher Garrison spoke to his commitment to the department and the community: "If Cory could say something right now he would do everything the same way all over again. No resistance. No stepping back. He would face the danger and do it all over again." Other speakers echoed Chief Garrison's sentiments and added that Captain Barr was a loving husband and father to his wife and daughters.

The Sun Prairie Education Foundation has honored Captain Barr with the Cory Barr Education Memorial Fund. His classmates from the Sun Prairie High School Class of 2002 created the Cory Barr Fire Academy Fund to support the county's firefighter training program for high school students. Captain Barr's service to his community has now earned recognition from Congress by dedicating the Sun Prairie Post Office in his memory. Captain Barr's legacy will live on as an inspiration to young firefighters in Sun Prairie and across Wisconsin.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1196.

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.

SO-CALLED IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY IS AN ABOMINATION

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

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Madam Speaker, during the impeachment inquiries of Presidents Nixon and Clinton, the House of Representatives, led, respectively, by Speakers Carl Albert and Newt Gingrich, established the following procedures that are currently not being followed in this rushed process to impeach President Trump. Let me lay them out for you, because I think the American people need to understand this.

First, there should be coequal powers to both the chair and ranking member of the committee;

All subpoenas are subject to a vote of the full committee;

The President's counsel would have the right to attend the hearings and depositions;

The President's counsel has the right to present evidence;

The President's counsel has the right to object to the admittance of evidence;

The President's counsel has the right to cross-examine witnesses; and

The President's counsel has the right to recommend a witness list.

These are being denied to the President of the United States. If this could be denied to the President, it could be denied to you or your child.

This is so wrong. This so-called impeachment inquiry is an abomination.

MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CROW). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NEWHOUSE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to lead a Special Order alongside my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to discuss a crisis afflicting our Nation. It is the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women.

Each of the Members speaking tonight represents different regions of the United States and different native communities that are all affected by the disproportionate number of crimes against Native American and Alaska Native women.

My colleagues and I have introduced several pieces of legislation, including Savanna's Act and the BADGES for Native Communities Act, in an attempt to improve collaboration between law enforcement agencies and empower them to seriously work toward solving many of these unsolved cases.

Over the next hour, I look forward to hearing each of these Member's unique perspective on ways we can work to solve this crisis and bring justice to these women.

I have spoken on this topic a number of times here on the floor, in the House Judiciary Committee, and at home with my constituents who have been directly affected by this crisis.

While a lot that I might say here tonight, Mr. Speaker, may sound like a broken record—I apologize for that—I cannot stress enough how important it is that we use our voices as U.S. Representatives to address a crisis of this magnitude and offer solutions for these women and their families and their communities.

Native women throughout the country face a murder rate 10 times higher than the national average, with 84 percent experiencing some kind of violence in their lifetime.

In my home State of Washington, Native Americans make up about 2 per-

cent of the population, but a recent report by the Washington State Patrol shows that indigenous women account for 7 percent of the State's reported missing women.

This crisis is one that affects communities in both highly populated, urban areas, as well as rural districts, in districts like the one I represent in central Washington.

I have seen firsthand how these injustices affect local communities, and I have vowed to exercise my position in Congress to help deliver justice for these women.

My congressional district sits at the epicenter of this crisis. There are currently over 100 open cases in Washington State, with 31 open cases on or near the Yakama Indian Reservation in central Washington alone. This includes seven new cases in just the past 5 years.

The number of open cases is alarming, but the truth is we don't even have accurate data to truly understand the breadth of this problem. Due to a lack of shared information, data, and reporting, there is no real way to know exactly how many Native American women have gone missing or whose fate hangs in the balance of an unsolved murder case.

□ 1615

The complicated jurisdiction between Federal, Tribal, and local law enforcement causes serious problems throughout many investigations, and far too many Tribal law enforcement agencies lack the resources and access to information that would help solve missing persons cases and murders.

This leaves the families and the communities of these victims frustrated, without answers, and begging for solutions. And while we represent them in the people's House, it is the voices of those who are directly affected that we should be listening to.

Our communities in my district in central Washington have not been silent. Just this past Monday, the YWCA in Yakima hosted their annual vigil for the victims of domestic violence. This year, the organization partnered with the Yakama Nation to bring attention to the missing and murdered indigenous women crisis and to honor those who have lost their lives to domestic violence.

Citizens of the Yakama Nation and other local Tribes have hosted rallies of support in large public forums to raise awareness of the crisis and to demand action.

A reporter by the name of Tammy Ayer from the Yakima-Herald Republic has done a truly excellent job of keeping the public informed of these ongoing efforts, diligently highlighting the activism on the ground and providing resources for families and friends of missing Native women. The voice she lends to the voiceless has and will continue to be a powerful agent for change.

I hosted a roundtable earlier this year with Tribal members, with law en-

forcement officers, Bureau of Indian Affairs officials, and other local advocates to learn directly from these pillars of our local community about how we can assist them in their efforts.

I have lived just outside of the Yakama Nation Reservation my entire life, Mr. Speaker, but hearing the heartfelt testimonies of the families and the loved ones of missing Native women from just down the road from me was truly an eye-opening experience, and a deeply heart-wrenching experience. I believe it is one that all Members of Congress need to hear, and that is why we are here tonight.

That is also why in June I sent letters to the House Judiciary and the Natural Resources Committees asking them to hold field hearings in central Washington on this matter. The voices of communities impacted by this crisis must be heard. My request was echoed by numerous local Tribes, by advocacy groups, and by women's organizations who have all sent their own letters to the committees inviting Members to come meet with them, listen to the voices on the ground, and discuss solutions for missing and murdered indigenous women.

The Yakama Nation has generously offered to host the hearing, which would provide Members with the opportunity to hear firsthand from both the Tribes, law enforcement officers, and families of these victims who are dealing with this crisis every day, about how we can best move forward.

Their testimony would help demonstrate the impact this crisis is having on our communities in central Washington and in other regions around the country.

Mr. Speaker, I hate to say it, but it has been 4 months since these letters were first delivered to the House Judiciary and Natural Resources Committees, but we have received no response. It has been nearly a month since I testified before the Judiciary Committee to ask for committee action and a response to my letter. Still, nothing.

Thankfully, the current administration has been actively pursuing our local input. The Department of the Interior is conducting a series of roundtable events with Tribes and law enforcement agencies across the country, most recently in Arizona and Alaska.

While the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Indian Affairs certainly have a role to play in implementing these solutions for the women and their loved ones, Congress must also pay attention and we must do our part to listen and then legislate.

The two legislative proposals I mentioned earlier, Savanna's Act and the BADGES for Native Communities Act, would provide immediate assistance to Tribes and law enforcement in addressing this crisis. As you will hear tonight, Mr. Speaker, these bills have strong bipartisan support.

I know my colleagues and I stand ready to develop solutions that will work for local Tribal communities and

law enforcement, and I look forward to hearing from my friends and colleagues from around the country over the next hour to discuss the impact the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women has had on their communities and about what actions this body can help take to stop it.

I yield to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE), my good friend who represents the great State of Montana, as well as the Northern Cheyenne and Blackfeet Tribes. Montana is a large State and with understaffed law enforcement agencies, reporting an investigation of crimes against Native American women can slip through the cracks.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Washington for yielding. Mr. NEWHOUSE has been a leader in responding to the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women, and for that I thank him for his leadership.

In late August, Kaysera Stops Pretty Places who just turned 18, was supposed to join her mother to see a relative in North Dakota. She didn't make it. She disappeared. No one could reach her. Days later, her body was found besides a woodpile in Hardin, Montana. The circumstances surrounding her disappearance and death remain a mystery. Hers is one story of far too many. This tragic epidemic must end.

These are our sisters, our daughters, and our granddaughters. Their cases often do not receive the attention they deserve. Their families deserve justice. Over the past months, I have met with Montanans in each of our 56 counties, and in the eight recognized Tribal governments. I have often heard of the challenges faced to address this crisis. We must do better.

When someone goes missing, time is of the essence. Improving cooperation amongst local, State, Tribal, and Federal Governments is critical. I heard over and over of the challenges in delays in performing background checks for applicants to Tribal law enforcement.

In one recent visit, Tribal leadership at one reservation shared with me that only 4 of their 14 law enforcement positions were currently filled, preventing them from effectively implementing the law on the reservation.

The BADGES for Native Communities Act, which I cosponsor with the gentleman from Washington, speeds up that process with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The legislation also improves information sharing and reporting between Federal and Tribal law enforcement.

The BADGES for Native Communities Act also builds on Savanna's Act, which I also cosponsor with the gentleman from Washington. Savanna's Act addresses this epidemic by issuing new guidelines for investigating cases of missing and murdered indigenous women.

I urge the committees of jurisdiction to consider the BADGES for Native

American Communities Act, and I urge House leaders to bring up the bill for a vote.

Finally, at a time when we should be dedicating our time and resources to this crisis, the Federal Government shouldn't stretch itself too thin. For 5 years, the FBI dedicated a full-time agent to combating human trafficking. The Bureau recently announced that it would divide that agent's time between human trafficking and Indian Country.

In September, I urged the FBI Director to dedicate a full-time agent to addressing human trafficking, and another agent to fighting crime in Indian Country. The FBI should allow each full-time agent to dedicate his or her time, attention, and resources solely to his or her unique, pressing law enforcement challenge. At this critical juncture, now is not the time to be penny wise and pound foolish.

There is more we must do for Kaysera Stops Pretty Places and thousands of missing indigenous women across our country.

I thank Mr. NEWHOUSE and all of my colleagues for their help in bringing needed attention to this serious issue.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I certainly appreciate Mr. GIANFORTE putting a face to this very serious issue that we are experiencing all over the United States, and particularly in Montana, and pointing out some of the ways that this legislation could potentially benefit our communities.

I thank the gentleman very much for sharing tonight.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned earlier, one of the pieces of legislation that my colleagues and I have introduced this Congress, is Savanna's Act, named after a young lady, Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, who was a member of the Spirit Lake Tribe and was tragically murdered in August of 2017.

Earlier this year, I worked with a bipartisan group of colleagues to improve this legislation from the previous version of the bill that was introduced in the 115th Congress. It does a lot of things, but two things I want to point out, it aims to develop guidelines and best practices for law enforcement agencies and encourages agencies to enhance reporting and recordkeeping for better coordination.

It also aims to improve communication between law enforcement and the families of the loved ones of the victims, which is an issue that was brought to my attention by the central Washington families who, in some cases, have waited for months just for an update on their loved one's case.

So it is with that background that I want to yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES), my good friend. I really appreciate her leadership and her partnership in this effort on bringing this issue forward and bringing some good solutions forward as we work to improve law enforcement's response in the cases of these missing and murdered indigenous women. I can't say enough about the

contribution of Congresswoman NORMA TORRES, and I would like her to share some things from her perspective.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman NEWHOUSE for organizing this Special Order and for his leadership. I sincerely hope that this will serve as a call to action for all of us. Like the gentleman, I was very disappointed that we could not get Savanna's Act across the 115th Congress and signed into law.

Mr. Speaker, every single person in this country, no matter their gender or background, deserves to live in safety, and every single victim deserves justice. But for Native Americans, and especially Native American women, that has not been the case. Far from it.

There is a long history of violence against Native Americans and exploitation of Native American women. It is a history that we don't talk about nearly enough. That is why, last week, I introduced a bipartisan resolution to support the creation of a new Federal holiday, Indigenous Peoples' Day, on the day that is now called Columbus Day.

Across the Americas, too many indigenous people are still living with the legacy of colonialism and the violence that came with it. Taking one day a year to acknowledge that history and to acknowledge the many contributions of Native Americans to this great country, is the least that we can do, but it isn't enough.

As William Faulkner famously said: "The past is never dead. It's not even past."

And the reality is that today, Native American women are being killed and going missing at an alarming rate. Native American women are 10 times more likely to be killed than the national average, and that is shameful.

What is worse is that we do not even know how many Native American women have gone missing. Criminals prey on Native American women because they know that they can get away with this crime. So Congress must take action to address this crisis and that is why we are here today.

In April, the House passed the Violence Against Women Act, which would give Native American Tribes jurisdiction over crimes of violence against women. This is a significant step to solving the problem, but the Senate must act now to pass this critical legislation.

In May, I introduced Savanna's Act to honor Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, a 22-year old pregnant member of the Spirit Lake Tribe who was tragically murdered in 2017.

I have worked with a group of Democrats and Republicans from both Chambers of Congress to make sure that we incorporate input from a wide range of stakeholders, including law enforcement.

□ 1630

This bipartisan bill would create a new set of guidelines for law enforcement responding to cases of missing

and murdered indigenous women, and it would give incentives for law enforcement to implement those guidelines. It would also improve information-sharing and access to data so that we have a clearer picture of the scale of these horrific crimes.

This important legislation builds on a previous version of Savanna's Act, which already passed the Senate last year. It is awaiting action in the House Judiciary Committee, and I am confident that it will move forward soon.

Because of the efforts of Native American women across the country, we are close to passing Savanna's Act into law, but we cannot afford to continue waiting. More importantly, Native American women cannot afford it.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for sharing with us her experiences, and I thank her for her leadership and being the lead sponsor on Savanna's Act, as well. It is truly a pleasure to work with my friend. I hope that, with her leadership, we will be able to get this across the finish line and get it to the President.

It is my honor now, Mr. Speaker, to introduce someone who truly is in the middle of much of this issue. He cosponsors Savanna's Act, and he is a leader on not only bringing solutions to help solve this problem but probably just as importantly, if not more importantly, he is also helping to shine a bright light on an issue that, frankly, many Americans just are not aware of.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the good gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. ARMSTRONG).

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Mr. Speaker, Savanna's Act, which we have talked about, is named in honor of Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, a 22-year-old pregnant member of the Spirit Lake Tribe who was murdered in my home State of North Dakota in 2017. Her disappearance and suspected murder not only devastated the Spirit Lake Nation, but it also devastated the community of Fargo and was truly a horrible issue felt by every member of my State from one end to another.

For 8 days, her family, friends, and the community searched for her, hoping that she would be found alive. As we all know, she was not. Thankfully, her baby was found alive after surviving the attack and literally being cut from the womb.

Savanna's murder brought to light that data on missing and murdered indigenous people—women and girls in particular—is scattered around government agencies or it is completely nonexistent. Savanna's Act attempts to address this issue. It requires the Justice Department to develop protocols to address missing and murdered Native Americans, including information-sharing and training for law enforcement.

We must do more to bring justice for victims and prevent these crimes from happening, and the reason is that the statistics are staggering. On some reservations, Indian women are murdered

at a rate of more than 10 times the national average. Native Americans are two-and-a-half times as likely to experience violent crimes and two times more likely to experience sexual assault crimes. The number of unsolved crimes on Native Americans on reservations is significantly higher than even the most crime-ridden cities we have in the country.

More than four in five Native American women, around 84 percent, will experience some form of violence in their lifetimes. The reasons and factors for this are varied. We deal with poverty, and we deal with rural communities, in general. We deal with jurisdictional fights between different organizations, addiction, and a history of racial abuse.

None of these things matter to the people who are missing and to the family members and the Tribal members who are missing.

In Savanna Greywind's case, the perpetrators were found, and justice was served, but that will never bring her back.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention this. At the same time this was captivating the entire State of North Dakota, Olivia Lone Bear went missing from the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in October 2017. Her body was found almost an entire year later in Lake Sakakawea on July 31, 2018. As of today, that case has not been resolved.

Communication breakdowns from one end to the other have caused frustration. Her family members, the Tribal governments, and the State of North Dakota have no resolution to this case.

I wish these were two isolated stories, but we all know they are not. When we are here and working toward things, I get it that we are in a polarized environment, and we deal with lots of different things, but this is absolutely the purview of Congress. This bill has had broad bipartisan and bicameral support, and there is really no excuse not to get Savanna's Act passed.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Washington for doing this today. I thank Congresswoman TORRES and Senator MURKOWSKI for authoring the bill. I thank Senator CRAMER and Senator HOEVEN. I say thank you to former Senator Heitkamp, who really did champion this issue during her time in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass Savanna's Act. It is simple. Sometimes we can do the right thing.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is right. This is a serious issue. As the gentleman said, something this serious should be bipartisan, and the good thing is that it is bipartisan. People on both sides of the aisle recognize the horrific nature of these unsolved crimes and are wanting to do something about it.

I am really heartened by the fact that in this day and age, and in this climate here in Washington, D.C., there are some issues that we can rally

around together in a bipartisan fashion.

I think that is a perfect segue into introducing a friend of mine from the Bipartisan Working Group, someone who embodies the desire to find solutions and to find common ground on issues so that we can move forward. This is a great example of the work that we can accomplish when we put our heads together.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my good friend from New Mexico (Ms. TORRES SMALL).

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 23 pueblos and Tribes in New Mexico. This week, New Mexicans observed our first Indigenous People's Day, celebrating the lengthy history and ongoing contributions of Native American communities in New Mexico.

New Mexico's past, present, and future is tied to the vibrancy of its Native American sovereign governments. One of the most serious threats facing these communities is the crisis of murdered and missing women. The murder rate for Native American women is 10 times higher than the national average, and we have trouble even counting these tragedies. Due to outdated databases and insufficient coordination between law enforcement agencies, we can't count the number of Native American women who go missing each and every year.

This crisis demands a response. I am proud and honored to join my colleagues—Congresswoman NORMA TORRES, Congressman DAN NEWHOUSE, and Congresswoman DEB HAALAND—in cosponsoring H.R. 2733, Savanna's Act.

Savanna's Act improves Tribal access to Federal databases, creates new guidelines for responding to these cases, and creates grant programs for law enforcement agencies to improve their practices.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, it truly is a great thing that we can come together on an issue of such importance. I thank the gentlewoman for her contributions and her sponsorship of Savanna's Act. Together, we can get this done. I thank the gentlewoman very much for coming tonight.

Mr. Speaker, it may not be obvious to many of us, but some States are taking action. Some specific States have accomplished some things. In my own State of Washington, I have to mention the name of State Representative Gina Mosbrucker, who has been a critical ally in addressing this crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women.

We have 29 federally recognized Tribes in Washington State, so it is critical that we have the State's support to help address this crisis. Representative Mosbrucker has spearheaded legislation to improve the reporting of crimes on and off the reservations and enhance coordination between the Washington State Patrol as well as Tribal law enforcement.

Earlier this year, the Washington State Patrol released a report, as mandated by Representative Mosbrucker's legislation, outlining the number and status of cases of missing and murdered indigenous women throughout the State. The report revealed that there is much more work to be done in order to empower law enforcement of all jurisdictions—State, Federal, Tribal, and local—to accurately report and investigate these crimes.

I know Washington State is not the only State that is doing things. I welcome my friend, Representative DON BACON from Nebraska, to the podium. His State, for example, has one of the highest rates of crime against Native American women. Like Washington State, Nebraska has been active in tackling some of the shortcomings we see in the coordination between Tribes and law enforcement.

I thank my friend, Representative BACON, for his leadership on this issue and his help in getting this legislation through. He has been a strong supporter not only here but also in his home State.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON).

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I want to start out by recognizing Mr. NEWHOUSE for his leadership on this issue, for educating us, and for galvanizing our Congress to take action here. I also thank my friend for the character and integrity that he brings to our Chamber every day. The gentleman is a bright light right here in our Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, I also rise to address the serious epidemic occurring in the United States, and that is the disappearance and senseless murders of Native American women. Many Americans are unaware of this epidemic, and it must be brought to our attention.

According to the Native American Women's Nebraska Task Force, Nebraska, and particularly Omaha, has a high number of missing and murdered Native American women. Thirty-three Native American women are listed as missing in Nebraska. Omaha is ranked third in the United States for having the most unreported cases of missing and murdered indigenous women. Although the Nebraska State Patrol is working with the Commission of Indian Affairs and working as hard as they can to collect and improve data reporting and helping with the investigations, there is just a lot more to do.

Unfortunately, this is not just an issue in Nebraska. In 2016, 5,712 cases of missing or murdered indigenous women were reported, and only 116 are logged by the Department of Justice in its database. It is believed that many cases go unreported, so that number is expected to be much higher.

One of the ways we can address and bring awareness to this very important issue is to improve and strengthen the relationship between Tribal and State law enforcement agencies, enhance missing persons reports, implement diligent recordkeeping, and maintain

communication between law enforcement and the families of the victims.

H.R. 2733, Savanna's Act, does just that. I am thankful to be a cosponsor and glad to be on it. It is a worthy act that we should pass.

We must also increase media coverage to raise awareness and help locate missing women. In 1996, the AMBER Alert system was established when Dallas-Fort Worth broadcasters teamed up with local police to develop an early warning system to help find missing children. This had a significant impact. Since 1996, over 900 children have been safely found. We need to have a similar system that applies to all Americans and target it here with our Native American population.

What we have learned is that the Native American community lacks proper resources to search for these women. When police cases go dormant, our families have taken it upon themselves to search for their loved ones, but that seldom works. It seldom yields results. We need to provide resources to Tribal law enforcement to help locate these missing women, and that is what Savanna's Act is designed to accomplish.

We say we will go to the ends of the Earth to protect our families, our friends, and our loved ones. That is how our Native American brothers and sisters feel about their lost loved ones as well. When our country is threatened by foreign countries, we take action. When our country faces a medical epidemic, we take action. When children go missing, we take action, and we know no boundaries. When our fellow Americans go missing, we take action.

That is why I am urging my colleagues to support Savanna's Act. We can do better.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. NEWHOUSE for yielding.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. BACON very much for his participation tonight and helping shed light on this very important issue in our Tribal communities around the country.

I told you earlier, Mr. Speaker, that I held a public meeting in Yakima earlier this year. The reporter that I had mentioned asked me a very pointed question. This issue had been brought to light in the early 1990s by one of my predecessors who held this seat. That person vowed to do something about this, and here we are, 20-some years later, almost 30 years later, and nothing has been done.

She asked me: What is different today?

I think the right answer to that, Mr. Speaker, is that the difference, from what I have seen, personally, is that the men and women in our Tribal communities are standing up. They are saying: We are tired of this, and we are just not going to take it anymore.

□ 1645

They are making their voices heard loud and clear and demanding action,

and this is something that we need to deliver in order to help our Native American communities around the country.

It truly is a pleasure for me to yield to the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), who has been a true leader on this issue, helping bring focus to this issue so that we can find solutions.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I thank the honorable gentleman from Washington (Mr. NEWHOUSE) for yielding.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to highlight, to call attention to a crisis that is facing our Tribal communities—really, our Tribal communities throughout the country—and that is violence against American Indian women.

More than 1.5 million American Indian women have experienced violence—ultimately, sexual violence—during their lifetimes. The numbers are staggering. They have experienced violence, murder, and kidnapping at much, much higher rates than other women—1.5 million women.

I know some of these women. Like my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I have looked in their eyes. I have heard their heart-wrenching stories of violence, of trauma. I have held their hands. I have hugged them as, through tears, they have described to me events that I otherwise could not imagine.

In just the last few years, we have had 6,000 American Indian women, our countrywomen, who have gone missing; and just a few, just a handful of those cases have been logged with the Department of Justice. In that way, our Federal Government is not doing enough to combat this problem.

We know—every one of us here tonight knows—that we can do better. That is why I have felt so good about how many of my colleagues today have mentioned Savanna's Act, which, clearly, I am a cosponsor of, I am a supporter of.

It is not a perfect bill. It does not do enough, but it tries to highlight, it tries to call attention to, it brings attention to, it brings resources to the experiences of those 1.5 million American Indian women who have faced this violence.

No, Mr. Speaker, it is not a perfect bill, but for those of us who have looked those women in the eyes, for those of us who have heard their stories, we know that it is an important first step and one that this Congress should take.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I thank and appreciate the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON). I thank him for his leadership in making sure that people understand the gravity of the situation that we face, so I thank him very much.

Mr. Speaker, we have talked a lot about both these bills, probably more, though, about Savanna's Act. Let me talk a little bit about the BADGES for Native Communities Act.

It is a bill that strengthens Tribal communities' ability to investigate crimes related to missing and murdered indigenous women and better enforce public safety.

BADGES stands for Bridging Agency Gaps and Ensuring Safety for Native communities. It gives Tribes and Tribal law enforcement agencies access to Federal resources and databases so that they can more effectively investigate open cases.

It will always provide resources for Tribes to recruit and retain qualified law enforcement personnel, which addresses an issue facing Native communities across the country.

Representative DEB HAALAND of New Mexico and Representative TOM COLE, the two lead sponsors of the BADGES for Native Communities Act and co-chairs of the House Native American Caucus, could not be here with us this evening, but I know their advocacy has inspired many Members of Congress, myself included, to work to bridge those gaps on behalf of Native communities across the country.

This legislation, like Savanna's Act, has strong bipartisan support, and tonight, I call upon the Committee on the Judiciary to give this legislation a hearing.

Mr. Speaker, another strong advocate in the people's House who fights day in and day out on the behalf of American Indian and Alaska Native communities is the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), dean of the House and my friend.

Mr. Speaker, the good dean couldn't be with us here this evening, but he will include a statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. In his statement, Representative YOUNG speaks of the extreme isolation and lack of law enforcement in remote Native communities and the concerning fact that Native communities lack full access to criminal databases, undermining Tribal law enforcement in court systems.

I thank the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), my friend, for his years of leadership and for his original sponsorship for both Savanna's Act and the BADGES for Native Communities Act.

Also, Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned in my opening remarks, I have requested a field hearing in central Washington on Yakama Nation Reservation. I also mentioned that several local Tribes have echoed my request to both the House Committee on the Judiciary and House Committee on Natural Resources.

I include the following letters in the RECORD from the Yakama Nation, also from The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, from the YWCA, from the Samish Indian Nation, from the Puyallup Tribe, from the Missing and Murdered Native Americans, from the Washington State Women's Commission, and also from the Muckleshoot Tribal Council.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES AND BANDS
OF THE YAKAMA NATION,
Toppenish, WA, June 20, 2019.

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

Hon. RAÚL GRIJALVA,
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

Hon. DOUG COLLINS, *Ranking Member,*
House Committee of the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROB BISHOP, *Ranking Member,*
House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMEN NADLER AND GRIJALVA AND RANKING MEMBERS COLLINS AND BISHOP: Shix Patchway. On behalf of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, I am writing to in support of Savannah's Act, H.R. 2733 and to invite the House Committee on the Judiciary and House Committee on Natural Resources to conduct a field hearing on the proposed legislation at the Yakama Reservation.

We are truly to grateful to Representatives Dan Newhouse, Norma Tones and Deb Haaland for introducing Savanna's Act. For many years the Yakama Nation has made formal requests to the Department of Justice and Bureau of Indian Affairs to assistant with locating missing persons, and solving the unsolved homicide cases that have occurred on and around the Yakama Reservation—with no response or action by the Governmental Agencies.

The Yakama Nation Tribal Council has formed a Special Committee for this very important issue, The Yakama Nation Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Committee. The Committee has been gathering community input through informal and formal processes, and working to implement action items in response. On January 14, 2019, the Committee hosted a meeting at the Yakama Nation Legends Casino that gathered input and shared actions item and was well attended by many law enforcement agencies and a representative from Governor Jay Inlsee's Office.

The Yakama Nation has supported the Washington State Legislature's work to address the ongoing MMIW crisis, specifically Washington State HB 2951 and SB 1713. As the Yakama Nation testified in Olympia, there needs to be a genuine response to the reports of missing and murdered Native women and girls across Tribal lands. Also, all new legislation needs to be guided by a clear strategic framework and principles to move beyond the current conditions endangering our lives and future generations of Native women and girls.

The Yakama Nation is formally requesting a field hearing on our Yakama Lands to address the issues relating to the missing and murdered women and peoples and the need for Savanna's Act, H.R. 2733. We would like your Committees to have an opportunity to hear firsthand from our community as well as other impacted Tribes.

The Yakama Nation offers our assistance to the Committees to facilitate true action by the United States to address the crisis facing Native communities nationwide.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your response.

JODE GOUDY, *Chairman,*
Yakama Nation Tribal Council.

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES
OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION,
Nespelem, WA, June 19, 2019.

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

Hon. RAÚL GRIJALVA,
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

Hon. DOUG COLLINS, *Ranking Member,*
House Committee of the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROB BISHOP, *Ranking Member,*
House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMEN NADLER AND GRIJALVA AND RANKING MEMBERS COLLINS AND BISHOP: On behalf of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation ("CCT"), I am writing to request that one or both of your committees hold a field hearing in Washington state to examine issues relating to missing and murdered Indian women and the need for enactment of Savanna's Act, H.R. 2733.

The CCT worked with Rep. Dan Newhouse when the House version of H.R. 2733 was being developed. The CCT joins Rep. Newhouse's request that a field hearing be held on the Yakama Nation Reservation as explained in his June 6, 2019, letter to your committees.

As explained in Rep. Newhouse's letter, information on many open cases involving missing and murdered Yakama Nation women was recently made available by local media. Previously, the CCT made personnel from the Colville Tribal Police Department available to assist the Yakama Nation in an attempt to resolve cases of missing Yakama women.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions.

Sincerely,

RODNEY CAWSTON,
Chairman.

YWCA,

Yakima, WA, June 18, 2019.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE NEWHOUSE: The YWCA of Yakima calls on you and Congress to take aggressive action to find answers and protective solutions to the Missing and Murdered Native Women in Yakima County and throughout our country. We support your efforts with Savanna's Act. It's time for the violence against women to stop.

We request field hearings in Yakima County to learn more from our Yakama Tribal members and others with information on what is happening in Yakima County. We are highly concerned about the level of violence against women in our area.

For 110 years the YWCA of Yakima has been providing services to women and children in our community. Last year alone we helped over 13,000 women, children, and men who were experiencing domestic violence. Our emergency shelter frequently helps Native women reclaim their lives and build new futures for them and their children.

Thank you for leading an effort to bring these issues forward. This is a crisis that needs attention now. How many more women will we allow to go missing or be murdered? How many more children will grow up not knowing where their mother is?

Sincerely,

CHERI KILTY,
Executive Director.

SAMISH INDIAN NATION,
Anacortes, WA, June 18, 2019.

Hon. JERRY NADLER,
Chairman, House Committee on Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

Hon. RAÚL GRIJALVA,
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

Hon. DOUG COLLINS,
Ranking Member, House Committee of the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROB BISHOP,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMEN NADLER AND GRIJALVA AND RANKING MEMBERS COLLINS AND BISHOP: I am writing on behalf of the Samish Indian Nation to share the importance to our people of Savanna's Act, introduced by Representatives Dan Newhouse (R-WA), Norma Torres (D-CA), and Deb Haaland (D-OK) to address the devastating issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) that impacts tribal communities here in Washington and across the country. I am also writing to underscore the importance of hearing directly from the tribal communities that have been impacted by this epidemic.

Indigenous Women in Washington have especially been impacted by the crisis, with currently 71 open cases statewide. Samish Indian Nation has not escaped this impact, as our late former Chairwoman lost her daughter-in-law in a violent criminal act over 30 years ago, and that case has even to this day never been solved.

With this in mind, we ask you to hold a field hearing in Central Washington to bring together Tribal leaders, local and Tribal law enforcement, and other community stakeholders and hear firsthand accounts of the MMIW crisis and how legislation like Savanna's Act would help ensure justice for Native Women and their families.

Thank you for your consideration and for your leadership and advocacy for our Nation's Native Communities. I look forward to welcoming you to Washington and to a collective response to this crisis.

Sincerely,

THOMAS D. WOOTEN,
Chairman.

PUYALLUP TRIBE OF INDIANS,
June 27, 2019.

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

Hon. RAÚL GRIJALVA,
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

Hon. DOUG COLLINS,
Ranking Member, House Committee on the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROB BISHOP,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMEN NADLER AND GRIJALVA AND RANKING MEMBERS COLLINS AND BISHOP: I am writing on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians to share our collective support of Savanna's Act, H.R. 2733 introduced by Representatives Dan Newhouse (R-WA), Norma Torres (D-CA), and Deb Haaland (D-OK). The issue of missing and murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) has had devastating impacts on tribal communities in Washington State and across Indian Country. The Puyallup Tribe has not been immune to this crisis as we have several missing or murdered tribal members whose cases remain unsolved.

The Urban Indian Health Institute reports that Washington State ranks second in the nation for missing and murdered indigenous women. In data collected on urban areas, Seattle is number one, and Tacoma is number two. With this data in mind we respectfully and urgently stress the importance for the

committees to hear directly from the communities hit the hardest as you discuss policies that will impact them the most.

We support Yakama Nation's invitation to the House Committee on the Judiciary and House Committee on Natural Resources to conduct a field hearing on the proposed legislation. Hosting a field hearing in Central Washington would be a meaningful opportunity to gather a diverse community of Tribal leaders, law enforcement, and community stakeholders and hear firsthand how legislation like Savanna's Act is needed to assure justice for Native women and the loved ones they've left behind.

Thank you for your consideration, and advocacy. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

DAVID Z. BEAN,
Chairman Puyallup Tribal Council.

MISSING AND MURDERED
NATIVE AMERICANS,
Yelm, WA, June 27, 2019.

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

Hon. RAÚL GRIJALVA,
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

Hon. DOUG COLLINS,
Ranking Member, House Committee on the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROB BISHOP,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMEN NADLER AND GRIJALVA AND RANKING MEMBERS COLLINS AND BISHOP: I am writing as an advocate for families of the missing and murdered and as a family member who has lost my mother and my cousin to share our collective support of Savannah's Act, H.R. 2733. Please accept the invitation to conduct a field hearing on the proposed legislation. The crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) is gaining momentum across the nation with tragic stories like Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, who was pregnant with her first child when she was murdered in August 2017. Savanna's story is heartbreaking; and, tragically, there are thousands of these stories across the country. There are over 40 missing or murdered women on the Yakama reservation, each with its share of horrific details and failed investigations.

Native American's are the only race in our country where no thorough data is collected, thus there is no reliable way of knowing how many Native Women go missing. Outdated databases and a lack of coordination between law enforcement agencies are creating a literal joke of "Who's on First" where no one wants to take jurisdiction. This bad joke played out this winter in the death of 14 year old Henny Scott. The family fought to get law enforcement to take a missing report or help find Henny wasting critical time. Henny was found dead by a volunteer search party on the Norther Cheyenne reservation in December 2018. This could have been prevented and is unacceptable, and yet, Henny's is just one story.

The Urban Indian Health Institute reports that Washington State ranks second in the nation for missing and murdered indigenous women. Seattle holds sadly is number one and Tacoma is number two. I must respectfully and urgently request your committees to hear directly from the communities hit the hardest as you discuss policies that will impact them the most.

Thank you for your consideration and for your strong leadership and advocacy for our nation's Native communities. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

CAROLYN DEFORD,

Founder, Missing and
Murdered Native
Americans, MMIW
Family Member,
Daughter of Leona
Kinsey.

WASHINGTON STATE
WOMEN'S COMMISSION,
Olympia, WA, July 10, 2019.

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

Hon. RAÚL GRIJALVA,
House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

Hon. DOUG COLLINS,
House Committee of the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROB BISHOP,
House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRS NADLER AND GRIJALVA AND RANKING MEMBERS COLLINS AND BISHOP: I am the Director of the Washington State Women's Commission, a government agency focused on eliminating systemic barriers for women. I am writing in support of Savanna's Act (H.R. 2733), introduced by Representatives Dan Newhouse (R-WA), Norma Torres (D-CA), and Deb Haaland (D-OK). Savanna's Act is a bipartisan effort that will help address the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG) across the country. I also support holding a field hearing on the Yakama Nation Reservation.

In April 2019, two Native girls, Mary Gates (age 14) and Myra Queahpama (age 15), went missing from Yakima County in Washington state. Every day they are missing makes it more difficult to find them. Their families deserve to be heard. I am writing to support a field hearing on the Yakama Nation reservation to learn more from our Yakima Tribal members about this issue. Of the 56 missing Native American women in Washington, 20 are from Yakima County, according to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database.

The Women's Commission shares the concern of many about the level of violence against women in the area. I respectfully request your committees hold a field hearing at the Yakama Reservation, and to support the passage of Savanna's Act.

Thank you for your consideration and for your strong leadership and advocacy for our nation's Native communities.

Sincerely,

MICHELLE GONZALEZ,
Director.

MUCKLESHOOT TRIBAL COUNCIL,
Auburn, WA, July 12, 2019.

Re Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Epidemic.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
House Committee on Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

Hon. RAÚL GRIJALVA,
House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

Hon. DOUG COLLINS,
Ranking Member, House Committee Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROB BISHOP,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMEN NADLER AND GRIJALVA AND RANKING MEMBERS COLLINS AND BISHOP: On behalf of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe ("Tribe"), I am writing to request that the Committee on the Judiciary and Committee on Natural Resources conduct a joint field hearing in Washington State on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women ("MMIW") epidemic.

The MMIW crisis is a heart-wrenching problem impacting Indian country. Over recent decades, thousands of American Indian and Alaska Native (“AI/AN”) women have disappeared. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported that murder is the third-leading cause of death among AI/AN women and that rates of violence on reservations can be up to ten times higher than the national average.

This crisis is plaguing Washington State at an alarming rate. A 2018 report by the Urban Indian Health Institute found that Washington State ranked second in the nation for the number of MMIW cases (71 cases). Further, the study determined that Seattle was the city with the highest number of MMIW cases (45). This is extremely concerning for the Tribe considering we are located less than 30 miles from Seattle.

While there is no single cause for the high rates of MMIW, experts suggest several explanations, including jurisdictional barriers; lack of cross jurisdictional communication and planning; failure to adequately fund tribal justice systems; and the targeting of Native women by sex traffickers.

Legislation pending in the Judiciary and Natural Resources committees, including Savanna’s Act (H.R. 2733) would help address the MMIW crisis. Savanna’s Act, introduced by Representatives Norma Torres, Deb Haaland, and Dan Newhouse, would increase coordination among all levels of law enforcement; increase data collection and information sharing; and empower tribal governments with the resources needed in cases involving MMIW.

In closing, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe strongly encourages the Committee on the Judiciary and Committee on Natural Resources to conduct a joint field hearing in the State of Washington on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women epidemic and related legislation.

Respectfully,

JAISON ELKINS,
Chairman,
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, these letters outline the importance to both our Native communities in Washington State and the futures of indigenous people around the country.

To quote from the Yakama Nation, Chairman Goudy’s letter: “As the Yakama Nation testified in Olympia, there needs to be a genuine response to the reports of missing and murdered Native women and girls across Tribal lands.”

Chairman Goudy continues: “Also, all new legislation needs to be guided by a clear strategic framework and principles to move beyond the current conditions endangering the lives and future generations of Native women and girls.”

The unique perspective of Native communities like that of the Yakama Nation are invaluable, Mr. Speaker, as we continue to debate the best policies moving forward that will actually provide solutions to this crisis. So I respectfully repeat my invitation to the House Committee on the Judiciary and Committee on Natural Resources to come to my congressional district in central Washington, and I can promise all those members and chairmen the insight they will gain will help them realize how this crisis truly affects our friends and neighbors on and off Tribal lands.

Mr. Speaker, you have heard tonight how this devastating crisis affects Tribes, States, and congressional districts across the country. It is easy to focus on these heartbreaking statistics, but these women are more than just numbers. They are mothers, daughters, sisters, aunts, neighbors, and friends.

There are those who are missing, like:

18-year-old Rosalita Longee, who was last seen in Wapato in 2015;

37-year-old Roberta Jean Raines, last seen in Toppenish in 2001;

29-year-old Daisy Mae Tallman, who went missing in October of 1987; Daisy’s backpack and keys were found northwest of White Swan;

29-year-old Karen Louise Johnley, who was last seen by a friend at the Lazy R Tavern in Harrah, Washington in 1987;

16-year-old Janice Hannigan, who, in 1971, went missing after she was discharged by the hospital on Christmas Eve. She never arrived home and has never been heard from again.

Then there are also the unsolved murders, including:

31-year-old Rosenda Strong, who was last seen alive in Wapato on October 2 of last year. Her body was found in July outside of Toppenish, and no arrests have been made;

23-year-old Destiny Louise Lloyd, who went missing on Christmas Day 2017. She was found days later south of Harrah;

31-year-old Minnie Andy. Minnie was assaulted in Wapato in July 2017. She died from her injuries;

39-year-old Linda Dave, whose remains were found in Toppenish in February of 2017 under a bridge;

33-year-old mother of eight, Naoma George. She was beaten to death in an alley in Wapato in the fall of 2013;

44-year-old Barbara Celestine. Barbara died of blunt trauma to the head in 2005;

30-year-old Shari Dee Sampson Elwell of Wapato. Shari was found dead in White Swan in 1992;

44-year-old JoAnne Betty John. The mother of 11 had been missing for 2½ years before her remains were found in 1992. She was identified by her dental records;

13-year-old Rozelia Sohappy, who was last seen New Year’s Eve in 1988. Her remains were found outside of Brownstone;

20-year-old Jenece Wilson of Toppenish. She died of a severe blow to the head in the summer of 1987;

26-year old Babette Crystall Green, a member of the Warm Springs Tribe in Oregon. Her remains were found in 1987 near Wapato;

25-year-old Clydell Alice Sampson, who, after being missing for 2 years, was found in 1986 by hunters outside of Granger. She died of a shotgun blast to the head;

33-year-old Mavis Josephine McKay. Mavis’ remains were found in 1957 in Satus. Mavis was a citizen of the Umatilla Tribe.

These are just some of the women with open cases from on or near the Yakama Nation reservation in central Washington, and this does not even begin to cover the number of open cases in other parts of the country.

This is not an issue we can ignore, Mr. Speaker. The Native communities we represent deserve action. Congress must, as to provide answers to their friends, families, and loved ones, act to deliver justice to missing and murdered indigenous women across the country.

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

UKRAINE AND IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the people of Russia have never known real freedom.

During the 20th century, over the course of 70 years, Joseph Stalin, the Soviet Union’s henchman and regime leader, and that of his successors were responsible for the brutal murder of millions upon millions of innocent people inside Ukraine, Russia, Poland, and many other Central and Eastern European countries that became familiarly known as the Captive Nations.

During World War II, American soldiers never really made it east of Germany when they liberated camps in Germany, and so much of the truth about what happened behind what was called the Iron Curtain, the edge of Soviet rule, was largely unknown to the West.

Russia’s wretched rule included: Forced famine, starving millions of her own people to gain the acquiescence of others;

Gulags, where individuals were sent to work in work camps and died. They died of starvation. They died of overwork. They died of disease;

Genocide, the wiping out of ethnic groups that didn’t fit the perfect image of the ruler of Russia;

Ethnic cleansing and a horrific world war launched in collaboration with Nazi Germany, where Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union divided up Europe as they saw fit.

Not all Europeans have experienced the same history. I am interested to read some press reports now about Eurocentric people. Well, let me tell you, the history of Nazi Germany and the history of occupied Ukraine or occupied Poland are completely different.

There was little value for human life by the Soviet regime and, certainly, no value for liberty.

Americans remember, some do, the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 after the free world had labored since 1946 to allow that moment to happen and the hope that it brought to millions of subjugated people beyond that

Iron Curtain who dreamed of a better way of life—not only across Europe, but, in fact, the entire world.

The fall of the Berlin Wall was symbolic, and its anniversary is celebrated this year, 30 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall that ushered in a new order, a world that said liberty could still prevail over tyranny, even in the face of impossible odds in some of the most forgotten places in the world.

□ 1700

Images of East and West Germans ascending the old Berlin Wall that divided freedom from tyranny stood as that symbol. And those individuals who had lived in West Germany and East Germany who climbed that wall and met for the first time in decades serves as one of the most powerful symbols of freedom in human history.

As families were reunited, new democratic institutions rose from the ashes, where tyranny once dominated.

The United States became a beacon of light to those people in an ever-growing free world following the rebuilding of Europe in the post-World War II climate and then, over four decades later, the Soviet Union's demise.

The World War II Memorial that stands here in Washington, D.C., in fact, is testimony to the 20th century's greatest achievement, the victory of liberty over tyranny.

Yet, in the ashes of the Soviet regime, the seeds of tyranny survived in the memories of its most ardent lieutenants and supporters. And one of them, the current Russian President, Vladimir Putin, who for years served as a Soviet spy in the KGB, is orchestrating Russia's vengeful march to restore its former empire.

Today, Ukraine represents the scrimmage line in the fight for liberty on the European continent. And why does it matter to America? Because those allies in Europe have democratic republics like ours. They are our closest political allies on the face of the Earth.

We do not live alone on this Earth. America does not live alone on this Earth, but, rather, we have a security system that was established following World War II that has held together the leaders of the free world.

Vladimir Putin's greatest fear is an economically successful and democratic Ukraine at Russia's borders. A free Ukraine would undermine Putin's fragile, corrupt rule based on stealing—stealing land, stealing money from the people of Ukraine, and lining his pockets and those of his cronies.

A free Ukraine sends a message, too, to the Russian people, a people who have never known liberty in their own right, that freedom is also attainable for them.

For this reason, Putin would go to any length, and is—assassinations, poisonings, war, torture—to steal from the Ukrainian people their right to choose their own destiny—40 million people—40 million people at the stepstone to all of Europe, the largest

landmass nation in all of Europe. They have a right to choose their own destiny.

In the aftermath of World War II, the United States, alongside our allied partners in the then newly formed North Atlantic Treaty Organization, more familiarly called NATO, created precious institutions to build solidarity and security among the war's transatlantic allied victors—institutions that had never existed before.

America invested trillions of dollars in programs, beginning with the Marshall Plan, to build vigilant networks to stymie and, ultimately, reverse the spread of state-imposed communism.

The American people, in a very war-worn country after World War II, rebuilt Europe through the Marshall Plan. Wow.

Western-funded programs worked to rebuild Europe, and, though the Nazis were defeated, millions still found themselves trapped under dictatorial rule behind that Iron Curtain east of the Berlin Wall.

Ukraine was one of those nations forced to exist under Soviet occupation until Ukrainian citizens declared their own independence after the fall of the Berlin Wall in a democratic, nationwide referendum in 1991, the only such referendum by any former Soviet republic.

An astounding 84 percent of their voting-age population participated in that referendum, and more than 90 percent of them voted to separate from the Soviet Union and chart their own national course.

That was a new page that turned in world history. Even in the eastern portions of Ukraine, in Crimea, a majority voted to be part of independent Ukraine. In one voice, the Ukrainian people decisively voted for and favored liberty over tyranny. What a dramatic moment in world history as liberty attempted to move eastward.

But, even then, the struggle for liberty in Ukraine was far from over. It was only beginning. And we can see it in real time even until today.

In 2014, the Ukrainian people rose up in the Ukrainian revolution of dignity against leaders in Ukraine that had become utterly corrupt, the pro-Russian leader then, President Viktor Yanukovich, after he rejected—why did they rise up? Because he rejected an association agreement with the European Union.

And at whose behest did he do that? Vladimir Putin's.

Hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian protesters immediately moved to occupy the central plaza of their capital city, Kiev, Ukraine. Clashes between those protesters and the riot police became violent and resulted in the deaths of nearly 130 civilians. Most of them died from government-ordered sniper fire.

As tensions rose, Yanukovich fled—guess where?—to Russia to take cover. And, on that same day, by a vote of 328–0, their congress, their parliament,

voted that Yanukovich be removed from office.

The fight for liberty is being lived in real time. The world can see it—not just the Ukrainian people; the American people, the leader of the free world, for heavens' sake.

In that very same year, Vladimir Putin mobilized Russia's vast military machine, one of the largest on Earth, to illegally and without provocation invade Ukraine at its Crimean edge and launch a not-so-covert war on Ukraine's eastern flank, a clear effort to rewind history and reimpose his dreamed neo-Soviet empire.

Over 5 years later, Ukraine remains in an heroic struggle to preserve its hard-fought freedom and sovereignty. Its people have bravely faced down artillery barrages and live sniper and machine gun fire carried out by pro-Russian forces coming across the border, including Putin's little green men.

While the country, Ukraine, is not yet a member of the European Union or NATO, which it so wishes to be, its men and women, including civilians, have bravely fought and died defending Europe and their own fragile democracy.

Put yourselves in their position. What would you do if that happened in the United States of America?

In the 5 years since the war started, 14,000 Ukrainians have been killed, 30,000 have been wounded, and nearly 2 million internally displaced in the conflict with Russia.

It is a war that groans on with little notice but enormous consequences for liberty in this modern era.

As Ukraine's defense forces crumbled due to years of corruption and mismanagement, the Ukrainian people took up the cause to defend their own nation. They have been seriously underequipped. And their heroism and, I might add, sheroism shines. Courageous women from the invisible battalion left their college studies and took taxis to the frontlines to thwart Moscow's war.

It was like a David and Goliath struggle. Indeed, it has been the strength of the Ukrainian people that has fought Russia to a standstill for a moment.

Just as we and our allies fought Soviet aggression in the 20th century, the Ukrainian people are in the trenches fighting Russian aggression in the 21st.

They have more than earned the respect and continuing support of the United States and the free world.

When the Soviet Union collapsed, one-third of the Soviet nuclear arsenal remained in Ukraine. There are two countries in the world that have nuclear weapons aimed: Russia, at us; and the United States, prepared to take them down if they would ever dare send them in this direction.

But one-third of what the Soviet Union held in terms of nuclear strength remained in Ukraine, de facto providing Ukraine the world's third largest nuclear weapons arsenal.

But, in 1994, by signing the Budapest Memorandum, Ukraine agreed to give up the nuclear weapons in its territory in return for security assistance by the United States, Russia, and the United Kingdom. Think about that.

A promise was made. Ukraine's independence, national sovereignty, and borders would be respected. By annexing Crimea and waging a devastating war on the eastern side of Ukraine called the Donbas, Russia has severely violated the terms of this foundational security agreement.

Let's not forget, Russia retained its nuclear arsenal, and their weapons remain aimed at us, the United States of America, and our NATO allies in Europe.

The list of violations goes on. The basket one provisions of the Helsinki Accords, which the Soviet Union signed in 1975, along with the United States, Canada, and more than 30 European countries, as well as bilateral agreements that the Russian Federation signed with Ukraine in 1997, have effectively been thrown to the wayside.

In addition, Russia's forcible annexation of Crimea and sponsorship of a hot war in Ukraine's east since 2014 violates numerous United Nations agreements that Russia, the Ukraine, the United States, and other countries have signed going back to the organization's founding in 1945.

While it would be convenient to only blame Russia for the destabilization of this region, I must say, President Trump's recent illegal block of more than \$391 million in military aid to Ukraine was not only a blow to Ukrainian security and to its new president, but to our own.

Russia on the march does not serve the security interests of the United States. The United States and NATO have a vital interest in stopping the Kremlin's aggression in Ukraine. That Trump did so, in denying military assistance, in delaying military assistance to Ukraine, in pursuit of a personal political agenda for 2020, makes it not only a betrayal of U.S. security interests but, also, a legal issue.

It looks like just the sort of perversion of the justice system that Ukraine has suffered for decades.

To date, there are no records detailing President Trump's or his administration's official secret meetings and phone calls with Russian President Putin and his top lieutenants. There is no documentation to date on why President Trump lifted sanctions on key Putin oligarchs and supporters.

If records exist, they, I hope, have not been unlawfully squirreled away somewhere by senior White House staff, similar to actions alleged in the September 2019 whistleblower complaint.

It is clear that Putin has been at war with Ukraine to restore its domination in that neighborhood. The United States should do nothing to make it easier. Tragically, it appears President Trump is accommodating and, perhaps, abetting him.

It is no wonder that our current the President was Putin's preferred candidate in 2016 and remains so for 2020.

Now, Paul Manafort, President Trump's 2016 campaign manager, sits in Federal prison right now for tax evasion, but his crimes are much worse.

□ 1715

He took millions of dollars, millions of dollars to lobby for the pro-Russian, anti-American, Ukrainian President, Viktor Yanukovich, who he mentioned earlier, whose own people drove him out the country.

Yanukovich personally took his orders from Putin, who personally directed Russia's interference in U.S. elections and ordered the war in Ukraine.

Take Rudy Giuliani, President Trump's personal lawyer. He has been carrying out a shadow foreign policy campaign, at the Trump administration's behest, to undermine their political rivals and boost the President's reelection.

Recently, it was confirmed that Trump's personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, turned to Manafort, who is sitting in jail, for advice in his efforts to fabricate falsehoods on Vice President Joe Biden. The President and Giuliani even enlisted the support of U.S. Government officials in this scheme, co-opting U.S. taxpayer dollars for personal political gain.

When the United States Ambassador to Ukraine refused to aid and abet their plot, President Trump purged the highly respected U.S. Ambassador, Marie Yovanovitch, who dutifully served our country with distinction throughout her adult life. During her service, Ukraine successfully carried out two democratic elections during a time of war and significant duress and made enormous progress on its anticorruption efforts.

Ambassador Yovanovitch's steady and principled vision, steeped in a long tradition of U.S. diplomatic excellence, was exactly what was needed to shepherd the Ukrainian people along the jagged path toward democratic reform.

Ambassador Yovanovitch represented the United States at the highest levels of her career in other countries facing similar challenges—Armenia, for one, and Kyrgyzstan—under Republican and Democratic administrations. She served Presidents in both parties. It is, indeed, rare for a member of the Foreign Service to serve as an ambassador, let alone three times in very dangerous places. This is a true testament to her diplomatic seasoning, from which I believe our President could learn something.

Tragically, the purging of Ambassador Yovanovitch is but the surface of the contempt that this White House and some of my Republican Congressional colleagues have treated public servants who place their lives at risk serving the American people's love of liberty, day in and day out.

President Trump, let the record show, who dodged service in the U.S.

military, seems to have no understanding of the value of our transatlantic alliances and at what cost they have been won and built. They are the single most important guarantor of our security and freedom. America needs friendly allies who share our democratic values and believe in the rule of law.

Recently, we have learned that while the Trump-appointed U.S. Ambassador to the European Union should have been focused on repairing relations with Europe, as our own President has embarrassed European Presidents and leaders publicly, the Ambassador to the European Union found himself in Ukraine, arranging meetings to conduct opposition research on President Trump's political opponents.

It cannot be overstated just how much the actions of our President and Rudy Giuliani have undermined U.S. strategic interests and the progress Ukraine has made to strengthen its democracy and deter Russian aggression.

Imagine how the young new President of Ukraine felt when the President of the United States said to him that the military aid that was due to have been dispensed in the middle of this summer from the United States would actually be held until that President would do our President a favor related to his own reelection. Wow.

For the Trump-led minions, our government does not serve the people. Rather, unfortunately, it is serving him.

While we continue to seek cooperation with the Trump administration to help our own people here at home in so many ways—the cost of prescription drugs, trying to get an infrastructure bill passed in the House and the Senate, trying to deal with corruption in our own political system—Congress must investigate these deeply troubling episodes abroad. The Constitution demands that we conduct our affairs in a constitutionally mandated role of oversight and the impeachment inquiry, which is ongoing. We must ascertain to what extent the President and his advisers abused their power and held up critical military aid to Ukraine for their own political gain.

Thus far, the President's defense has been complete resistance, not providing the materials necessary for a full congressional investigation in what seems to be an ongoing campaign to intimidate State Department officials from testifying before Congress, which really means before the American people.

The American people have a right to know the truth. This is an open society. We don't need stonewalling from this administration.

We should ask the President what he has to hide. The American people know the difference between truth and fiction.

Mr. Speaker, what a historic defeat for liberty it would be if the West were to squander the sacrifices of the United

States, Ukraine, and our allies by allowing Putin to succeed in his sinister mission.

Despite President Trump's negligence, the United States Congress remains laser-focused on the threat from Russia. It is serious, and it is real.

While Ukraine fights for its very existence, the United States Congress and freedom-lovers everywhere must continue to support Ukraine through military aid, programs to fight corruption, and the development of civil society, which the American people do so well.

Congress must get to the bottom of President Trump's effort to withhold vital defense aid to Ukraine. She is facing a mortal enemy. This is liberty at stake in our lifetimes. Will we meet the challenge?

The abuses of power outlined in the whistleblower complaint underscore the danger that President Trump's decisions pose to American national security and democracy itself. The American people must learn to what extent the President solicited interference from a foreign country in the upcoming 2020 U.S. Presidential election.

From our own FBI, we have learned how many times Russia interfered in the last election and how many times then-candidate Trump contacted Russia during the campaign.

I was thinking about that one night. If I were running for President of the United States, would I be in touch with Russia nearly 200 times? Think about that. How unusual is that?

The American Presidency cannot be a tool for Russia to gain its insidiously destructive power. Above all, the American people deserve liberty first, last, and always in a political system free of malign foreign influence.

Long live a free America, and may the people of Ukraine ultimately gain the freedom they so justly deserve.

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

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

CHINA: ONE WORLD, TWO SYSTEMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for 30 minutes.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I certainly enjoyed my colleague's dissertation there, much of which was a criticism of the Chief Executive of our country, when many of the same comments she made could be directed at this House and its investigation of the President—not following the precedents set, not following the precedents set in the Nixon impeachment or in the Clinton impeachment.

The Speaker has not had a vote of this House to commence an impeachment inquiry. That is an open system.

That is the transparency my friend was talking about. That is the kind of accountability the American people would like to see. That should be the policy of this House. Sadly, it is not.

She talks about contacts with Russia by political campaigns. Many of us look forward to the investigation by the Attorney General and by the U.S. attorney in Connecticut on exactly that in the 2016 campaign and how the opposition party, the Clinton campaign, was, in fact, the one digging up activities about the Trump campaign.

So, anyway, I enjoyed that comment about Ukraine, the importance of Ukraine, and the importance of democracy in Ukraine. But all throughout that presentation, one had to endure a lot of supposition and fiction.

Tonight, Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk, not talk about Ukraine, not talk about Syria, but talk about China and where we are in this very important, critical bilateral negotiation between the United States and the People's Republic of China to end China's mercantilistic trade environment, their lack of openness, their failure to police the terrible intellectual property theft that has gone on for over two decades there that has hurt not only American businesses but those elsewhere in Asia and also in Europe.

I commend the President for calling out the challenge that we have had and faced in the West on how to obtain China as a better player for trade. President Trump has worked for nearly 3 years now to change China's outlook, to end its mercantilistic protectionism and join the world trading system truly, not just on paper, Mr. Speaker, but, in fact, completely, and be one with the developed world as it has grown its economy so mightily over those two decades.

I commend the President's point men on this issue: Larry Kudlow at the National Economic Council; Secretary Mnuchin, the Secretary of the Treasury; and Ambassador Robert Lighthizer, who is his U.S. Trade Representative who has the point on trying to work out something that is a major change in that relationship between the U.S. and China, but also China and the rest of the developed world.

At the heart of this trade dispute is the fact that we live in an integrated global economy with deeply connected, multicontinental supply chains. This integrated global economy is based on the extraordinary foundation of the post-World War II reductions in trade barriers, the expansion of the rule of law, and the extraordinary success of the free-market capitalist system that has lifted so many out of poverty around the world since World War II and enlivened the capitalist spirit throughout the world.

Beginning slowly in the 1970s and 1980s, the People's Republic of China was encouraged to open its domestic market, increase economic freedom, better respect human rights and reli-

gious tolerance, and join the global family of nations.

Following the fall of the Berlin Wall and the reunification of Germany, as that freedom breeze finally blew away the shroud of the Iron Curtain, reform in China remained the next great touchstone of the post-World War II agenda.

The 1989 crackdown in Tiananmen Square sidetracked this progress, but China's integration into this world economy began in earnest in the 1990s. That is where this story gets complicated, and that is where the concern of President Trump really begins.

European and American leaders who shared values of economic freedom, religious tolerance, and common national security goals witnessed the historic and extraordinary transition of post-war Japan and the Asian Tigers, those countries of Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and South Korea.

Over the decades, the Asian Tigers had been authoritarian, condemned for their rampant theft of intellectual property and spurning of democracy, so much so that, in 1976, when Jimmy Carter was elected President of the United States, he campaigned on pulling American troops out of South Korea, ending aid to South Korea and writing off South Korea as a failed experiment, that it was going to be an authoritarian dictatorship and never adapt to democracy, never stop stealing intellectual property. Basically, write it off as a failure.

□ 1730

Fortunately, this initiative was shelved and, instead, we witnessed Japan and the Asian Tigers expand their economies, really begin to open their markets, fully embrace democracy and the rule of law, and join in the world global progress.

Policymakers considered China to be next, and they believed that, while a much larger country, under a much more authoritative communist regime, the economic benefits of greater freedom and global transparency would penetrate even the Middle Kingdom.

In 1996, in a column in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette offering suggestions to the Clinton administration on how to have a more directed China policy, I argued that China, too, must change. I said: "China, as a world power, for her part must recognize that bilateral and multilateral treaties are to be enforced. Lack of compliance with international treaty obligations must produce a known and delivered set of sanctions by the world community. China must clearly understand the consequences of noncompliance."

So, Mr. Speaker, that is what I wrote back in 1996 as a private citizen, former Bush administration official, thinking about what needed to change in America and Chinese relations, China's multilateral relations.

So, despite encouragement and best intentions, China has not changed, Mr. Speaker, but, instead, has grown more

aggressive; hence, the challenge of one world, two systems is market-based capitalism versus state-controlled communism. They are not compatible when it comes to this complex, integrated global capital market I described.

In the 1990s, the epicenter of the fight was to reign in rampant theft of intellectual property. At the time I uttered those words in 1996, the U.S. computer software industry, music CDs, and Hollywood videos all were being ripped off by the People's Republic of China. In 1992, the Business Software Alliance testified before the U.S. Senate that Chinese piracy was costing the U.S. an estimated \$225 million in software sales.

The reality is, despite efforts in 1992 at the end of the Bush 41 administration and vigorous efforts by President Clinton's negotiators Charlene Barshefsky and Mickey Kantor, essentially nothing happened. President Clinton threatened to impose 100 percent tariffs on select imports if Beijing didn't enforce Mr. Clinton's new 1995 intellectual property rights deal.

So, what happened? Does this sound familiar? Is this not the exact conversation we are having today in 2019?

What happened in 1995? Meeting after meeting was held, agreement after agreement was signed, and still the piracy continued. And to my point about the world delivering a known set of sanctions that China must clearly understand the consequences of non-compliance, instead, China was rewarded and admitted to the World Trade Organization, the WTO, in December 2001.

Sadly, pirated goods have only increased. Recently, the Business Software Alliance, the same folks I quoted back in 1992, now estimate that 70 percent of PC software installed in China in 2015 was unlicensed, and the U.S. trade representative estimates that intellectual property theft costs between \$225 billion and \$600 billion, annually.

Thus, the world has not banded together and offered clear and known sanctions for not following the global trade rules. In fact, global trading partners have rewarded such behavior with the admission to the WTO and continue to tolerate IP theft, closed domestic markets, and dependency on frequently dominant Chinese supply chain participants.

This is why President Trump has elected to go forward with a more aggressive, direct manner and deliver the message that lack of compliance with international treaty obligations must produce a known and delivered set of sanctions by the world community. However, the President's success in this endeavor may well be diluted by the opening up of trade disputes all over the world simultaneously, including disputes with America's allies.

Specifically, I am talking about across-the-board unilateral steel and aluminum tariffs, for example, or trying to renegotiate every trade treaty

that we have all at the same time, while we are trying to press China.

Now, that is not to take anything away from the extraordinary work of the President and Ambassador Lighthizer to update the North American Free Trade Agreement with the new USMCA, updating the U.S.-South Korea Free Trade Agreement, and initiating and completing an agricultural agreement with Japan. But I have to say that doing all that at once and not engaging our allies fully and publicly to be at our side impressing China, I think, makes it more difficult, because, as I have traced over the past 25 years the lack of success with China, the one thing that I would argue that will make it different this time—always dangerous words to utter—would be if we had the European Union, Japan, Malaysia, Vietnam, the Philippines, South American countries all at our side as we tried to get a concrete change in China's mercantilistic behavior.

In my view, the President would be more successful if he focused on this Chinese challenge and rallied the world to a common purpose of focusing China on that important point to clearly understand the consequences of non-compliance. We have done many things in this country that are improving that relationship and fighting, but we must have full global support in order, I think and I believe, to ultimately lever China into compliance.

Not successful in Bush 41, not successful with President Clinton, not successful with President George W. Bush, little effort by President Obama, so I admire President Trump for identifying this challenge that benefits the whole world, not just the United States; but it is going to take a sustained multiyear, multilateral effort to do that, and I wish him well, and those of us in this House stand by him as he tries to get a quality, substantive deal to bring China truly into compliance.

CONGRATULATING CARL CARTER

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize some Arkansans who have done extraordinary things in my home district in central Arkansas.

I rise today to recognize Carl Carter for being awarded the 2019 Community Service Award by the Real Estate Educators of America for exceptional spirit of service.

Carl is a second-year student attending the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service in Little Rock. Carl credits his strong community service to his mom, Beverly Carter, who lost her life at the hands of two people posing as real estate clients.

Carl founded the Beverly Carter Foundation in her memory, an organization dedicated to the cause of helping real estate agent safety.

Through the Beverly Carter Foundation, Carl works to improve agent safety through traveling and talking to escrow agents, lenders, agents, and brokers all over the United States on how to avoid being the victims of crime.

I know this is only the beginning for Carl, and I am excited to see where his ambition and his kind heart take him, and I congratulate him on this good work.

RECOGNIZING SEARCY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Searcy Fire Department and the firefighters from Station 1 for going above and beyond the call of duty.

Earlier this summer, firefighters responded to a call for a fire alarm at a resident's home in Searcy, Arkansas. Fortunately, the resident was not in immediate danger, but they did notice one issue: The resident could not leave his home without assistance, as there was not a wheelchair ramp.

The firefighters at Station 1 took it upon themselves to fix this situation. They reached out to the community for help, including the local Lowe's Home Improvement store. They got discounted supplies. The Searcy Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary provided funding, and these firefighters were able to build a ramp for this resident.

This is just a small example of how the Searcy Fire Department and central Arkansas law enforcement officers go above and beyond the call when keeping Arkansans safe. I thank them for their continued hard work and service.

CONGRATULATING RYAN DAVIS

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ryan Davis for receiving the Arkansas Emergency Medical Technician Association Air Medical Award of Excellence. This award honors those who help the air medical industry continue to see growth.

Ryan grew up in Quitman, Arkansas, and is currently the fire chief for this community. Ryan is a nationally registered emergency medical technician and paramedic and is flight paramedic certified.

Ryan has served his community since 2003 and also works for Air Evac Lifetech 30 in Morrilton. Ryan has served on numerous State-level boards and committees, including the American Heart Association, the National Association of EMTs, and also the Arkansas Air Medical Society, where he serves as president.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Ryan Davis for receiving this prestigious award.

RECOGNIZING JAMIE CHENEY

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jamie Cheney of Greenbrier, Arkansas, for her outstanding service to our community and the State of Arkansas.

Jamie serves as a local medical technician and also as a volunteer firefighter on her day off. She gained her EMT skills at the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton, where she juggled school while working at the Greenbrier Nursing and Rehab Center.

Jamie received the Phoenix Award while serving as an EMT in North Little Rock. This award is bestowed onto

first responders who successfully revive a patient who has suffered from cardiac arrest.

I am proud to have such a dedicated member of my district volunteering and assisting those in need, and I join all Arkansans in thanking Jamie Cheney for her selflessness and wish her continued success.

RECOGNIZING LINDSAY HENDERSON

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate an emerging leader from the Conway Area Chamber of Commerce, Lindsay Henderson.

Lindsay is a Bald Knob resident and serves as the chief revenue officer for the Conway Area Chamber of Commerce. Lindsay was awarded the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives' 40 Under 40 award.

The 40 Under 40 award honors young professionals who have demonstrated significant success in their career, as well as having made noteworthy accomplishments in their community.

The Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives recognizes emerging leaders from chambers across the country and honors 40 such chamber professionals who exemplify creativity, dedication, and innovation in their work towards their chamber's mission.

I congratulate Lindsay on achieving this 40 Under 40 award and wish her continued success.

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

□ 1745

DECLINE IN THE U.S. MURDER RATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I intend to address the good news that we had a significant drop in murders in this country in 2017 over the recent peak in 2016.

However, before I address the House on that matter, I would like to yield to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOONEY), my good friend.

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GROTHMAN for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I spoke a little earlier in a 1 minute on this topic, but I was a little pressed for time, and I saw my good friend from Arkansas, Mr. HILL, speaking on this and other important issues, and my friend from Wisconsin, and I thought I would expand a little bit upon my remarks earlier.

As the previous speaker just talked about, we have important trade issues and other issues the President of the United States is working on with other countries, and I couldn't agree more that those are important issues to be working on. That is exactly what the President and Congress should be focused on. In fact, it should be focused

on that in a bipartisan way, Republicans and Democrats working together.

Instead, what we are faced with is this pretty bizarre impeachment inquiry process. I think it is important for the American people to know and understand how this is supposed to work and how it is working.

An impeachment inquiry sounds, first, like it is a fair discussion process, but in the past, during impeachment inquiries of President Nixon and President Clinton, the House of Representatives right here, led respectfully at the time by Speakers Carl Albert and Newt Gingrich, established the following procedures that are currently not being provided in this rushed process to attempt to impeach President Trump.

This is an important precedent when you are dealing with the President of the United States, who is duly elected by the people of this country. The people of the West Virginia Second Congressional District that I represent voted for Donald Trump for President.

This country, in the fair process of the electoral college, put Donald Trump in as President of the United States, and my district voted for Donald Trump for President of the United States. So that is how we choose the leader of our country.

I stood there on the steps of the Capitol just a few years ago and watched Donald Trump be inaugurated as President, with the support of all the former living Presidents who attended at the time.

Our country has a process that is emulated in this world, admired by the world, that we have a free election and we respect the results of that election.

Instead, what we are seeing here, announced by the Speaker of the House, is this so-called impeachment inquiry. However, she is denying this President the same rights that other Presidents were given under this so-called impeachment inquiry.

And what exactly are those? I think it is important to understand how this has happened in the past and how it should be happening right now but is not.

I think my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, the Democrats in Congress here, would like the American people not to understand what they are doing. But first and foremost, in the past when this was done, the two times it was done in the past, I am going to list the seven things, the seven rights that have always been given to the accused party. In this case, that is Donald Trump, the President of the United States.

First, in the committee hearings, there should be given coequal subpoena power to both the chairman of the committee and the ranking member of the committee, which is the minority party. At that committee level, they are given coequal power to subpoena witnesses. Right now it is one-sided. Those who want to impeach Donald Trump are subpoenaing witness after

witness after witness, and the other side does not have the power to subpoena witnesses to maybe offer counterinformation. That is how a fair process is supposed to work.

Secondly, all subpoenas have been subject to a vote of the full committee at the request of either the chairman or the ranking member. So to avoid a one-person witch hunt, when you want to subpoena somebody, the head of either party here in Congress can request a committee vote, and the committee can vote "yes" to subpoena or "no" to subpoena. So rather than one person making all the decisions, which seems to be how it is occurring right now, you have at least the committee input. That is how it has been done in the past. That is not happening right now.

Third, the President's counsel had the right to attend all hearings and depositions. Can you imagine that? We have hearings and depositions going on right now in the committees, and the President and his counsel who represent him are not even allowed to hear what is being said about him. This is, again, a denial of the basic right in America in a legal process of any kind.

The President's counsel has had the right to present evidence, because when you had evidence being presented on one side, unless it is a kangaroo court, you had evidence presented on the other side. That is being denied to the President of the United States.

The President's counsel has always had the right to object to the admittance of evidence. Again, another basic legal procedure, a legal right. The evidence being presented, it may have some objections to it, it may not be accurate for a variety of reasons. The President is not there, his counsel is not there. He can't even object to the evidence being presented.

In the past, the President's counsel had the right to cross-examine witnesses. This should be familiar. In this country, we have a right to face those who accuse us, the right to face our accuser and the right to cross-examine witnesses. Basic legal precepts in this country.

Last, the President's counsel would have the right to recommend a witness list.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is important to understand that our President is being denied these seven basic legal rights to defend himself right now. This is not a fair and just system in any way.

My mother fled a communist country. When she was 20 years old, she was in Cuba. Fidel Castro came down from the mountains with guns and locked her and her family up. My mother was in prison for 7 weeks.

In communist countries, you have to prove your innocence. You are accused first, and then you are stuck with the burden of somehow trying to prove you didn't do something, trying to prove that you are not guilty.

In this country, they have to prove you are guilty. You have the right to be presumed innocent. Innocent until proven guilty.

Mr. Speaker, it is a disgrace what is happening here. The President is somehow in this court of public opinion with one-sided evidence trying to prove his innocence to people who are assuming he is guilty and haven't presented any real evidence to that fact.

Even if a person is not a supporter of President Trump, they still should object to this process. Only imagine if they were falsely accused of something or God forbid their son or daughter was falsely accused of something. They would expect their child to have these same basic rights of legal process to defend themselves.

If they can deny these rights to the President of the United States of America, rest assured, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will deny that right to other citizens one day. We should be alarmed at this no matter where we stand on the issue of liking President Trump or not.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I again thank my colleague from Wisconsin, Congressman GROTHMAN, for yielding me this time.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would now like to address the body on the topic of the recent decline of murders in the United States of America.

For people who watch this House, we know that there are all sorts of bad things we can dwell on. We can dwell on the immigration crisis, we can dwell on high healthcare costs, we can dwell on the debt, but recently some relatively good news—we have more work to do—was brought forth, and that is the murder rates for 2018 were published.

Largely in this country, murder rates skyrocketed from the early 1960s, when we had the beginning of the welfare culture, the war on the family under Lyndon Johnson, and murder rates rose from around 5 per 100,000 to over 10 per 100,000 in 1980. Murder rates stayed relatively high throughout the 1980s and the early 1990s.

Since that time, I think in part because of increased incarceration, those murder rates were falling until 2015.

And then, I think in part because of a government that spoke negatively of police, talked about or implied that police shootings were racially motivated, something happened opposite of what had been going on the 25 years before that.

All of a sudden for 2 years in a row, the number of people murdered in this country jumped up, jumped up from a low of 4.4 to 5.4 per 100,000 in the years 2015 and 2016.

After that, we can talk about whether it was because of this or not, but Donald Trump took over, somebody who ran encouraging support of the police, respect of the police, and the murder rate began to drop a little bit in 2017, and last year, it one more time fell to less than 5 per 100,000.

President Trump ran, of course, on respect for police. That is one of the reasons I think people wanted him in there.

The prior President, a dignified man, had Al Sharpton in the White House over 80 times. And I think if you look, Barack Obama is praising Black Lives Matter, is encouraging people to view police with distrust, was perhaps one of the reasons why, completely out of the ordinary at a time when the economy was not bad, we had police shootings rise significantly.

Now we have a President who, as the yard signs in my district say, "Respect the Badge", we have somebody as a President who is more a respect-the-badge sort of guy, and in 1 year we have a decrease in murders in this country—despite the fact the population continues to grow—of 1,000 people; 1,000 lives saved.

We have to ask ourselves, why was there a spike in murders before President Trump took office and why was there a reduction in murders after he took office?

As I mentioned, I think the embracing of people like Al Sharpton, who encourages disrespect for police, or at least blames them, blames sad shootings on racial motivation, I think that is one of the reasons why you had an increase.

You had police who were afraid to do what they could do for fear of being sanctioned. You had people maybe afraid to go to the police to report criminals, perhaps because they were told the police were their enemy.

But in any event, in this era, I haven't checked, but I am sure Al Sharpton hasn't been invited to the White House a dozen times in President Trump's first 3 years. I would be surprised if he was there at all, actually.

Instead, we have someone who knows that as long as the police are appropriately doing their job, he has their back. And we have seen that significant drop in the last 2 years, which is rare good news that you get.

I anxiously await when the statistics come out for the year 2019. We know there was another drop of about 7 percent in the massive city south of me in Chicago, I believe, in the first 7 months of the year. We saw another 10 percent drop in Milwaukee. There was another drop in New York.

Is this a coincidence or is it because our police know that they are respected at the highest level of government?

So I know when I get back home, I hear some people talk about crime and worry about crime, and there is more work that has to be done. Obviously, having as many people as we have murdered every year is still a figure way too high, but a drop of 1,000 was a significant drop.

I hope everybody pays attention to what I believe is another drop that is going to happen in 2019, and I hope everybody realizes that this may not have been just an aberration. One thousand lives are a lot of lives. It could be the result of a policy based on respect for the police, punishing police when they are wrong, no doubt about that,

and there are bad police, but not a love affair with Black Lives Matter; respecting the fact that when studies have been done by groups such as the National Academy of Sciences, they find that when police do kill people, it is collectively not a racially motivated or a racial thing.

It is, sadly, something that happens because sometimes people do wrong things and it is usually people that are in the process of or are trying not to be apprehended from very dangerous crimes. And a couple times, a few times, it does happen because police make mistakes. But when it is, it shouldn't be used to tarnish police as a whole and it shouldn't be used to come out with the idea that these things are racially motivated.

So there is my report on the good news to the American people.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BUDD (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of attending a funeral.

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT SPENDING LEVELS OF ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FY 2019

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,
Washington, DC, October 16, 2019.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: To facilitate application of sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, I am transmitting an updated status report on the current levels of on-budget spending and revenues for fiscal year 2019. This status report is current through September 30, the end of fiscal year 2019. The term "current level" refers to the amounts of spending and revenues estimated for each fiscal year based on laws enacted or awaiting the President's signature.

Table 1 compares the current levels of total budget authority, outlays, and revenues to the overall limits filed in the Congressional Record on May 10, 2018, as adjusted, for fiscal year 2019. These comparisons are needed to implement section 311(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, which establishes a rule enforceable with a point of order against measures that would breach the budget resolution's aggregate levels.

Table 2 compares the current levels of budget authority and outlays for legislative action completed by each authorizing committee with the limits filed in the Congressional Record on May 10, 2018, as adjusted, for fiscal year 2019. These comparisons are needed to enforce the point of order under section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, which prohibits the consideration of measures that would breach the section 302(a) allocation of new budget authority for the committee that reported the measure. It is also needed to implement section 311(c), which provides an exception for committees that comply with their allocations from the point of order under section 311(a).

Table 3 compares the current status of discretionary appropriations for fiscal year 2019

with the section 302(b) suballocations of discretionary budget authority and outlays among Appropriations subcommittees. The comparison is needed to enforce section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 because the point of order under that section equally applies to measures that would breach the applicable section 302(b) sub-allocation. The table also provides supplementary information on spending authorized in excess of the base discretionary spending limits under section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Table 4 displays the current level of advance appropriations in fiscal year 2019 appropriations bills. All of the advance appropriations are for accounts identified pursuant to H. Res. 6 and the statement of the Chairman published in the Congressional Record on January 8, 2019. This table is need-

ed to enforce a rule against appropriations bills containing advance appropriations that: (i) are not identified in the statement of the Chairman published in the Congressional Record on January 8, 2019 or (ii) would cause the aggregate amount of such appropriations to exceed the level specified in section 103(c) of H. Res. 6.

In addition, a letter from the Congressional Budget Office is attached that summarizes and compares the budget impact of legislation enacted after the adoption of the budget resolution against the budget resolution aggregate in force.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Wheelock or Raquel Spencer.

Sincerely,

JOHN YARMUTH,
Chairman.

TABLE 1.—REPORT TO THE SPEAKER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET, STATUS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET, REFLECTING ACTION COMPLETED AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

[On-budget amounts, in millions of dollars]

	Fiscal Year 2019
Appropriate Level¹:	
Budget Authority	3,752,421
Outlays	3,551,738
Revenues	2,590,496
Current Level¹:	
Budget Authority	3,641,183
Outlays	3,547,249
Revenues	2,590,070
Current Level over (+)/under (-)	
Appropriate Level:	
Budget Authority	-11,238
Outlays	-4,489
Revenues	-426

¹The resolution includes emergencies enacted in 2018, adjusted for inflation. Current level excludes all emergencies.

TABLE 2.—DIRECT SPENDING LEGISLATION, COMPARISON OF AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE LEGISLATIVE ACTION WITH 302(a) ALLOCATIONS FOR BUDGET CHANGES, REFLECTING ACTION COMPLETED AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

[Unified budget, in millions of dollars]

House Committee	2019	
	BA	Outlays
Agriculture		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	2,414	1,401
Difference	2,414	1,401
Armed Services		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	0	0
Difference	0	0
Education and Labor		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	0	0
Difference	0	0
Energy and Commerce		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	509	173
Difference	509	173
Financial Services		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	20	19
Difference	20	19
Foreign Affairs		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	0	0
Difference	0	0
Homeland Security		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	0	0
Difference	0	0
House Administration		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	0	0
Difference	0	0
Judiciary		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	0	0
Difference	0	0
Natural Resources		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	0	0
Difference	0	0
Oversight and Reform		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	1	1
Difference	1	1
Science, Space, and Technology		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	0	0
Difference	0	0
Small Business		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	0	0
Difference	0	0
Transportation and Infrastructure		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	42	55
Difference	42	55
Veterans' Affairs		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	-1	4,397
Difference	-1	4,397
Ways and Means		
Allocation	0	0
Current Level	13	7
Difference	13	7

TABLE 3—DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019, COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVEL WITH APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATION AND APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE 302(b) SUBALLOCATIONS

[Unified budget amounts, in millions of dollar]

Appropriations Subcommittee	1 302(b) Suballocations as of August 10, 2018 (H. Rpt. 115–897)		Current Level Reflecting Action Completed as of September 30, 2019 ¹		Current Level less 302(b)	
	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
	Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA	23,242	24,677	23,042	24,491	–200
Commerce, Justice, Science	62,520	72,145	64,118	70,889	1,598	–1,256
Defense	674,591	625,811	674,383	624,840	–208	–971
Energy and Water Development	44,700	44,476	44,640	44,335	–60	–141
Financial Services and General Government	23,423	24,045	23,423	24,085	0	40
Homeland Security	58,087	59,384	61,576	59,602	3,489	218
Interior, Environment	35,252	35,015	35,552	34,975	300	–40
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	178,997	184,114	179,973	185,820	976	1,706
Legislative Branch	4,880	4,770	4,836	4,720	–44	–50
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs	98,057	90,691	98,057	90,809	0	118
State, Foreign Operations	54,018	50,280	54,218	49,957	200	–323
Transportation, Housing & Urban Development	71,800	132,364	71,079	132,524	–721	160
Subtotal (Section 302(b) Allocations)	1,329,567	1,347,772	1,334,897	1,347,047	5,330	–725
Unallocated portion of Section 302(a) Allocation ²	5,330	–8611	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
TOTAL (Section 302(b) Allocation)	1,334,897	1,339,161	1,334,897	1,347,047	0	7,886

Comparison of total appropriations and 302(a) allocation	General Purpose		OCO ³	
	BA	OT	BA	OT
	302(a) Allocation	1,257,897	1,299,110	77,000
Total Appropriation	1,257,897	1,306,996	77,000	40,051
	0	7,886	0	0

Memorandum	Amounts Assumed in 302(b) ⁴		Amounts enacted								
	BA	OT	OCO		Program Integrity		Emergency Requirements		Disaster Relief		
			BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	
Spending in Excess of Base Budget Control Act Caps for Sec. 251(b) Designated Categories											
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	5,300	2,982	n.a.	n.a.	
Commerce, Justice, Science	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,160	377	n.a.	n.a.	
Defense	n.a.	n.a.	67,914	37,071	n.a.	n.a.	1,196	634	n.a.	n.a.	
Energy and Water Development	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3,274	114	n.a.	n.a.	
Financial Services and General Government	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	91	34	n.a.	n.a.	
Homeland Security	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	127	n.a.	n.a.	1,865	728	12,000	600	
Interior, Environment	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,581	1,001	n.a.	n.a.	
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,897	1,573	3,493	346	n.a.	n.a.	
Legislative Branch	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10	5	n.a.	n.a.	
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs	n.a.	n.a.	921	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,645	12	n.a.	n.a.	
State, Foreign Operations	n.a.	n.a.	8,000	2,853	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10	n.a.	n.a.	
Transportation, Housing & Urban Development	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	5,772	204	n.a.	n.a.	
Totals	92,557	42,259	77,000	40,051	1,897	1,573	25,387	6,447	12,000	600	

¹ Spending designated as emergency is not included in the current status of appropriations shown on this table.
² Totals include 302(a) adjustments for Overseas Contingency Operations and General Purpose amounts that differ from amounts anticipated in the 302(b) suballocations.
³ Totals include an adjustment for Overseas Contingency Operations included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (P.L. 116–6).
⁴ Totals assume an allowable 302(b) adjustment for Disaster Relief, pursuant to a revised 302(a) allocation filed in the Congressional Record on February 14, 2019.

TABLE 4.—ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 103(c) OF H. RES. 6 AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

[Budget authority in millions of dollars]	
For 2020:	
Accounts Identified for Advance Appropriations	
Appropriate Level	28,852
Enacted advances:	
Accounts identified for advances:	
Employment and Training Administration	1,772
Education for the Disadvantaged	10,841
School Improvement	1,681
Career, Technical, and Adult Education	791
Special Education	9,283
Tenant-based Rental Assistance	4,000
Project-based Rental Assistance	400
Subtotal, enacted advances	28,768
Enacted Advances vs. Section 103(c)(2)(A) limit	–84
Veterans Accounts Identified for Advance Appropriations	
Appropriate Level	75,551
Enacted advances:	
Veterans accounts identified for advances:	
Veterans Medical Services	51,411

TABLE 4.—ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 103(c) OF H. RES. 6 AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2019—Continued

[Budget authority in millions of dollars]	
Veterans Medical Support and Compliance	7,239
Veterans Medical Facilities	6,142
Veterans Medical Community Care	10,758
Subtotal, enacted advances	75,551
Enacted Advances vs. Section 103(c)(2)(B) limit	0
For 2021:	
Corporation for Public Broadcasting	445

U.S. CONGRESS,
 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
 Washington, DC, October 15, 2019.
 Hon. JOHN YARMUTH,
 Chairman, Committee on the Budget,
 House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
 DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2019 budget and is current through the end of fiscal year 2019. This re-

port is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels printed in the Congressional Record on May 10, 2018, pursuant to section 30104 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–123), and section 103(m) of House Resolution 6 of the 116th Congress.

Since our last letter dated July 8, 2019, the President has signed the following legislation that has significant effects on budget authority and outlays in fiscal year 2019:

Protecting Affordable Mortgages for Veterans Act of 2019 (Public Law 116–33); and Sustaining Excellence in Medicaid Act of 2019 (Public Law 116–39).

Sincerely,
 PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
 Director.

Enclosure.

FISCAL YEAR 2019 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2019
 [In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted ^{a,b,c}			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,590,496
Permanents and other spending legislation	2,341,676	2,236,400	n.a.
Authorizing and Appropriation legislation	1,884,827	1,949,095	–302
Offsetting receipts	–890,012	–890,015	n.a.
Total, Previously Enacted	3,336,491	3,295,480	2,590,194

FISCAL YEAR 2019 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2019—Continued

[In millions of dollars]

Table with 4 columns: Budget Authority, Outlays, Revenues, and Enacted Legislation. Rows include Authorizing Legislation (Medicaid Extenders Act, Consolidated Appropriations Act, etc.) and Appropriation Legislation (Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019).

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = public law.

^a Includes the budgetary effects of legislation enacted during the 115th Congress.

^b Sections 1001–1004 of the 21st Century Cures Act (P.L. 114–255) require that certain funding provided for 2017 through 2026 to the Department of Health and Human Services—in particular the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health—be excluded from estimates for the purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Deficit Control Act) and the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. Therefore, the amounts shown in this report do not include \$781 million in budget authority and \$770 million in estimated outlays.

^c For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the House, the resolution, as approved by the House of Representatives, does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, amounts in this current level report do not include those items.

^d The Continuing Appropriations Act, 2019 (P.L. 116–5), as amended, extended several immigration programs through February 15, 2019, that would otherwise have expired at the end of fiscal year 2018. The estimated budgetary effects of those previously enacted extensions are charged to the Committee on Appropriations, and are included in the budgetary effects of P.L. 116–6 shown in the “Appropriation Legislation” portion of this report. In addition, division H of P.L. 116–6 further extended those same programs through the end of fiscal year 2019. Consistent with the language in title III of division H of P.L. 116–6, and at the direction of the House Committee on the Budget, the budgetary effects of extending those immigration programs for the remainder of the fiscal year are charged to the relevant authorizing committees, and are shown in the “Authorizing Legislation” portion of this report.

^e In the House of Representatives, and pursuant to section 314(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, amounts designated as an emergency requirement shall not count for purposes of title III and title IV of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and are excluded from current-level totals. The table below displays emergency-designated funding enacted during the 116th Congress which is excluded from current-level totals. (Those amounts do not include \$1,680 million in budget authority and \$25 million in outlays stemming from P.L. 115–254, which was enacted during the 115th Congress):

Table with 4 columns: Budget Authority, Outlays, Revenues, and Discretionary Emergency Requirements. Rows include Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (Divisions A–G, P.L. 116–6) and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Humanitarian Assistance and Security at the Southern Border Act, 2019 (P.L. 116–26).

^f Section 30104 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (P.L. 115–123) required—in the absence of a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2019—that the Chair of the House Committee on the Budget publish the aggregate spending and revenue levels for fiscal year 2019; those aggregate levels were first published in the Congressional Record on May 10, 2018. P.L. 115–123 also allows the Chair of the House Committee on the Budget to revise the budgetary aggregates.

Table with 4 columns: Budget Authority, Outlays, Revenues, and Original Aggregates Printed on May 10, 2018. Rows include Revision: Adjustment for H.R. 5895, the Energy and Water, Legislative Branch, and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2019 and Adjustment for H.J. Res. 31, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019.

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT SPENDING LEVELS OF ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FY 2020

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET, Washington, DC, October 16, 2019.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: To facilitate application of sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, I am transmitting an updated status report on the current levels of on-budget spending and revenues for fiscal year 2020. This status report is current through October 11, 2019. The term “current level” refers to the amounts of spending and revenues estimated for each fiscal year based on laws enacted or awaiting the President’s signature.

Table 1 compares the current levels of total budget authority, outlays, and revenues to the overall limits filed in the Congressional Record on May 3, 2019, as adjusted, for fiscal year 2020 and for the 10-year period of fiscal years 2020 through 2029. These comparisons are needed to implement sec-

tion 311(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, which establishes a rule enforceable with a point of order against measures that would breach the budget resolution’s aggregate levels. The table does not show budget authority and outlays for years after fiscal year 2020 because appropriations for those years have not yet been completed.

Table 2 compares the current levels of budget authority and outlays for legislative action completed by each authorizing committee with the limits filed in the Congressional Record on May 3, 2019, for fiscal year 2020, and for the 10-year period of fiscal years 2020 through 2029. These comparisons are needed to enforce the point of order under section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, which prohibits the consideration of measures that would breach the section 302(a) allocation of new budget authority for the committee that reported the measure. It is also needed to implement section 311(c), which provides an exception for committees that comply with their allocations from the point of order under section 311(a).

Table 3 compares the current status of discretionary appropriations for fiscal year 2020 with the section 302(b) suballocations of discretionary budget authority and outlays among Appropriations subcommittees. The comparison is needed to enforce section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 because the point of order under that section equally applies to measures that would breach the applicable section 302(b) sub-allocation. The table also provides supplementary information on spending authorized in excess of the base discretionary spending limits under section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

In addition, a letter from the Congressional Budget Office is attached that summarizes and compares the budget impact of legislation enacted after the adoption of the budget resolution against the budget resolution aggregate in force.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Wheelock or Raquel Spencer.

Sincerely,

JOHN YARMUTH, Chairman.

TABLE 1.—REPORT TO THE SPEAKER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET—STATUS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2020, AND 2020–2029 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET, REFLECTING ACTION COMPLETED AS OF OCTOBER 11, 2019

[On-budget amounts, in millions of dollars]

	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Years
	2020	2020–2029
Appropriate Level ¹ :		
Budget Authority	3,802,734	n.a.
Outlays	3,721,545	n.a.
Revenues	2,740,533	34,847,515
Current Level ¹ :		
Budget Authority	3,761,886	n.a.
Outlays	3,691,504	n.a.
Revenues	2,740,538	34,847,317
	Current Level over(+)/under(–)	
Appropriate Level:		
Budget Authority	–40,848	n.a.
Outlays	–30,041	n.a.
Revenues	5	–198

n.a. = Not applicable because annual appropriations acts for fiscal years 2021 through 2029 will not be considered until future sessions of Congress.
Note: Excludes all emergencies.

TABLE 2.—DIRECT SPENDING LEGISLATION COMPARISON OF AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE LEGISLATIVE ACTION WITH 302(A) ALLOCATIONS FOR BUDGET CHANGES, REFLECTING ACTION COMPLETED AS OF OCTOBER 11, 2019

[Fiscal years, in millions of dollars]

House Committee	2020		2020–2029 Total	
	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays
Agriculture				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Armed Services				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Education and Labor				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Energy and Commerce				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	654	653	–194	–76
Difference	654	653	–194	–76
Financial Services				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Foreign Affairs				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Homeland Security				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
House Administration				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Judiciary				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	950	950	10,180	10,180
Difference	950	950	10,180	10,180
Natural Resources				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	22	22	22	22
Difference	22	22	22	22
Oversight and Reform				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Science, Space, and Technology				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Small Business				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Transportation and Infrastructure				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Veterans' Affairs				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	–10	–10	–75	–75
Difference	–10	–10	–75	–75
Ways and Means				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	34	8	–200	–200
Difference	34	8	–200	–200

TABLE 3.—DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020—COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVEL WITH APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATION AND APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE 302(b) SUBALLOCATIONS

[Unified budget amounts, in millions of dollars]

Appropriations Subcommittee	Allocations Constrained by		Current Level Reflecting		Current Level less Allocation		Allocations for Cap		Current Level Reflecting		Current Level less Allocation ³	
	Caps as of June 21, 2019 (H. Rpt. 116–124) ¹		Action Completed as of October 11, 2019 ²				Adjustments as of June 21, 2019 (H. Rpt. 116–124) ¹		Action Completed as of October 11, 2019 ²			
	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA	24,310	22,900	23,039	22,596	–1,271	–304						

TABLE 3.—DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020—COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVEL WITH APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATION AND APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE 302(b) SUBALLOCATIONS—Continued

(Unified budget amounts, in millions of dollars)

Appropriations Subcommittee	Allocations Constrained by		Current Level Reflecting		Current Level less Allocation		Allocations for Cap		Current Level Reflecting		Current Level less Allocation ³	
	Caps as of June 21, 2019 (H. Rpt. 116-124) ¹		Action Completed as of October 11, 2019 ²				Adjustments as of June 21, 2019 (H. Rpt. 116-124) ¹		Action Completed as of October 11, 2019 ²			
	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Commerce, Justice, Science ⁴	66,395	72,000	67,227	71,338	832	-662	7,500	5,400			-7,500	-5,400
Defense	622,082	624,175	607,931	611,311	-14,151	-12,864	68,079	38,227	69,167	38,320	1,088	93
Energy and Water Development	46,413	44,800	44,678	43,932	-1,735	-868						
Financial Services and General Government ⁵	24,550	24,300	23,594	23,389	-956	-911	400	338	151	116	-249	-222
Homeland Security ⁶	49,736	60,023	49,349	57,362	-387	-2,661	14,075	704	12,165	727	-1,910	23
Interior, Environment	37,277	35,650	35,098	34,302	-2,179	-1,348	2,250	2,250			-2,250	-2,250
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	189,876	190,500	175,577	187,256	-14,299	-3,244	1,842	1,481	1,796	1,418	-46	-63
Legislative Branch	5,010	5,037	4,836	4,770	-174	-267						
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs ⁵	105,217	99,500	102,198	96,486	-3,019	-3,014	921	7	921	2		-5
State, Foreign Operations	48,381	48,750	46,348	47,330	-2,033	-1,420	8,000	2,174	7,999	2,129	-1	-45
Transportation, Housing & Urban Development	75,771	133,300	73,246	131,287	-2,525	-2,013						
Subtotal, 302(b) Allocations	1,295,018	1,360,935	1,253,121	1,331,359	-41,897	-29,576	103,067	50,581	92,199	42,712	-10,868	-7,869
Unallocated portion of Section 302(a) Allocation ⁷	-7,018	-2,935	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	-2,900	-2,553	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Total, 302(a) Allocations	1,288,000	1,358,000	1,253,121	1,331,359	-34,879	-26,641	100,167	48,028	92,199	42,712	-7,968	-5,316

Section 251(b) Designated Categories (Cap Adjustments)	302(a) Cap Adjustments as of September 9, 2019		Current Level Reflecting Action Completed as of October 11, 2019 ¹		Current Level less 302(a)	
	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Overseas Contingency Operations	79,500	41,793	78,252	40,578	-1,248	-1,215
Program Integrity	1,842	1,481	1,796	1,418	-46	-63
Disaster Relief	14,075	704	12,151	716	-1,924	12
Census	2,500	1,800			-2,500	-1,800
Wildfire Suppression	2,250	2,250			-2,250	-2,250
Total, Adjustments	100,167	48,028	92,199	42,712	-7,968	-5,316

¹ The House Committee on Appropriations provided 302(b) suballocations consistent with House Reported appropriations legislation.
² Amounts reflect annualized discretionary appropriations as scored to the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020 and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (P.L. 116-59).
³ Current level excludes amounts designated as emergency requirements. As of October 11, 2019, those amounts are \$8 million for budget authority and \$6,251 million for outlays.
⁴ Outlays differ from score at time of enactment due to a revision in prior year outlays.
⁵ The Financial Services and General Government subcommittee received a cap adjustment for program integrity amounts pursuant to the deeming resolution (H.Res. 293). The amounts indicated in current level were provided for disaster relief requirements.
⁶ The Homeland Security subcommittee received a cap adjustment for disaster relief requirements. The amounts indicated in current level include amounts for overseas contingency operations (\$165 million for BA and \$127 million for outlays).
⁷ Amounts include 302(a) adjustments for the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 (P.L. 116-37) that have not been adjusted in the 302(b) suballocations.

U.S. CONGRESS,
 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
 Washington, DC, October 15, 2019

Hon. JOHN YARMUTH,
 Chairman, Committee on the Budget,
 House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2020 budget and is current through October 11, 2019. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels printed in the Congressional Record on May 3, 2019, as adjusted, pursuant to sections 1 and 2 of House Resolution 293 of the 116th Congress.

Since our last letter dated July 8, 2019, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the following legislation that has significant effects on budget authority and outlays in fiscal year 2020:

Never Forget the Heroes: James Zadroga, Ray Pfeifer, and Luis Alvarez Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act (Public Law 116-34);
 Sustaining Excellence in Medicaid Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-39); and
 Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-59).

Sincerely,
 PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
 Director

Enclosure.

FISCAL YEAR 2020 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH OCTOBER 11, 2019
 (In millions of dollars)

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted^a			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,740,533
Permanents and other spending legislation	2,402,273	2,307,950	n.a.
Appropriation legislation	0	595,528	n.a.
Offsetting receipts	-954,573	-954,573	n.a.
Total, Previously Enacted	1,447,700	1,948,905	2,740,533
Enacted Legislation			
Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 (P.L. 116-23)	-10	-10	0
Taxpayer First Act (P.L. 116-25)	0	0	5
Never Forget the Heroes: James Zadroga, Ray Pfeifer, and Luis Alvarez Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act (P.L. 116-34)	950	950	0
Sustaining Excellence in Medicaid Act of 2019 (P.L. 116-39)	17	16	0
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (P.L. 116-59)	693	795	0
Total, Enacted Legislation	1,650	1,751	5
Continuing Resolution^a			
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (P.L. 116-59, Division A)	1,238,519	684,615	0
Adjustments to Entitlements and Mandatories	1,074,017	1,056,233	0
Total Current Level^b	3,761,886	3,691,504	2,740,538
Total House Resolution^c	3,802,734	3,721,545	2,740,533
Current Level Over House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	5
Current Level Under House Resolution	40,848	30,041	n.a.
Memorandum			
Revenues, 2020-2029			
House Current Level ^{a,b}	n.a.	n.a.	34,847,317
House Resolution ^c	n.a.	n.a.	34,847,515
Current Level Over House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Current Level Under House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	198

Source: Congressional Budget Office.
 n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = public law.
^a For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the House, the resolution, as approved by the House of Representatives, does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, amounts in this current level report do not include those items.
^b In the House of Representatives, and pursuant to section 314(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, amounts designated as an emergency requirement shall not count for purposes of title III and title IV of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and are excluded from current level totals. In addition, emergency funding that was not designated pursuant to the Deficit Control Act does not count for certain budgetary enforcement purposes. Those amounts, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Discretionary Emergency Requirements			
Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (P.L. 116-20)	8	4,951	0
Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Humanitarian Assistance and Security at the Southern Border Act, 2019 (P.L. 116-26)	0	1,300	0
Total, Discretionary Emergency Requirements	8	6,251	0
<small>On May 3, 2019 the Chair of the House Committee on the Budget published the aggregate spending and revenue levels for fiscal year 2020 pursuant to H. Res. 293. In accordance with section 314 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, section 251 (b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, and section 1 of H. Res. 293 the Chair of the House Committee on the Budget may revise the budgetary aggregates. Revisions to date are listed below.</small>			
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original Aggregates Printed on May 3, 2019	3,709,585	3,676,452	2,740,533
Revisions:			
Adjustment for H.R. 2740, Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020	1,842	1,481	n.a.
Adjustment for H.R. 2745, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020	921	7	n.a.
Adjustment for H.R. 2839, Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020	8,000	2,174	0
Adjustment for H.R. 2968, Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2020	68,079	38,227	0
Adjustment for H.R. 3052, Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020	2,250	2,250	0
Adjustment for H.R. 3055, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020	7,500	5,400	0
Adjustment for H.R. 3351, Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2020	400	338	0
Adjustment for H.R. 3931, Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2020	14,075	704	0
Adjustment for P.L. 116-37, Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019	-9,918	-5,488	0
Revised House Resolution	3,802,734	3,721,545	2,740,533

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, October 17, 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. 1496, the Presidential Allowance Modernization 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.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2607. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fidelity Bonds (RIN: 3133-AE27) received October 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2608. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting a Summary Response to Comments on Title I, Part A Opportunities and Responsibilities for State and Local Report Cards Non-Regulatory Informational Document; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

2609. A letter from the Chief of Staff, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of the Commission's Policies and Rules for Processing Applications in the Direct Broadcast Satellite Service [IB Docket No.: 06-160] 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.

2610. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report to Congress on the methods employed by the Government of

Cuba to enforce the United States-Cuba September 1994 "Joint Communique", the treatment by the Government of Cuba of persons returned to Cuba in accordance with the United States-Cuba May 1995 "Joint Statement", and an update on the implementation of the United States-Cuba January 2017 "Joint Statement", pursuant to Public Law 105-277, Sec. 2245; (112 Stat. 2681-824); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2611. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period of April 1, 2019, through May 31, 2019; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2612. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of The President, transmitting the OMB Report to Congress on United States Contributions to the United Nations and Affiliated International Organizations for Fiscal Year 2017, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 287b-1(a); Public Law 114-323, Sec. 312(a); (130 Stat. 1925); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2613. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a notification of a vacancy and a designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2614. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting two (2) notifications of a nomination and an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2615. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2616. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 610 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 180831813-9170-02] (RIN: 0648-XY013) received October 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2617. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Small-Mesh Multispecies Fishery; Inseason Adjustment to the Northern Red Hake Possession Limit [Docket No.:

180209147-8509-02] (RIN: 0648-XX010) received October 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2618. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Several Groundfish Species in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 180713633-9174-02] (RIN: 0648-XY034) received October 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2619. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 180831813-9170-02] (RIN: 0648-XY035) received October 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2620. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Exchange of Flatfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 180713633-9174-02] (RIN: 0648-XY033) received October 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2621. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Commercial Shark Fisheries [Docket No.: 180117042-8884-02] (RIN: 0648-XT016) received October 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2622. A letter from the Senior Attorney-Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations and Projects; Removal of Obsolete Regulation [Docket No.: FHWA-2019-0018] (RIN: 2125-AF90) received October 9, 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.

2623. A letter from the Senior Attorney-Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting

the Department's final rule — Construction and Maintenance-Promoting Innovation in Use of Patented and Proprietary Products [FHWA Docket No.: FHWA-2018-0036] (RIN: 2125-AF84) received October 9, 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.

2624. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; St. James, MN [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0550; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AGL-23] (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.

2625. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes Q-121 and Q-156; Miles City, MT [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0267; Airspace Docket No.: 18-ANM-8] (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.

2626. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31271; Amdt. No.: 3869] 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.

2627. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31274; Amdt. No.: 3871] 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.

2628. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31275; Amdt. No.: 3872] 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.

2629. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31272; Amdt. No.: 3870] 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.

2630. 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-2019-0401; Product Identifier 2019-NM-002-AD; Amendment 39-19741; AD 2019-19-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 10, 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.

2631. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of

Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Mount Pleasant, IA [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0472; Airspace Docket No.: 19-ACE-9] received October 10, 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.

2632. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting a report titled, "The Department of Labor's 2018 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor", pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2464; Public Law 93-618, Sec. 504 (as amended by Public Law 99-514, Sec. 1887(a)(6)) (100 Stat. 2923); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2633. A letter from the General Counsel, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's proposed rule — Margin and Capital Requirements for Covered Swap Entities (RIN: 3052-AD38) received October 2, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Agriculture and Financial Services.

2634. A letter from the Chairman, Labor Member, Management Member, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the Board's FY 2021 budget request, pursuant to 45 U.S.C. 231f(f); Aug. 29, 1935, ch. 812, Sec. 7(f) (as amended by Public Law 93-445, Sec. 416); (97 Stat. 436); jointly to the Committees on Appropriations, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Ways and Means.

CONSENSUS CALENDAR

Under clause 7 of rule XV, the following motion was filed with the Clerk: Motion No. 9, October 16, 2019 by Mr. DEUTCH on H.R. 724.

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. ROUDA (for himself, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. NORMAN):

H.R. 4687. A bill to waive certain procurement provisions for a project that receives funds from certain Federal agencies; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, Agriculture, and 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. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 4688. A bill to limit the use of non-disclosure agreements for employees of the White House or the Executive Office of the President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mrs. HARTZLER:

H.R. 4689. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that States give preference in allocating low-income housing credit dollar amounts to projects which are committed to providing non-smoking buildings; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. FLORES (for himself and Mr. SHIMKUS):

H.R. 4690. A bill to amend title II of the Clean Air Act and title II of the Petroleum Marketing Practices Act with respect to high-octane fuels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 4691. A bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to direct the Consumer

Product Safety Commission to establish consumer product safety standards for firearm locks and firearm safes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. CHENEY (for herself, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. BACON, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. BANKS, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. BUDD, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. CLINE, Mr. COOK, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. OLSON, Mr. PALMER, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Ms. STEFANK, Mr. STEEL, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. TURNER, Mr. UPTON, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. WALKER, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. LONG, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. BABIN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ESTES, Mr. GIANFORTE, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. MOLENAAR, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. WOODALL, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. LATTA, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. KATKO, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. BARR, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. EMMER, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. SPANO, Mrs. LESKO, Mrs. MILLER, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. ROY, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. STEWART, and Mr. MULLIN):

H.R. 4692. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to Turkey, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Oversight and Reform, the Judiciary, and 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. HUDSON (for himself and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER):

H.R. 4693. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish an advisory committee on the implementation by the Department of Veterans Affairs of an electronic health record; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KINZINGER (for himself, Mr. CILLINE, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. STANTON, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas):

H.R. 4694. A bill to require a review of United States-Turkey relations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as

fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 4695. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to Turkey, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Oversight and Reform, Ways and Means, the Judiciary, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BOST (for himself, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia):

H.R. 4696. A bill to provide for cooperation between the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and foreign regulators; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. DELGADO (for himself, Mr. TONKO, and Ms. STEFANK):

H.R. 4697. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to modify the definition of commercial motor vehicle, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. RASKIN, and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 4698. A bill to amend the HITECH Act to allow an individual to obtain a copy of such individual's protected health information at no cost unless certain circumstances apply, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Miss GONZALEZ-COLON of Puerto Rico:

H.R. 4699. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to remove the matching requirement for a territory to use specially allocated Federal funds for Medicare covered part D drugs for low-income individuals; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. UPTON (for himself, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. LATTA, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. FLORES, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. OLSON, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. SHIMKUS):

H.R. 4700. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize pipeline safety programs, and for other purposes; 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 Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Ms. HAALAND, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GALLEGRO, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SOTO, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. TAKANO, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. MENG, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 4701. A bill to expand access to health care services, including sexual, reproductive, and maternal health services, for immigrants by removing legal and policy barriers to health insurance coverage, and for other purposes; 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. KELLY of Mississippi:

H.R. 4702. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to modify the timeframe for determining the size standard for manufacturing small business concerns; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LAMB:

H.R. 4703. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit certain foreign nationals from making disbursements to compensate persons engaging in internet activity promoting, supporting, attacking, or opposing the election of a candidate for public office; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. MCADAMS (for himself, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 4704. A bill to direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to support multidisciplinary research on the science of suicide, and to advance the knowledge and understanding of issues that may be associated with several aspects of suicide including intrinsic and extrinsic factors related to areas such as wellbeing, resilience, and vulnerability; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM (for herself, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. GABBARD):

H.R. 4705. A bill to require Executive agencies and Federal courts to comply with address confidentiality programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 4706. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize competency-based education demonstration projects; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SARBANES (for himself and Mr. WITTMAN):

H.R. 4707. A bill to amend section 5542 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that any hours worked by Federal firefighters under a qualified trade-of-time arrangement shall be excluded for purposes of determinations relating to overtime pay; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself, Mr. DELGADO, and Ms. STEFANK):

H.R. 4708. A bill to establish safety standards for certain limousines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself, Mr. DELGADO, and Ms. STEFANK):

H.R. 4709. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to award grants to States that have enacted and are enforcing certain laws with respect to stretch limousines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H. Res. 632. A resolution supporting the designation of October 16, 2019, and October 16, 2020, as "World Food Day"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. BROOKS of Alabama (for himself, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. PERRY, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. BABIN, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. YOHO, Mr. ROY, Mr. POSEY, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. BYRNE, Mr.

MCCLINTOCK, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. TIPPTON, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mrs. LESKO):

H. Res. 633. A resolution requiring that all impeachment inquiry related hearings, witness interviews and communications, document productions and examinations, proceedings, and other related work shall be done in an open setting and in public view; to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committee on Ethics, 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. COLLINS of Georgia (for himself, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. CLINE, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. BIGGS, Mrs. ROBY, and Mrs. WAGNER):

H. Res. 634. A resolution providing for the consideration of the bill (S. 820) to strengthen programs authorized under the Debbie Smith Act of 2004; to the Committee on Rules.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

142. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Arkansas, relative to Senate Joint Resolution 3, requesting the Congress of the United States call a convention of the states to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. ROUDA:

H.R. 4687.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 4688.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

United States Constitution Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. HARTZLER:

H.R. 4689.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1.

By Mr. FLORES:

H.R. 4690.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. ENGEL:

H.R. 4691.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under the following provisions of the United States Constitution:

Article I, Section 1;

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1;

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3; and

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Ms. CHENEY:

H.R. 4692.

- H.R. 1987: Mr. ENGEL.
H.R. 1997: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 2051: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 2074: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 2117: Ms. DEAN.
H.R. 2168: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 2178: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 2179: Mr. TIPTON.
H.R. 2195: Mr. COX of California and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 2208: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 2214: Mr. GOLDEN and Mrs. LOWEY.
H.R. 2218: Mrs. MILLER.
H.R. 2235: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 2245: Mrs. HAYES and Mr. CRIST.
H.R. 2261: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 2279: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mr. CISNEROS.
H.R. 2282: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2311: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 2312: Ms. PRESSLEY and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 2329: Mr. VARGAS and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 2350: Mr. ABRAHAM and Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 2381: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 2411: Mr. LANGEVIN and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H.R. 2420: Mr. WEBER of Texas and Mr. HECK.
H.R. 2423: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. WESTERMAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. ABRAHAM, Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. FLORES, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. VELA, Mr. KATKO, Mr. REED, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. HUDSON, and Ms. SHALALA.
H.R. 2426: Mr. COLE and Ms. FINKENAUER.
H.R. 2441: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 2460: Mr. VELA.
H.R. 2477: Mr. POSEY and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.
H.R. 2482: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 2517: Ms. FINKENAUER.
H.R. 2533: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 2548: Mr. MCCALL, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H.R. 2550: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.
H.R. 2561: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 2576: Ms. BASS.
H.R. 2584: Mr. TIPTON.
H.R. 2623: Mrs. MILLER.
H.R. 2651: Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 2653: Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. RUIZ, and Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 2668: Mrs. MCBATH.
H.R. 2694: Mr. AGUILAR, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. COX of California, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. DEAN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. ESPALLAT, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. FRANKEL, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. GRIMALVA, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HECK, Mr. HIMES, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. HURD of Texas, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RASKIN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. ROUDA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. TRAHAN, Mr. TRONE, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILD, and Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 2698: Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 2699: Mr. KIM.
H.R. 2708: Mr. LAWSON of Florida and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 2732: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 2747: Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 2767: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 2771: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.
H.R. 2802: Mr. POSTER, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 2818: Mr. BRINDISI and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 2825: Mr. PERLMUTTER and Ms. FINKENAUER.
H.R. 2831: Ms. STEVENS.
H.R. 2838: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 2887: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 2931: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 2949: Mr. CISNEROS and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 2986: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 3003: Mr. ROSE of New York.
H.R. 3006: Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 3048: Mr. LUJÁN and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 3077: Mr. LATTI, Mr. ESTES, Mr. STAUBER, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. BERA.
H.R. 3080: Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 3085: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 3104: Ms. FRANKEL and Mr. HILL of Arkansas.
H.R. 3107: Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. BABIN, Mr. KIND, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. SHIMKUS.
H.R. 3137: Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H.R. 3138: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 3162: Mr. STAUBER, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 3183: Mr. LAHOOD.
H.R. 3215: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 3219: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.
H.R. 3220: Mr. CASE and Mr. LUJÁN.
H.R. 3222: Ms. LOFGREN and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 3225: Ms. NORTON and Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 3241: Mr. SPANO.
H.R. 3243: Mr. HICE of Georgia.
H.R. 3315: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 3369: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.
H.R. 3373: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 3414: Mr. KIM.
H.R. 3446: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 3496: Mr. TRONE and Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 3498: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 3502: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. CORREA, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. NEGUSE, and Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 3541: Mr. HASTINGS and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 3582: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 3593: Mr. BUCSHON and Mr. CRIST.
H.R. 3632: Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. TURNER, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 3637: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 3654: Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 3663: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 3668: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 3742: Mr. SMUCKER, Ms. WILD, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. GALLEGRO, and Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 3789: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 3792: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 3793: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 3799: Mr. HORSFORD.
H.R. 3815: Mr. GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 3827: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 3846: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 3849: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 3851: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GOODEN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. SPANO, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 3942: Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. PALAZZO, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 3957: Ms. MENG.
H.R. 3974: Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 4027: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 4044: Mr. BYRNE and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 4065: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 4077: Mrs. LAWRENCE and Ms. MENG.
H.R. 4097: Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 4098: Mr. POSEY, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. COMER, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Mr. RICE of South Carolina.
H.R. 4113: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 4118: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 4162: Mr. PAPPAS, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Mr. BANKS.
H.R. 4164: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 4165: Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 4176: Mr. TED LIEU of California.
H.R. 4183: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 4194: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 4211: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 4215: Mr. GUTHRIE.
H.R. 4219: Mr. MEADOWS.
H.R. 4220: Ms. GARCIA of Texas and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 4232: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 4283: Mr. TIPTON and Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma.
H.R. 4292: Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee.
H.R. 4304: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 4321: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4340: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 4343: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 4347: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 4348: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 4371: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 4388: Mr. LAWSON of Florida and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4397: Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 4402: Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 4405: Mr. CASE, Mr. STAUBER, Ms. MENG, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 4498: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 4518: Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma.
H.R. 4519: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. COHEN, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 4521: Mr. SCHWEIKERT.
H.R. 4524: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 4526: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4531: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 4543: Mrs. TORRES of California.
H.R. 4554: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 4560: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 4578: Ms. WILD, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 4588: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 4589: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 4600: Mr. KING of New York and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4615: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 4617: Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. KIND, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. ROYBAL-

ALLARD, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. MENG, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. COSTA, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 4621: Ms. JACKSON LEE and Ms. BARRAGÁN.

H.R. 4624: Mr. COX of California.

H.R. 4672: Mr. LEVIN of California.

H.J. Res. 2: Ms. SHALALA and Mr. SCHRAEDER.

H.J. Res. 6: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.

H.J. Res. 77: Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. TITUS, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. TRONE, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. KIND, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mr. COSTA, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CASE, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. BARR, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. WILD, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. CRIST, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. KEATING, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. VELA, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. BUCK, Mr. OLSON, Mr. YOHO, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mr. WALKER.

H. Con. Res. 20: Mr. GOLDEN.

H. Res. 23: Mr. GROTHMAN.

H. Res. 107: Mr. BUDD.

H. Res. 138: Mr. TRONE.

H. Res. 146: Ms. MENG.

H. Res. 152: Ms. DEAN.

H. Res. 255: Mr. SIRES, Mr. BRINDISI, Mr. LEVIN of California, and Mr. WITTMAN.

H. Res. 374: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. BUCSHON, and Mr. BERA.

H. Res. 452: Mrs. TORRES of California.

H. Res. 517: Ms. PINGREE.

H. Res. 538: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. LAMALFA.

H. Res. 546: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H. Res. 604: Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr.

GUTHRIE, Mrs. MILLER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H. Res. 613: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.

H. Res. 625: Mr. VAN DREW.

H. Res. 627: Ms. SÁNCHEZ and Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H. Res. 628: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. CASE.

H. Res. 630: Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. SCALISE, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. EMMER, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. WALKER, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. PALMER, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. PERRY, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. POSEY, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. BANKS, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. FLORES, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. KELLER, Mr. BABIN, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. BUDD, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. STEWART, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. GIANFORTE, Mr. CLINE, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. BACON, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. COMER, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee, Mr. SPANO, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. MAST, Mr. LONG, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. ESTES, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. ROY, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. OLSON, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. BOST, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. BRADY, Mr. DUNN, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. YOHO, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, 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. BAIRD, Mr. ADERHOLT, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. BARR, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. LATTA, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. STAUBER, Mrs. MILLER, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. GUEST, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. COLE, Mr. GROTHMAN, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. NUNES, and Mr. LUCAS.

H. Res. 631: Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, and Mr. MCCLINTOCK.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The amendment to be offered by Representative HUIZENGA, or a designee, to H.R. 1815, the SEC Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

The amendment to be offered by Representative HUIZENGA, or a designee, to H.R. 3624, the Outsourcing Accountability Act of 2019 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

55. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Hampton Falls, NH, relative to a Resolution urging the United States Congress to enact the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, and Foreign Affairs.



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No. 163

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable PATRICK J. TOOMEY, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by Giani Sukhvinder Singh, of Gurdwara Philadelphia Sikh Society, Upper Darby, PA.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

"One Universal Creator God. By The Grace Of The True Guru."

Almighty God, we call You by many names, but You are one. Keep Your Divine Hand over the Members of this Senate as they help steer the future of our great Nation. Keep truth on our tongues, love in our hearts, and sound judgment in our minds. Remind us of our purpose: to love and serve one another and create a more peaceful world.

We ask for blessings unto all leaders as they work for the common good. Give all who govern this land humility and courage, integrity, and compassion. Release each one of us from ego so that we may serve selflessly. Help us remember that we belong to one family.

"Recognize the entire human race as one."

We ask of the Almighty to also keep watch over our Nation's protectors who work tirelessly, day and night, to ensure our safety and our freedom.

You are everywhere; all are Yours. Whatever is seen, O God, is Your form. My Lord, You are but one. We ask You to bless this great Nation and its people.

"In the name of Nanak, find everlasting optimism. With Your will, Almighty God, may there be welfare of all of humanity."

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 16, 2019.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable PATRICK J. TOOMEY, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. TOOMEY thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAMER). The Senator from Pennsylvania.

550TH BIRTHDAY OF GURU NANAK

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, I rise to mark a very special day for the Sikh religion and the Sikh community across America and especially in Pennsylvania—specifically, the birthday of the founder of Sikhism, Guru Nanak.

Guru Nanak was born into a Hindu household in 1469 in what is now modern-day Pakistan. Guru Nanak showed a keen interest in religion from very early on in his life. He had a real aptitude in his youth for philosophizing and writing poetry. He married, had children, and became an accountant like his father. Yet he always believed in the importance of living a spiritual life. Eventually, he underwent a pro-

found personal transformation to become the religious figure and leader for which he is recognized today.

Guru Nanak's most famous teachings include that there is only one God, that people need not go through an intermediary, such as a priest, to access the one God, and that all people are created equal. He preached that his followers should meditate and remember God, that they should earn an honest living, and that they should share with those who are less fortunate than themselves.

Guru Nanak began teaching the Sikh faith around the year 1500, and with around 30 million adherents, the Sikh faith is the sixth largest religion in the world. Approximately 700,000 Sikhs have chosen to make their homes in the United States. There are several Sikh places of worship, known as gurdwaras, in and around the Philadelphia area, Pittsburgh, Allentown, Erie, and across America.

Next month, on November 12, there will be celebrations at gurdwaras across the globe to mark the 550th birthday of Guru Nanak. In addition, Sikh leaders have come to the Capitol today to commemorate the birthday of Guru Nanak.

A few minutes ago, a giani, or a Sikh religious official, gave a prayer as the Senate opened for business. I am proud that he hails from my State of Pennsylvania. This evening, leaders from the Sikh community will convene an interfaith event to promote the peaceful values that all of the world's major religions share.

This morning, I just wanted to add my voice to wish the Sikh community great luck and great joy with this event and to wish Guru Nanak a happy 550th birthday this year.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

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



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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 to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I mentioned yesterday the contrast between our work in the Senate and what is transpiring over in the House.

On this side of the Capitol, we are focused on working for the American people. We are overcoming the Democrats' historic delay tactics and obstruction to confirm more of the President's impressive nominees for the executive branch as well as for the judiciary. Later today, we will confirm a new Secretary of the Air Force and will then turn to several impressive nominees to district court vacancies in order to continue our renewal of the Federal judiciary.

We will also keep working on the appropriations process and on providing the funding our Armed Forces certainly need, and we are discussing ways to discourage the withdrawal of U.S. forces from the Middle East and ensure the United States continues to provide the essential global leadership that has cornered ISIS and other radical Islamic terrorists and has kept our Nation safe.

So what is going on over in the House?

Those in the House are doubling down on their 3-year-old obsession of finding ways to nullify the decision the American people made back in 2016. Speaker PELOSI's Democrats are blocking the USMCA, which is the landmark trade deal that would create 176,000 new jobs for American workers. They are dragging their heels on funding the government, which is keeping our military commanders in limbo. All of their energy is going into this all-consuming impeachment parade that has been rolling on for 3 years now—ever searching for a rationale.

Remember, it was literally on Inauguration Day of January 2017 when the Washington Post ran this headline: "The campaign to impeach President Trump has begun." Well, the Post got it right. Before President Trump even took office, one prominent House Democrat had already declared he would not be a legitimate President. Just a few months later, another was already

promising she would not rest until she impeached him.

From the very beginning of this Presidency, Washington Democrats have lived in a state of denial. They have seemed positive that some inside-the-Beltway maneuver would save them from the consequences of Secretary Clinton's defeat. They had hoped Special Counsel Mueller's report would have validated their theories about the conspiracy between the Trump campaign and the Russians. They used their minority powers in the Senate to effectively try to nullify his Presidency by obstructing even completely uncontroversial nominees to all kinds of government posts simply because this President was the one who nominated them.

There have been 3 years of this. Now, finally, Speaker PELOSI's efforts to hold back her leftwing caucus have officially crumbled, and the House has thrown itself into impeachment.

Given the lip service the House Democrats pay in defending the norms and institutions of American Government, you might think they would at least run this so-called impeachment inquiry by the book. You might think the people who are trying to overrule the American voters and, from Washington, cancel out an election would conduct their process by the very highest standards of fairness and due process.

If you thought that, you would be wrong. Our Democratic colleagues have had their minds made up since long before this inquiry began. Remember, the chairwoman of one of the committees Speaker PELOSI put in charge of the process said in April of 2017: "I'm going to fight every day until he's impeached." That was back in 2017. So this is not about seriously discharging constitutional responsibilities. It is about the end result they have had in mind since day one.

Remember when the campaign to block Justice Kavanaugh began with protest signs with a big, empty blank for the name? It was a fill-in-the-blank protest before they even knew who the nominee was. Now we have the sequel with this fill-in-the-blank quest for impeachment. The Democrats' process already speaks for itself.

For the first time ever, Speaker PELOSI has simply ordered the House to conduct an inquiry into impeaching a President without a full vote of the House. Just yesterday, the Speaker doubled down on this unprecedented and undemocratic process by once again refusing to hold a vote on an impeachment inquiry.

Democrats have refused to give Republicans the same rights and fair treatment that Republicans afforded Democrats during the Clinton impeachment—things like equal subpoena power for the ranking members. Likewise, Democrats have refused to give President Trump's counsel the same opportunities that Republicans gave to President Clinton—rights such as at-

tending all hearings, depositions, offering evidence, and cross-examining witnesses.

We have already seen Chairman SCHIFF say in public that his committee had not been in touch with the whistleblower when they actually had been. We have seen Chairman SCHIFF bizarrely and brazenly fabricate what the President actually said to the President of Ukraine during an official hearing that he was chairing, only to claim that his fabrications were a parody—a parody—when Republicans called him out for it.

The same Democrats who are running this circus turn around and claim with a straight face that they are solemnly following the facts and the Constitution wherever it leads.

Give me a break. Give me a break. The entire country can see that that is not what is happening here.

And here is what else the American people can see: The Democrats would rather fight with the White House than work with the Republicans and the administration to pass legislation.

We need real solutions, like full-year funding for our Armed Forces so our men and women in uniform can receive their pay raise and our commanders can engage in long-term planning; real solutions like the USMCA, the major victory for American workers and American businesses that the Trump administration negotiated with Canada and Mexico but which Speaker PELOSI has blocked for months, with 176,000 new American jobs hanging in the balance.

Opportunities are right before us. Senate Republicans have been ready and waiting for weeks and months to do our part and actually make law on these subjects for the benefit of American families. We just need our counterparts across the Capitol to get serious about this.

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

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

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, just when you think things couldn't get any stranger here in Washington, DC, a few weeks ago, Speaker PELOSI announced that the House was officially beginning proceedings to impeach the President of the United States. While the left has been dreaming of impeachment ever since the President was first elected in 2016, the timing of this was quite a surprise. In fact, last January the Speaker led the effort to table an impeachment resolution, and she and Chairman NADLER and Chairman SCHIFF and other House leaders had said that they recognized that this would never be successful unless it is bipartisan, and I think they were right then and they are wrong now.

We know that the announcement of the Speaker came at a time when the only thing the public knew was about rumors of a whistleblower complaint about a call over which virtually no one knew any details.

But the facts didn't really matter. This was about grabbing ahold of something and using this as a vehicle to do what the left has wanted to do since the President was inaugurated.

Were the initial reports a reason to look into the matter further? Absolutely. That is what the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence that I have the privilege of serving on did. We had the Acting Director of National Intelligence come testify. We had the inspector general come testify about his report.

But that is not the approach that House Democrats have taken. They made no honest effort to investigate before deciding to impeach.

Prior to the Speaker's press conference, in fact, we hadn't seen the complaint. We hadn't seen the transcript or heard from the leaders of the intelligence community. But regardless of the lack of any evidence at the time, they jumped into impeachment feet first. It is almost as if they were waiting for anything—any excuse, any reason at all—to do what they have wanted to do since day one in opposing President Trump.

This confirms to me that this is really not about the facts so much as it is a search-and-destroy mission.

Removing a President from office is no small matter. In fact, the Senate has never done so in American history. You would think that with so much at stake, our House Democrat friends would make every effort to lay out a careful, logical, fact-based case for the American people.

In fact, they said they knew they couldn't be successful unless this was a bipartisan effort, but they made zero effort to make it bipartisan by laying out the facts, by making it transparent, by letting the American people see exactly what was going on.

Ordinarily, you would expect hearings on every major network, witnesses presenting their testimony, subject to questioning by both Republicans and Democrats, and detailed reports of investigations. That is what you would expect, but that is not what we got.

Instead, we got secret hearings, secret witnesses, secret interviews, and secret meetings. But you know what goes along with that kind of secrecy—leaks and more leaks.

Chairman SCHIFF and his cohorts in the House have drawn the cloak of secrecy around this entire proceeding and then proceeded to drip, drip, drip a narrative to the press through leaks that would seem to justify their arguments, but that is not fair. That is not fair to the President. That is not fair to the 65 million American people who voted for President Trump. To try to negate an election through this sort of inappropriate process just defies logic and sense.

We have some idea of whom they are meeting with, but we have no idea as to the details they are talking about. That is because, instead of going through the Judiciary Committee, which would have been an open proceeding, ordinarily, Speaker PELOSI has grabbed this topic from Chairman NADLER and given it to Chairman SCHIFF, the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, so as to have some sort of justification, as thin as it may seem, for doing things behind closed doors and in secret.

As I said, I am on the Senate Intelligence Committee. I understand that if there is classified information that can't be made public, that is a reason to have closed-door hearings, but there should be some effort to separate the classified information, if there is any, from the nonclassified information and have a public hearing on that part of the information the committee is given, not just closing the door, locking it, and throwing away the key, and keeping it all secret. This is really unjustified.

Well, we know that they have been busy. Chairman SCHIFF has been busy. We know he has been particularly busy on the TV talk shows and giving interviews to the media all day long, every day, and we know that there are bits of information being strategically leaked to the media, which conveniently align with their overall plan, and that is impeachment.

There have been no real and credible details about what has happened behind those closed-door meetings, and I would suggest that every American should be concerned. This is entirely contrary to our basic concepts of fairness and due process—to have secret witnesses, secret interviews, secret hearings, and then use that information to take one of the most dramatic actions that the Constitution provides for, and that is the removal of a President.

This is contrary to any concept of fair play and due process, as guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and our Constitution. You could be charged with a traffic offense and get more transparency and more due process than what the House Democrats are providing to President Trump, because that is what the Constitution requires.

Because the Speaker made a decision to impeach President Trump based at the time solely on rumors and second-hand information, I am left with very little optimism for the way this impeachment inquiry so far has been handled.

Now, there have been some silly hearings in the House of Representatives this year, but the American people should have the benefit of being able to watch these proceedings and draw their own conclusions. They don't have to believe what the press tells them based on strategic leaks. They don't have to believe what Chairman SCHIFF and Speaker PELOSI say. They can judge the facts for themselves.

When it comes to impeachment, arguably one of the most serious responsibilities under our Constitution for Congress, House Democrats have simply drawn the cloak of secrecy around their investigation. Of course, you know what the logical questions are to this sort of bizarre proceeding—questions like this: What are they hiding? What are they afraid of? What is it that they don't want the American people to see?

Of course, as I said, there are going to be some sensitivities and, perhaps, even some classified information, particularly when you are talking about foreign policy.

But the President has already made the key documents public. He has declassified the conversation he had with President Zelensky, and we have seen the report of the inspector general.

This secrecy veil seems to be more of a necessary tool to cloak information that doesn't align with their narrative. They simply don't want people to hear all sides of the story.

I have no doubt that if the facts were on their side, they would allow this process to be in the open. If they actually thought that transparency would benefit them, they would throw the doors wide open and do it out in public and let the American people judge it for themselves, and if facts were on their side, they would then hold a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives authorizing this impeachment inquiry, which has been done each time in the past. But from what we read, Speaker PELOSI is trying to protect her vulnerable House Members from being held accountable for their vote, particularly those in swing districts that won in 2018. So this is more another part of the political calculation at work here.

Instead, what they are doing is constructing this narrative behind closed doors and handpicking which information to leak and which to keep secret.

A true and honest investigation means following the facts where they may lead, gathering evidence, and giving the American people access to that information at every step, but that is a far cry from what is happening today.

While House Democrats are freely leaking the details of the impeachment process to the media, they are being unfair to the American people, particularly the 65 million people who voted for President Trump in the first place—but not just them. We all understand that in elections you win some and you lose some. Even the people who didn't vote for President Trump, I believe, would be committed to a fair process, particularly when going through something as serious as the potential impeachment and removal of a duly elected President of the United States.

What they want to do is to undo the 2016 election, but they should at least have the courage to do it out in the open.

We know what is happening as a result of the Democrats devoting 100 percent of their time and energy to reversing the results of the 2016 election by impeaching President Trump. Their constituents sitting at home are wondering what it is they are actually going to be able to accomplish.

When we have elections, ordinarily candidates run for office and say: If you elect me, I will do this, this, and this. The House Democrats have given up on that. Forget their campaign promises. Forget what they told their voters in the 2018 election. They are all in on the impeachment and removal of the President. The rest of that stuff is just talk—at least that is how it appears.

There are a lot of important things we can and should be doing in Washington as opposed to this political side show. We have had many productive hearings and efforts on such important items as trying to reduce mass violence, which is something we are all concerned about, how to bring down costs and increase choice when it comes to our healthcare system, how to improve trade so we can sell the things we grow and make in America to markets around the world, and how we can continue this incredible trend line when it comes to our economy, where unemployment is at historically low levels and particularly African-American and Hispanic unemployment is at historically the lowest level in recorded history. Forget all of that. House Democrats are full steam ahead on impeachment, which will make it virtually impossible for us to pass productive, bipartisan legislation. It will make it virtually impossible for them to keep the promises they themselves made to their constituents when they ran for election in 2018, and that is a crying shame.

This is the final point I want to make. We are 13 months—13 months—from a general election. President Trump will be on the ballot. These folks, who apparently have never gotten over their loss in 2016, will have a chance to cast their votes again. So will the American people. We will be able to take a look at the Democratic nominee, along with President Trump, the Republican nominee, and we will be able to vote 13 months from now. But, to me, it says the Democrats are not particularly optimistic about the outcome of the 2020 election, given that choice, because they are not going to wait for the election to occur; they want to divide the country, they want to paralyze Congress, and they want to impeach President Trump 13 months before the election.

I hope cooler heads will prevail. Democrats should work with us to pass bipartisan legislation that will actually make our country better off rather than pursuing this purely political agenda of impeachment.

I think it is disgraceful the way the House Democrats have chosen to pursue this clandestine impeachment

process rather than focus on what is best for the American people. Let the voters cast their ballots 13 months from now rather than put our country through this divisive and ultimately futile effort to impeach and remove President Trump.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

CONGRATULATING THE ST. LOUIS BLUES

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I want to talk about a very different topic, and that is the Stanley Cup. Yesterday at the White House, the St. Louis Blues were warmly welcomed by the President in a ceremony celebrating their Stanley Cup victory. On June 12, the Blues made history when they defeated the Boston Bruins in game 7 of the Stanley Cup Final.

It was hard to imagine at the beginning of this season that the Blues could have done this. They were the lowest ranked team in the National Hockey League. I think there was a time in the month of January when the odds that the Blues would win the Stanley Cup were 150 to 1. I am not particularly a betting man, but knowing what I know now, we wouldn't have had to put much money on that bet to have won a significant amount of money. As it turned out, however, as you and I know in what we do here and what we have done in our lives, the odds are not really what count; what counts is how you play the season. Just like we often say in politics, candidates matter. In hockey, in sports, the players matter. How they come together as a team matters. Whether or not that team really becomes a team matters, and this one did.

It was a season for the Blues that was filled with record-breaking achievements. Jordan Binnington became the first and only rookie goalie to win 16 games in the Stanley Cup playoffs. Ryan O'Reilly set a franchise record with 23 points in the playoffs and was named the postseason most valuable player. Game 7 of the Stanley Cup Final was the most watched NHL game in 36 years.

For the first time in franchise history, the Blues brought the Stanley Cup trophy to Missouri to celebrate their achievement as the best sports fans in Missouri stepped out. Five hundred thousand people were there when the Stanley Cup parade was in St. Louis for the first time. Five hundred thousand people—in several States represented on the floor, that would be everybody in the State. Five hundred thousand is a pretty big crowd anywhere, as it was in St. Louis that day.

Today, the Stanley Cup trophy will be on display on Capitol Hill so that Blues fans in the area can get a chance to see this legendary trophy in person. The Stanley Cup has already traveled all over the world since the Blues won the Stanley Cup. Ryan O'Reilly brought the Cup to Ontario to share it with his 99-year-old grandmother, who is probably one of the oldest people to

see the Stanley Cup. But for sure the youngest baby to be put in the Stanley Cup—the record was broken when the trophy was brought to a mother and her newborn child at Mercy Hospital in St. Louis, the baby barely born, right there in the Stanley Cup, setting the new Stanley Cup “youngest baby in the Cup” record.

We will never forget the image of Laila Anderson. Laila, a young girl battling a life-threatening disease, in many ways became the No. 1 fan of the team. Laila, by the way, was at the White House in the Rose Garden yesterday, and she was called up to stand by the President and the Stanley Cup, with the team surrounding both of them. The night they won, she was on the ice with the players celebrating as the Stanley Cup was passed around at the end of game 7.

The day after the Blues received their championship rings, two players visited Laila to personally deliver her very own ring. I saw those rings yesterday, and they are just about as big as Laila's hand. They were big rings. Her name was inscribed on the diamond-studded championship ring that was given to her, which also included the words “Play Gloria,” which became the theme song, fight song, inspirational song for the Blues at the end of the season.

Blues fans have plenty to be excited about this season. The majority of the names of the players that are now etched on the Stanley Cup are back this year. The roster is even better with the addition of defenseman Justin Faulk.

We are also proud to say that St. Louis will host the 2020 NHL All-Star Game in January. That game, of course, brings together the most talented players in professional hockey. I know St. Louis is ready to welcome them, and we will all be excited to further solidify St. Louis's place as one of the great sports cities in America.

It has been a great year for Blues fans, and I hope the team will once again have the opportunity to visit the White House next year. This will be the first year of many years where those of us in the Missouri delegation will get to host the Stanley Cup in the Capitol.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. 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.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, the House of Representatives continues to investigate the circumstances of the President's interaction with Ukrainian President Zelensky and whether he used the power of his office to pressure

a foreign leader to intervene in an American election on his behalf. The facts that are already in the public domain are so deeply troubling and must be taken very seriously. I know that our colleagues in the House of Representatives did not run for office to begin an impeachment inquiry, but this task was thrust upon them by the President's alleged conduct and the demands of the Constitution of our Republic.

Here in the Senate, our job is even more austere. We are assigned the power not only to examine the evidence but to render judgment. We all have a solemn duty to follow the facts impartially and let ourselves be governed by reason, rather than by passion or by politics. That role means that we have a responsibility to behave impartially, in a nonpartisan manner from the outset. As my friend Leader MCCONNELL said during the 1998 impeachment debate, "it's been my view that I don't, as a potential juror, if it's serious enough to warrant a potential impeachment proceeding, I don't think I ought to pre-judge the case."

Yet already a few of my Senate Republican colleagues seem determined to turn this serious inquiry into another partisan exercise. My friend the Republican leader, here on the floor yesterday, made the sadly predictable attack of calling the work of the majority in the House partisan. Another of my colleagues, Senator GRAHAM, said he was trying to organize a letter of Senate Republicans promising they would not vote to convict the President before the House even completes its inquiry—before any articles of impeachment are even drafted, let alone voted on, before a scrap of evidence was considered in the Senate trial, if it comes to that. Senator GRAHAM seems to be advocating "Alice in Wonderland" justice—first the verdict, then the trial. I hope he will rethink that.

Over the State work period, the Republican leader ran an advertisement in which he declared: "The way that impeachment stops is a Senate majority with me as majority leader." That is a far cry from what he said in 1998: "not prejudging the case."

We are several steps away from a potential trial in the Senate. The House continues to do its work diligently, even handedly, with only the facts in mind. So I remind my Republican colleagues in this Chamber that committing today to vote not guilty is contrary to their oath to do impartial justice. That is their oath. Instead of prejudging, I remind my Republican colleagues in this body that you have a responsibility to put country over party. Our national security, the rule of law, and our democracy are at stake.

TURKEY AND SYRIA

Mr. President, we are witnessing in realtime the collapse of American foreign policy in the Middle East. Five years of hard fighting in Syria to first destabilize and then to degrade ISIS has potentially been undone in one

phone call. The President's abrupt decision to withdraw U.S. forces has abandoned the field to our enemies—ISIS, Iran, Putin, and Bashar al-Assad—and it has put our friends in danger, including two of the closest friends we have in the Middle East, the Syrian Kurds and Israel.

I want to be very clear. The President's decision poses a threat to our national security here in the United States. By green-lighting President Erdogan's operation and abandoning the Syrian Kurds to face the onslaught on their own, the President has made an already fragile situation in northern Syria more dangerous and handed a "get out of jail free" card to potentially more than 10,000 ISIS fighters. ISIS has threatened the United States and our allies repeatedly, taken Americans hostages and executed them, and will undoubtedly continue to threaten our security if they experience a resurgence.

We New Yorkers know best, unfortunately, how a small group of fanatics half a world away can do incredible damage and kill thousands of Americans here on our soil. Now, with ISIS prisoners escaping, unfortunately, the chances of that are increasing, not just according to me but to an expert like General Mattis.

Make no mistake. The President's incompetence has put American lives in danger. Today, the House of Representatives will consider a resolution that condemns the President's decision and demands that he reverse course. It should pass with bipartisan support and should be the first order of business for us here in the Senate—the first order of business. Sanctions against Erdogan are fine and good. President Erdogan should be punished for his military adventurism and his aggression, but sanctions alone are insufficient, and they are particularly insufficient in regard to ISIS. Sanctions will not put ISIS fighters back on the run or back in their cells. They will not stop Iran and Putin's growing influence in the region, nor will they undo America's betrayal of our partners and allies. Sanctions can be an effective tool, but they are not the only tool, especially when the crisis in this case is of the President's own making. The simplest and most effective remedy would be for the President to admit his mistake and correct course.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. President, earlier this summer, both Houses of Congress and the White House arrived at a budget agreement that gave us a blueprint for funding the government, but in September, Republicans unilaterally walked away from our agreement and proposed taking \$12 billion from domestic programs—including Head Start, HHS, and even the Pentagon—to fund the President's border wall. This is a nonstarter. There aren't enough votes in the Chamber to pass it.

As we look to get the appropriations back on track, I was disappointed that

Senate Republicans let the entire State work period pass without responding to Democratic offers. Instead of spending that time negotiating with House Democrats on allocations, Senate Republicans have sat on their hands, and now we are back in session this week at the same impasse. Republicans are insisting on the same thing they unsuccessfully shut down the government for last year: \$12 billion for a border wall that President Trump promised Mexico would pay for.

If Senate Republicans don't wake up and resume good-faith negotiations with Democrats, I fear we are headed down the same road.

PENSIONS

Mr. President, for decades, millions of Americans labored in construction and mining and truck driving and other industries with the promise of a secure retirement when they reached old age through their pension. But through no fault of their own, forces like a financial crisis, a dwindling labor force, and inaction on the part of the Federal Government, their pension plans are now at risk of becoming insolvent within a decade. This is an immediate problem. It is going to destroy the security of millions of retirees—people who worked all their lives. They put a little bit of money away that they could have spent when they needed it, but they put it in for their retirement hoping that the day they retire they wouldn't become rich, but at least they could live decently. Now that may be vanished—vanished. Congress has the power to stop this problem dead in its tracks. Just 2 months ago, the House passed the Butch Lewis Act, which would provide immediate relief to "critical and declining" pension plans so we can keep our promise to our workers. Leader MCCONNELL and Senate Republicans, once again, inexplicably, have refused to take action on this bipartisan legislation. Senate Republicans blocked us from even debating it last night. So in a short time, I will join my colleagues, including Senators BROWN, STABENOW, MANCHIN, MURRAY, and WYDEN to demand that Leader MCCONNELL allow us a vote on legislation to protect these millions of workers and secure the retirements they have earned.

President Trump often claims to be looking out for the American worker, but his policies set them further and further adrift. This one is notorious. Retirement, a decent retirement, is part of the American dream and part of the American way. Here is a chance for President Trump to actually defend American workers instead of hurting them.

If President Trump is truly the champion of the American worker, he will prevail on our Republican colleagues to start working with Democrats to make sure—make sure—we protect the pensions that millions of families rely on for their security and have paid for.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF BARBARA MCCONNELL BARRETT

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, later today, the Senate will vote to confirm Barbara Barrett as Secretary of the Air Force. I have come to the floor directly from a meeting with her this morning.

Ambassador Barrett has had an impressive career both inside and outside of government. Among other things, she has served as U.S. Ambassador to Finland, Deputy Administrator of the FAA, and as a member of the Civil Aeronautics Board. Most importantly, she has a deep understanding of the U.S. Air Force, thanks to her work as a civilian adviser to the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Chiefs.

As a member of the Defense Advisory Committee on women in the services, she fought to expand opportunities for women in the military. She became the first civilian woman to land an F-18 on an aircraft carrier, which was part of a mission to demonstrate women's fitness to fly in combat. Thanks, in part, to her work in 1993, the military changed its regulations to allow women to fly combat aircraft.

I am always particularly interested in making sure we have an outstanding Air Force Secretary because my State of South Dakota is lucky enough to play host to Ellsworth Air Force Base, home of the 28th Bomb Wing and future home of the B-21 bomber.

Over the State work period in October, I was able to visit Ellsworth to sit down with the new commander of the 28th Bomb Wing, Col. David Doss, as well as CCM Rochelle Hemingway. We had a great discussion, and we had a chance to talk about the needs of the base going forward, including what will be needed as Ellsworth prepares to serve as the first home of the B-21.

Ensuring that the base has the necessary resources and infrastructure to fully support the B-21 mission will be a priority of mine not just as we await the mission but for decades to come.

Since I came to Congress, I have worked with the base and the Greater Rapid City community to build up Ellsworth. We have gone from fighting to keep the base open, to adding an MQ-9 Reaper mission and supporting the B-1 as a workhorse of the bomber fleet, to hosting the largest training airspace in the continental United States, and to being chosen to host both the B-21 training mission and first operational squadron.

I am incredibly proud of all that Ellsworth airmen have accomplished, and I am looking forward to seeing everything the team at the base will be able to do in the future.

TURKEY AND SYRIA

Madam President, as I reflect on the critical role our military plays in the world, I want to take a moment to talk about what is happening in Syria right now and the U.S. response.

This is a complex situation. Given its proximity to several fronts of conflict and unrest, Turkey is facing immense pressure to address security concerns and is straining to support a huge number of refugees.

Turkey also has an understandable interest in rooting out terrorists within its country and stemming any factions that support them, but the Kurdish militias the United States has backed in Syria are not the same as the group Turkey has struggled to contain in its own country.

Turkey's decision to attack Kurdish forces in Syria will do nothing but exacerbate the humanitarian crisis on the border. It will also strengthen the Assad regime and foster greater influence in the region by Russia and Iran. Most alarmingly, Turkey's incursion will force the Kurds to pull resources that would otherwise be committed to keeping ISIS fighters imprisoned. It is deeply concerning that the withdrawal of U.S. forces has set this into motion.

As you know, a major reason for ISIS's rise was President Obama's decision to withdraw U.S. forces from Iraq on a timetable that he announced to our enemies and before the security situation was stable. The departure of U.S. forces created a vacuum in the region that ISIS quickly stepped in to fill. It is important that we don't allow history to repeat itself.

U.S. and Kurdish forces have been working together against ISIS for years now and have succeeded in drastically shrinking ISIS's territory and weakening this terrorist organization. Thanks to their work, in many respects ISIS can be said to be on the run, but this achievement could quickly be undone by a U.S. withdrawal from the country.

I hope we will be able to have some fruitful discussions here in Washington this week about the need to maintain our strategic gains against ISIS and avoid creating a vacuum for our enemies to fill, and I hope our NATO ally Turkey is listening closely.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

IMMIGRATION

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise today on the Senate floor to address an issue that is really fundamental to who we are as Americans. It is the issue of immigration.

We just celebrated, this past week, a day dedicated to Christopher Colum-

bus, who, supposedly, discovered America. Of course, we know better. Native Americans were here and discovered it before him, but he was the first European to discover America and really triggered an immigration to this part of the world that has really changed America and the world forever.

This immigration from all over the world has created one of the most diverse nations on Earth. I am a beneficiary of that immigration. My mother was an immigrant to America in 1911, coming here from Lithuania to East St. Louis, IL, where she was raised and where I had the chance to grow up, as well.

Today, her son—this immigrant mother's son—has been serving as a U.S. Senator from Illinois with humility and pride. It is an indication of our family's story, but it is also America's story—how immigrants came from far and wide to America and made lives and great futures and built families that continue to serve this Nation to this day.

You would think, since immigration is such a central part of who we are as Americans, that there would be a general consensus about the issue, but it turns out to be one of the most hotly contested and debated issues almost since the arrival of the Mayflower.

How many people should be allowed to come to this country? Where are they going to come from? What will they do when they come here? What impact will they have on those of us who are already here? All of these questions of national security have led us into an ongoing national debate about immigration.

Today, this morning, I come to the floor to discuss one aspect of it. This last Sunday morning, I was back in Illinois and was invited to a Democratic Party event in Schaumburg, IL. It was a fairly routine breakfast meeting of the Democratic township organization. I have been to many of them. It is great to see old friends.

When I arrived at the event, I was surprised to see demonstrators, protesters—perhaps 200 of them—holding signs with my name on them. It is not exactly the way you want to start a Sunday morning, greeting 200 people with signs about this fellow named Durbin. I had a chance to talk to them. I didn't run away from them because I wanted to find out who they were and why they were there.

By and large, they were people from India who are currently living in the United States and want to become legal citizens here. Most of them came to the United States bringing special skills that were needed. Many of them are in the Silicon Valley high-tech industries—engineers who came to the United States once companies certified that they couldn't find an American to fill the job, which is a requirement. Having been unable to find an American, these companies asked permission to bring in these highly skilled people from India to serve as engineers in the United States.

They come in on what is known as H-1B visas, by and large, and that allows them to work in the United States for several years and to renew that work status on a recurring basis. But there reached a point where they wanted to stay here. They have lived here awhile. They bring their families and raise their families here, and they want to become part of America's future. They apply for what is known as an employment-based immigrant visa, which leads to a green card. A green card is the ticket to legal, permanent residency, which can lead to citizenship.

So these people from India, who were waiting to see me and say a few words to me, stated the fact that the waiting list for those in this category from India has now passed 520,000. There are 520,000 who are seeking permanent status in our country.

I met one of them from my hometown of Springfield, IL, a young Indian physician who is serving at one of our hospitals in Springfield. He brought with him his daughter. His daughter is 12 years old. He is worried because if he, the physician who came here to work from India, is not allowed to legally stay in this country and his daughter reaches the age of 21, her status changes. She is no longer his dependent. She now has her own immigration status, and she is not technically, legally, beyond the age of 21, allowed to stay in this country.

So he says to me: Here is my daughter, who has been here for 10 years. This is the country she knows and loves and wants to be a part of, and if I don't get approval to stay as a doctor in this country, she is technically undocumented at that point, and we run into problems with the future.

For example, it is no surprise that this doctor wants to see his daughter go to college. Well, his daughter, undocumented, will not qualify for any assistance in the United States by way of Pell grants or loans. How is she going to pay for college? Where would she go? Our immigration system says, at that point, if her father doesn't reach this green card status, she would return to India, a place she maybe never remembers and that was part of her infancy in her early time here on Earth.

So it is a complicated situation. There is a debate under way here about how to stop this backlog of people who are waiting in line 10 years, 20 years, and more to reach green card status. You can imagine the uncertainty in their lives, the uncertainty for their children, and why they are looking for some relief.

I came to this issue never dreaming that I would end up being in the middle of most debates in the Senate on immigration, but I welcome it because it is such an important issue and because I have strong feelings myself about America's immigration policy.

I serve as the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Border Security and Immigration for the Senate Judiciary

Committee. As I have said, my own personal family and life experience have really made me warm to the subject, and I try to learn as much as I can about a complex field. Make no mistake, the immigration system of the United States of America is badly, badly broken. How to fix it is hotly debated here in the Senate and in the House and across the Nation.

Last night, when I was watching the Presidential debates, groups were running ads on a regular basis on the issue of immigration. Many believe that it is going to be a hot topic in the 2020 election. It is quite possible that it will be. We know that in State legislatures and city halls, on cable news and social media, and almost everywhere, there is a debate under way about immigration. But there is one place where there is no debate about immigration—here in the U.S. Senate.

This year, we had one hearing in the Border Security and Immigration Subcommittee. And the Senate Judiciary Committee voted on only one immigration bill. The chairman limited debate to only one hour and didn't allow any amendments, and we have not had any debates on the floor of the Senate.

I look to the Galleries and the people who come to the Senate and expect to see a debate on an issue—an important issue. Here is one: immigration. But all they have is a speech from this Senator and a few others, instead of addressing the issue of immigration.

Senator KENNEDY has come to the floor, and I am going to make a unanimous consent request in just a few minutes. He is a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, too, and I think he appreciates, as I do, what a great honor it is to serve on this storied committee. But the fact is that to have the titles of Judiciary Committee and Border Security and Immigration Subcommittee and to do nothing, I think, is a dereliction of duty.

We are supposed to step up and debate these things and come to the best bipartisan conclusion we can to solve problems in this country. Here is a problem we are not solving: how to deal with a backlog of people, highly skilled and important people, like the doctor from my hometown of Springfield, from India, who wants to have a green card, giving him an opportunity to become an American citizen.

Do you know what? I want that doctor to become an American citizen. I want him to get a green card. We need him in my hometown and many more just like him, and I want his family to be there with him so that his life is complete as he pursues his professional responsibilities.

Now, in recent weeks, there has been an effort to pass a bill to address this issue. The bill is S. 386. It is known as the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act. Unfortunately, there was an effort to pass it without any debate or a chance to even offer an amendment.

Now, this bill makes significant changes in our immigration laws, but

there has never been a hearing on the bill or a vote in the committee. The lead sponsor of the legislation is MIKE LEE, who is the senior Senator from Utah and a personal friend. He has negotiated several amendments in private with his Republican Senators, but there has been no conversation with myself or any other Democratic Senators about these negotiations.

That is not how the Senate should work. I believe I have seen the Senate at its best, and, unfortunately, it was 7 years ago. We decided—eight of us in the Senate, four Democrats and four Republicans—to actually sit down and try to fix the immigration system. It is a pretty ambitious task, but we had some pretty talented people engaged in it. Leading on the Republican side was John McCain from Arizona. Next to him was LINDSEY GRAHAM from South Carolina, Jeff Flake from Arizona, and MARCO RUBIO from Florida.

On our side, I was engaged with Senator CHUCK SCHUMER, who is now the Democrat Senate leader, as well as BOB MENENDEZ, of course, a Hispanic Senator from the State of New Jersey, and MICHAEL BENNET from Colorado.

So the eight of us came together. We did what I think the Senate is supposed to do. We sat down and took our time and spent months, every single week, sometimes several evenings each week, going through a different section of our immigration law and trying to make it work, reform it, and change it. It took us months—some 6 months of meetings. That is what we are elected to do.

We produced a comprehensive immigration reform bill that was supported by virtually everyone. Groups of business leaders, as well as groups of labor leaders, the church community, and all sorts of people from the conservative side of politics to the liberal side of politics said that this was a good, fair, bipartisan compromise.

So in 2013, we reported this bill to the floor, after our Democratic Judiciary Committee chairman at that time, PATRICK LEAHY from Vermont, had a lengthy hearing. We considered over 100 amendments—amendments offered by those who were voting against the bill, like Jeff Sessions from Alabama, and amendments offered by those supporting the bill, like MAZIE HIRONO from Hawaii. Each person offered an amendment, debated it, and we voted. It sounded like the U.S. Senate; didn't it? We were actually voting on amendments on a critically important bill. Thanks to Chairman LEAHY's skill and patience, I might add, after hundreds of amendments were considered, the bill was reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee, came to the floor of the Senate in 2013, and we called for a vote. It passed 68 to 32. After all that work, on a bipartisan basis, we finally got it right. I thought we did, and I voted for it.

Sadly, that bill was sent across the Rotunda, over to the House of Representatives, as the Constitution requires, and, unfortunately, the Republican Speaker, John Boehner, refused

to call the bill or debate an alternative to it. It literally died from lack of any effort to deal with the issue in the U.S. House of Representatives.

So one would ask—that was more than 6 years ago—what has happened since? The answer is nothing—virtually nothing—except decisions by the Trump administration, for example, to eliminate some aspects of our immigration law, like the DACA provision.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent for 3 additional minutes.

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

Mr. DURBIN. In light of an attempt to pass the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act without hearings or debate, I come to the floor today to present an alternative. I am introducing the Resolving Extended Limbo for Immigrant Employees and Families Act, known as the RELIEF Act, which will treat all immigrants fairly by eliminating immigrant visa backlogs.

One of the most serious problems of our immigration system is that there are not enough immigrant visas, known as green cards. As a result, immigrants are stuck in crippling backlogs for decades. Close to 4 million future Americans, many of whom already live and work in the United States, are on the State Department's immigrant visa waiting list. However, under current law, only 226,000 family green cards and 140,000 employee green cards are available each year. Children and spouses of lawful permanent residents, known as LPRs, count against these caps, which further limit the number of available green cards.

The backlogs are a tremendous hardship on families caught in this situation. Children of parents waiting to become LPRs often age out, as I described earlier, because they are no longer children by the time the green cards are available for them. The solution is clear: increase the number of green cards.

Let's be clear. Lifting green card country caps alone, without increasing green cards, as the bill that Senator LEE is sponsoring would do, will not eliminate the backlog for Indian immigrants, the nationality with the most people in the employment backlog, and it will dramatically increase backlogs for the rest of the world.

Mr. Ira Kurzban, who is the Nation's expert on immigration laws, has said that we are virtually trying to solve the problem with Senator LEE's bill for Indian immigrants at the expense of everyone else in the world. He says:

From 2023 until well into the 2030s, there will be zero EB-2 visas for the rest of the world. None for China, South Korea, Philippines, Britain, Canada, Mexico, every country in the [European Union] and all of Africa. Zero.

It would also choke off green cards for every important profession that isn't in the information technology field.

More than 20 national organizations have now rallied against the Lee legis-

lation and have said things such as that the bill offers a "zero-sum approach," pitting one group of immigrants against another to fight the broken immigration system.

The RELIEF Act, which I am introducing today, is a solution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2603

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has used his extra 3 minutes.

Mr. DURBIN. I am making a unanimous consent request.

As in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2603, introduced earlier today; further, that the bill be considered read three times 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 objection?

The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, reserving the right to object, no one in this Chamber has more respect for the senior Senator from Illinois and the Democratic whip than I do. I share much of his frustration. I also share, and I believe what the Senator also believes, that immigration is an extraordinarily important subject that this body should be addressing. We are a nation of immigrants. The American people support legal immigration. I know the senior Senator from Illinois supports it. I certainly support it.

I am rising to object because a number of my colleagues—and I don't want to simply put it on them; I join with them in this—would like a little additional time to study this bill. Equally important, if not more important, many of my colleagues' sentiment is that we should take this bill up first in the Judiciary Committee.

I commit to the minority whip that I will join with him in trying to get our esteemed chairman to take this bill up. I don't think we ought to be afraid of this issue. I don't think we ought to be reluctant to take difficult votes. That is why we are here in the U.S. Senate. I also cannot think of a subject that is more important for this body to address than the subject of immigration, including but not limited to legal and illegal immigration.

The fact of the matter is that the American people deserve an immigration system that looks like somebody designed it on purpose.

For the reasons I just expressed, Madam President, I respectfully object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. I thank my colleague from Louisiana. We have worked on things together, and I hope we will continue to do so in the future.

This is controversial, but it is so timely and important. The hundreds of people who demonstrated against this Senator last Sunday were people I welcomed into this country and believe will be an important part of our future. I am willing to find a solution to the problem, and I am willing to work on a bipartisan basis to do it. Your help will be invaluable.

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 Frank William Volk, of West Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia.

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 debate on the nomination of Frank William Volk, of West Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) 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 California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 90, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 315 Ex.]

YEAS—90

Baldwin	Blumenthal	Braun
Barrasso	Blunt	Brown
Blackburn	Boozman	Burr

Cantwell	Heinrich	Roberts
Capito	Hoeven	Romney
Cardin	Hyde-Smith	Rosen
Carper	Inhofe	Rounds
Casey	Jones	Rubio
Cassidy	Kaine	Sasse
Collins	Kennedy	Schatz
Coons	King	Schumer
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Cortez Masto	Leahy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Shaheen
Cramer	Manchin	Shelby
Crapo	Markey	Sinema
Cruz	McConnell	Smith
Daines	McSally	Stabenow
Duckworth	Menendez	Sullivan
Durbin	Merkley	Tester
Enzi	Moran	Thune
Ernst	Murkowski	Tillis
Feinstein	Murphy	Toomey
Fischer	Murray	Udall
Gardner	Paul	Van Hollen
Gillibrand	Perdue	Warner
Graham	Peters	Whitehouse
Grassley	Portman	Wicker
Hassan	Reed	Wyden
Hawley	Risch	Young

NOT VOTING—10

Alexander	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Isakson	Warren
Booker	Johnson	
Harris	Klobuchar	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 90, the nays are 0. The motion is agreed to.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the remaining votes in the series be 10 minutes in length.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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 legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Charles R. Eskridge III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

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 debate on the nomination of Charles R. Eskridge III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) 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 California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 61, nays 29, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 316 Ex.]

YEAS—61

Barrasso	Fischer	Risch
Blackburn	Gardner	Roberts
Blunt	Graham	Romney
Boozman	Grassley	Rounds
Braun	Hawley	Rubio
Burr	Hoeven	Sasse
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cardin	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Carper	Kaine	Shaheen
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Collins	King	Sinema
Coons	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lee	Thune
Cotton	McConnell	Tillis
Cramer	McSally	Toomey
Crapo	Moran	Warner
Cruz	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Daines	Murphy	Wicker
Enzi	Paul	Young
Ernst	Perdue	
Feinstein	Portman	

NAYS—29

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Blumenthal	Jones	Schatz
Brown	Leahy	Schumer
Cantwell	Manchin	Smith
Casey	Markey	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Tester
Duckworth	Merkley	Udall
Durbin	Murray	Van Hollen
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	

NOT VOTING—10

Alexander	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Isakson	Warren
Booker	Johnson	
Harris	Klobuchar	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 61, the nays are 29. The motion is agreed to.

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 David John Novak, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Mitch McConnell, John Boozman, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven, Rob Portman, Dan Sullivan, Chuck Grassley, Richard Burr, John Thune, Roy Blunt.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of David John Novak, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, 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.

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

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) 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 California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 86, nays 4, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 317 Ex.]

YEAS—86

Baldwin	Fischer	Reed
Barrasso	Gardner	Risch
Blackburn	Graham	Roberts
Blumenthal	Grassley	Romney
Blunt	Hassan	Rosen
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Burr	Inhofe	Schatz
Cantwell	Jones	Schumer
Capito	Kaine	Scott (FL)
Cardin	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Carper	King	Shaheen
Casey	Lankford	Shelby
Cassidy	Leahy	Sinema
Collins	Lee	Smith
Coons	Manchin	Stabenow
Cornyn	McConnell	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	McSally	Tester
Cotton	Menendez	Thune
Cramer	Merkley	Tillis
Crapo	Moran	Toomey
Cruz	Murkowski	Udall
Daines	Murphy	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murray	Warner
Durbin	Paul	Whitehouse
Enzi	Perdue	Wicker
Ernst	Peters	Young
Feinstein	Portman	

NAYS—4

Gillibrand	Markey
Heinrich	Wyden

NOT VOTING—10

Alexander	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Isakson	Warren
Booker	Johnson	
Harris	Klobuchar	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 86, the nays are 4.

The motion is agreed to.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Rachel P. Kovner, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Mitch McConnell, John Boozman, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven, Rob Portman, Dan Sullivan, Chuck Grassley, Richard Burr, John Thune, Roy Blunt.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Rachel P. Kovner, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) 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 California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 85, nays 3, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 318 Ex.]

YEAS—85

Baldwin	Collins	Gardner
Barrasso	Coons	Graham
Blackburn	Cornyn	Grassley
Blumenthal	Cortez Masto	Hassan
Blunt	Cotton	Hawley
Boozman	Cramer	Hoeven
Braun	Crapo	Hyde-Smith
Brown	Cruz	Jones
Burr	Daines	Kaine
Cantwell	Duckworth	Kennedy
Capito	Durbin	King
Cardin	Enzi	Lankford
Carper	Ernst	Leahy
Casey	Feinstein	Lee
Cassidy	Fischer	Manchin

Markey	Risch	Smith
McConnell	Roberts	Sullivan
McSally	Romney	Tester
Menendez	Rosen	Thune
Merkley	Rounds	Tillis
Moran	Rubio	Toomey
Murkowski	Sasse	Udall
Murphy	Schatz	Van Hollen
Murray	Schumer	Warner
Paul	Scott (FL)	Whitehouse
Perdue	Scott (SC)	Wicker
Peters	Shaheen	Young
Portman	Shelby	
Reed	Sinema	

NAYS—3

Gillibrand	Heinrich	Wyden
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NOT VOTING—12

Alexander	Hirono	Klobuchar
Bennet	Inhofe	Sanders
Booker	Isakson	Stabenow
Harris	Johnson	Warren

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 85, the nays are 3.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 5 minutes.

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

PENSIONS

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I just came from a rally—a meeting—with more or less 100 middle-class workers from Wisconsin, West Virginia, my State of Ohio, and all over the country. There were teamsters and mineworkers dressed in camo shirts. There were also bakery and confectionery workers, carpenters, and electricians. They were here because many of them—maybe all of them—are about to lose 50 percent of their pensions. They are about to lose their pensions because 10 years ago, in the end days of the Bush administration, which was when our economy plummeted and people were losing jobs—800,000 jobs a month in the last months of the Bush administration—and when companies were going out of business, a lot of the employers of these workers went out of business. When you put on top of that the Wall Street greed, you can see why these pensions are in jeopardy.

Too often in this town, the White House, frankly, and my Senate colleagues don't understand what collective bargaining is about. Collective bargaining is negotiating at the bargaining table the giving up of wages today so as to put money aside and have pensions and healthcare in the future. That is what these workers did, these teamsters and these confection workers and these ironworkers. That is what they did, but they are paying a price. There is nothing they did to cause this, but they are paying a price.

Now, parenthetically, this body fell all over itself to bail out Wall Street and to help the big auto companies, and look how they are paying back their workers. This body, the President—all of them are fine with bailing out the big guys. Yet the President has been absent, and the Senate Republican leadership has been absent. The exception is that Senator PORTMAN has been working with me, as has Senator

HOEVEN and others, but the leadership has been absent with regard to trying to fix this pension issue.

You love your country, and you fight for the people who make it work. You fight for the dignity of work, which means honoring and respecting work. We have to do better.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2254

Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be discharged from further consideration of S. 2254, the Butch Lewis Act; 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, I have some sympathy for the motion that Senator BROWN made because he just came from a meeting with people who are very interested in getting this multiemployer pension issue straightened out.

It was 3 or 4 years ago that I spoke to a big delegation of people who were mostly from the Central States Teamsters, and they were very much lobbying for a solution to this problem. They treated me like a hero because at that time we were probably in the middle of a Government Accountability Office investigation of the mismanagement of these funds. We thought we were going to get a GAO report that would show the mismanagement, reap the benefits of that mismanagement, and recoup a lot of funds. Quite frankly, that Government Accountability Office study of about 2 years didn't prove what I thought and what the Central States Teamsters people thought was wrong. We still think the mismanagement was there, but if you don't have an authority like the Government Accountability Office to justify that, it doesn't give you much of a leg to follow up on.

Now we have the Butch Lewis Act for which Senator BROWN is asking unanimous consent. We also have other proposals that the Senate Committee on Finance, which I chair, has been working on—and not only under my chairmanship. The biggest part of this work was probably done when Senator Hatch was still the chairman of the committee.

I also want to give people the reasons I have asked to reserve the right to object.

The Butch Lewis Act doesn't provide long-term solvency to the Central States' plan or to other critical and declining multiemployer pension plans. It is a costly and incomplete attempt to fix the multiemployer system.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, many plans that would be eligible for loans under this legislation couldn't pay these loans back, and most of the plans taking the loans

would become insolvent even if they were able to pay back the loans. The bill acknowledges this failing by providing for direct Federal assistance for plans that go insolvent even after they receive loans.

Most critically, the Butch Lewis Act makes no reforms to the system in order to secure its long-term solvency. That is not the way we ought to be working to help retirees.

In getting back to the work of the Committee on Finance, since last year, both under Senator Hatch's leadership and mine, the committee has been working on a bipartisan basis to address the issues facing the multiemployer system. I emphasize the necessity of bipartisanship in the U.S. Senate. When you have a division of 53 to 47 and you have to have 60 votes to get something done in this body, bipartisanship is very, very important.

The committee is nearing its completion of a comprehensive proposal that will include financial assistance to the critical and declining multiemployer pension plans and provide long-term solvency to these plans and to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. That proposal will include financial relief for plans like Central States' and for the coal miners.

The Butch Lewis Act is so costly and does nothing to fix the flaws in the system that has brought about this bill. In relationship to the Government Accountability Office, I spoke to some of those flaws that I initiated a few years ago. There is really nothing in the proposal on which Senator BROWN is asking for a UC that addresses the mismanagement of the trustees. Our comprehensive plan includes reforms to address trustee requirements and plan operations. In other words, the people in the private sector who are managing this ought to have some responsibility of making sure they are doing it in a fiscally sound way and are carrying out the rights of the trustees.

So I object to this request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I thank Senator GRASSLEY, and we will be working together on this.

I just want to point out that there was, of course, some mismanagement. As does the Senator, I want to fix some of the structural issues, but time is of the essence. I understand this is not happening today, but time is of the essence with regard to these pensions, especially for the mineworkers. Those for the teamsters are next and for the others in the Central States. As Chairman GRASSLEY knows, it will get worse and worse and worse if we don't get this done this year.

I do want to emphasize, while there of course is some mismanagement of funds here, the preponderance of the problem is that a bunch of mining companies, construction companies, and transportation companies went out of business with the Bush recession in

2007, 2008, and 2009, taking away the companies paying into these funds.

The other part of it was Wall Street greed, generally what happened to the stock market.

That is the preponderance of the problem, but I concur with Senator GRASSLEY that we can work on a lot of this together. Senator PORTMAN and I especially have a responsibility to get this done, to make it happen.

I thank the chairman.

I yield the floor.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. PERDUE).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

MAIDEN SPEECH

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, my story begins with my mom. My mom had a very difficult life. She grew up with a verbally abusive, alcoholic father. She married a physically abusive, alcoholic husband, whom she divorced when I was born. At that time, divorce was frowned upon. My birth father never gave my mom, my older brother, or me a dime. I never met him.

My mom eventually married the man who became my adoptive father, a bus-driver who made all four combat jumps with the 82nd Airborne in World War II. This summer, I had the opportunity to go to the D-Day anniversary in Normandy and to look at the area he parachuted into, where 17 percent of his company died.

He was a loving father, but with only a sixth-grade education and five children, he struggled to support our family. We had no money and lived in public housing, but even with all of those issues, I cannot think of a better childhood.

Even with no money, my mom was optimistic and hopeful. She told us that we were blessed because God and our Founders created the greatest country ever, where anything was possible. I am not sure my mom ever really had a plan for us, but she certainly knew what she was doing. We sat through many sermons, and church was not optional. We were told we had to make straight A's. We memorized the first part of the Declaration of Independence and the 23rd Psalm. We became Eagle Scouts, cleaned the house, and had to have a job. I started working at 7 years old and haven't stopped since.

We weren't allowed to complain. Debt, Big Government, socialism, and communism were bad. College was for a better paying job.

We were constantly lectured about the dangers of drug abuse. Unfortu-

nately, drugs have destroyed the life of one of my family members.

I enlisted in the U.S. Navy at 18, where I swabbed the decks, cleaned the latrines, served the mess decks, and took college courses aboard a destroyer during the last years of Vietnam but never close to Vietnam.

I married my high school sweetheart at 19, and, today, Ann and I have two daughters, six very perfect grandsons, and a seventh very perfect grandchild on the way next year. My wonderful wife, Ann, is here today and has been by my side every step of our journey.

While I didn't always appreciate my tough-love, my-way-or-the-highway mom growing up, I now thank God every day for my mom and for this country. She gave me the opportunity to experience every lesson this country had to offer before I was 20.

Unfortunately, the left has worked hard over the last 50 years to discredit the values of the America I was raised with—the values of the America I want my grandsons to grow up with. We all acknowledge that Americans, our country, and our institutions have flaws, but the left has worked to discredit our Founders, our institutions, our churches, our law enforcement, our morals, and almost everything my mom taught me. It has been happening for a long time.

The left railed against our soldiers during the Vietnam war. They call those still believing in a supreme being or the commitment of marriage uninformed and old fashioned. They are now openly saying that churches that hold traditional values should lose their tax-exempt status.

The left doesn't care about our enormous debt, pushes for socialism, and criticizes the Boy Scouts. The left thinks it is OK that our schools don't teach about the Founding Fathers or free markets. They want you to think America was never great.

To a degree, the pressure from the left is working. Americans under 30 are less interested in joining the military. Church attendance is at an all-time low. Participation in the Boy Scouts, even after allowing girls in, has shrunk. Many are choosing not to have families. And Socialism, the single most discredited idea of the last century—an idea that has led millions into poverty and tyranny around the globe—has gained a foothold in one of our two political parties.

I spent most of my life in business. The values that my tough-love mom instilled in me helped me to achieve the success she expected—not just hoped for but expected—for me. I was able to live the American dream because I worked hard. I lived out the values my mom taught me in my business career—hard work and fiscal responsibility but with a caring spirit to support those around me.

I built a healthcare company that had lower costs and better quality of care than my competitors. We had the highest patient satisfaction surveys in

the industry. I built and bought businesses for most of my life that helped hundreds of thousands of people get good, high-paying jobs. Many of them were failing businesses that we had to turn around to save jobs.

My experience growing up in a family that struggled to get good jobs influenced everything I have done in my life. It is not easy, and it shouldn't be, but everyone—every single American—should have the opportunity to struggle, work hard, and overcome the obstacles.

I took those exact same values to the Governor's office when I was elected in 2010. Florida had been struggling, and 832,000 jobs had been lost in the 4 years before I took office. Home prices were cut in half. Debt was soaring. The State raised taxes on its poorest citizens by more than \$2 billion to fill a budget hole.

I always think about my mom. I think about how it impacted her when food prices went up, taxes went up, when my brother got sick without health insurance, and when my dad was laid off. I became a jobs Governor. It wasn't a political talking point. It was about real people.

I have traveled around the State highlighting new businesses that opened in Florida, even small businesses. I remember a local legislator asking me once why I wasted my time going to a small town in Florida to highlight a new business's opening with just 30 new jobs. My response was that my dad struggled to find any job, and that is 30 families who have the opportunity to live the American Dream, and what could be more important?

In 8 years, Florida added 1.7 million new jobs, we paid down almost one-third of State debt, and we invested record funding in education, the environment, and transportation.

I also tried to fight for the values that are being lost in this country. I fight to protect life, to support the institution of the family, to lift up our military members, veterans, and law enforcement, to promote capitalism, and to defend the rule of law and the Constitution.

These values are under attack from the left and have been for quite some time. There is no easy solution to that problem, but one thing is clear: Government is not the solution. Washington is not the solution.

In my short time in the U.S. Senate, I have promoted policies I believe support the idea of an America where anything is possible. We need lower taxes. We need less regulation. We need a secure border and a sane immigration policy. We need to get healthcare costs under control. We need to defend freedom and liberty all over the world. But none of this will matter unless we see hearts and minds change. We need a renewal in America of the values that made this country great. That will not happen on the floor of the U.S. Senate. It will happen in the living rooms, classrooms, churches, synagogues, and boardrooms.

We need to remember that hard work is a feature, not a bug, of this American experiment and that the family unit is at the center of our society, and the breakdown of the family has been hugely detrimental. We need to remember that capitalism is the greatest force for economic good in the history of the world and socialism belongs in the ash-heap of history. We need to remember these things because our freedoms and the country we love can be lost forever. The values that made America great can go away, and there are those among us who want them to go away.

This challenge is much bigger than politics, and the solution is not political. It requires us—every one of us—to stand up and fight and to say without reservation or fear that we will not give up on America or the plans of our Founders. We will not stop fighting for our future.

If we want America to be great in the future, we must reject the politically correct attempts to rewrite our history, and we must reject the leftwing attempt to slander the greatness of our ideals. America is, in fact, the greatest country in the history of the world, and we should not be embarrassed to say so. We should proclaim it proudly. America is the greatest country in the history of the world.

I fear the values that I grew up with—the ones my tough-love mom taught me—are becoming a way of the past, but I believe these values, these virtues can and should be part of our country's future.

I love it when my grandkids pray before eating, recite the Pledge of Allegiance, ask to visit military museums, join the Boy Scouts, thank police officers and soldiers for their service, and place their hand over their heart when they hear the National Anthem. I hope they memorize the Declaration of Independence and the 23rd Psalm, become Eagle Scouts, have crummy-paying teenage jobs with unreasonable bosses, and get benched in sports for not trying hard enough. Also, I pray they consider a life of military service—one already wants to be a paratrooper—and are lucky enough to marry a wonderful person and have enough kids to worry about how to pay for college.

Maybe my grandkids will complain about parents being way too strict. Maybe they will complain about demanding teachers and bosses not caring what they think. Maybe they will complain about screaming drill sergeants, difficult degrees, restrictive banks, and life not being fair. If so, I will smile and say: "That's great; America is back." Then, I will know my grandsons have the opportunity to do something worthwhile with their lives, like build a loving family, successful career, thriving community, better country, and better world.

In the meantime, I will keep fighting. I ran for public office to fight for the country I was raised in because that is the country our children and

our grandchildren deserve. They deserve what my mom gave me—a free country with unlimited potential for every citizen. I hope everyone will join me in this fight.

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

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

NOMINATION OF FRANK WILLIAM VOLK

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today in strong support of the nomination of Frank W. Volk to be the U.S. district court judge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia.

I want to thank my colleagues in the Senate for putting partisanship aside and recognizing the importance of confirming qualified judges to our Federal courts.

Frank Volk's cloture vote earlier today cleared this body by a 90-to-0 vote without a single dissenting vote. Let me repeat that—90 to 0. How many times have we seen that happen in this body? That is a testament to Judge Volk's judicial experience, stellar record, and his qualifications to become a U.S. district court judge.

I would also like to acknowledge Frank's work in West Virginia as a tireless public servant to both our State and the Nation. He has conveyed time and again his love and desire to serve our Nation and particularly our great State of West Virginia. He has served with honor throughout his career and is willing to step up to the plate one more time. He shows the country how West Virginians act and serve.

I would also like to thank his family, including his wife, Angie, and his two children, Garrett and Lauren, for their tremendous support of Frank and his continued work as a public servant. He is a proud Italian person, like myself.

He is currently the chief judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of West Virginia, where he has worked since he was appointed in October of 2015.

As a WVU College of Law graduate and editor-in-chief of the West Virginia Law Review, Frank's resume is extremely impressive.

He continues to give back to his education. He has taught part time at WVU College of Law for almost 15 years. He has taught courses in Federal civil rights, advanced torts, bankruptcy, and advanced bankruptcy. It is great to see a fellow Mountaineer succeed in their profession, and I look forward to seeing his career continue.

He has also authored a number of bankruptcy articles and spoken at national and regional conferences on bankruptcy matters, along with being a faculty member for the Federal Judicial Center.

Judge Volk is admitted to practice in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of West Virginia, the West Virginia bar, and the Pennsylvania bar.

During his career, Frank has worked with a number of esteemed judges: Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge M. Blane Michael, district judges Charles H. Haden II and previously John T. Copenhaver, Jr. Frank is also a permanent member of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference.

Frank has contributed volunteer service to the American Bankruptcy Institute for many years. He served most recently as the coordinating editor for the ABI Journal, focusing on the "Problems in the Code" column.

Even with all of those accolades, Frank knows and understands the value of hard work because he is a West Virginian through and through, and that is just what we do.

The Federal bench that serves West Virginia needs judges who are thoughtful, hard-working, and have good judgment. Frank fits that role. Frank brings such a great level of experience to the bench. I can safely say I am pleased that President Trump has nominated him to be a U.S. district court judge on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia. I think we all will be served well by Frank's service.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, the most sacred, the most important, and the most profound responsibility that a President of the United States has is to keep Americans safe. Everything else that we care about—the citizens of this great Nation, the best Nation in the planet—matters very little if our physical safety and the physical safety of our families and our loved ones aren't assured. That is job No. 1 for the President of the United States.

I believe the President has likely committed offenses that are worthy of impeachment, and I think it is likely that information is going to emerge from the House's inquiry that would present Republicans with clear evidence that the President's abuse of office has been serious.

Obviously, we need to wait for the articles of impeachment to arrive in the Senate—if they do arrive—before any of us decide our vote on removal, but the publicly stipulated facts already surrounding the President's shadow foreign policy designed not to advance the national interests but his personal political interests are damning.

So far, my Republican friends have rallied to the President's side, despite public opinion moving pretty quickly against the President and in favor of an inquiry in the House. So today I want to use my time on the floor to ask just a simple question of my Re-

publican colleagues. I want to ask what the costs are to the physical safety of the Nation of continuing to protect the President from the consequences of his misdeeds because as we gather in the Senate for our fall session, we are watching American national security policy go completely and fully off the rails. Our global reputation and our credibility have been shattered to pieces, and no one knows whether they can be reassembled. Our Nation's defenses have never been weaker. Our enemies are gathering strength by the day. Fear of American power is waning. Our global system of alliances is falling apart. Our friends are turning away from America because we are a demonstrably unreliable partner, and those friends may never come back.

Right now, before our eyes, American power is in a free fall, and our Nation's safety is at risk. American citizens are looking to this place for leadership, but when they lift up the hood looking for steely-eyed patriots, all they are finding are blind partisans. What is the cost, I ask my colleagues, of letting America continue to slide into global irrelevancy? How many American lives are going to be ultimately lost because we sat on the sidelines and we let American influence fade as our President becomes a toxic commodity, the butt of jokes, and an international pariah? What must it take for this body to put aside party and come together to salvage our shrinking American security?

I want to take a few moments—a few more than I normally take when I come down to the floor—to take my colleagues on a tour of the world right now just so everybody understands how dangerous the situation has gotten, to understand just how broad the scope of our foreign policy dysfunction is right now, because just maybe—maybe—if you see the crisis all in one map, all in one summary, my colleagues might wake up to the magnitude of this emergency.

It is hard to start anywhere but in the Ukraine. The power of the American executive branch has no equal. No individual in the world has more power than Donald Trump has today. That power comes with responsibility and guardrails.

The one firm promise that a President must make to those he governs is to use the powers of the Oval Office for the national interest and not for his personal or financial interest. But it is now clear beyond a reasonable doubt after all this testimony—much of it from Republicans before the House—that President Trump has turned our support for Ukraine into a personal poker chip to be cashed in in order to get Ukraine to help him destroy his political rivals. This just isn't allowed in a democracy.

The damage done by Trump's corruption of the Ukraine relationship is far beyond this broken covenant with the American people. He pulled essential assistance to Ukraine just when their

new President needed U.S. support the most. Trump has weakened Ukraine dramatically by pulling them into this mess, and Russia is the beneficiary. Make no mistake—Putin has won for the time being, and those fighting for democracy have lost for the time being, sold out by their fair-weather American friends who are more interested in destroying the President's political opponents than supporting Ukraine.

Now, other nations on Russia's and China's periphery, wondering whether to simply acquiesce to the bullying dominance of their neighbors or put up a fight for independence, now are less likely to do the latter, knowing that the United States is there only to help if their nation fulfills our President's personal requests.

The world's eyes this week are down here in Syria, where the President has engaged in one of the worst, most abominable acts of double-cross in the history of the American Presidency. We convinced the Kurdish military to fight ISIS forces for us. We convinced them to take down their defense against a potential Turkish invasion because we promised to protect them. And then, out of nowhere, a week and a half ago, Trump stabbed the Kurds in the back. He announced the pullback of our forces and invited by press release the Turkish army to march into Syria and destroy our ally, the Kurds, whom today he has denigrated by telling the world that they are not actually as good fighters as everybody says they are.

The damage to our Nation's security done by this one single act is almost too comprehensive to list in one speech. ISIS detainees have escaped their jail cells and are now likely reconstituting and possibly readying new attacks against the United States. They can plot without fear of interruption because the Kurds have ended their fight against ISIS to try to survive this Turkish offensive.

Now, in addition to ISIS, Russia, the Syrian regime, and the Iranians all grew stronger in Syria overnight as we stood down, and they will quickly reap the benefits of Trump's abandonment of the Kurds. It is a nightmare in Syria today, and it is going to get much worse before it gets better.

Let's move down to China, where President-for-life Xi Jinping has been steadily consolidating power, building a model of totalitarian control that denies basic human rights to its population of 1.4 billion. The United States has watched from the sidelines as China not only conducts cultural genocide against its Muslim population in its own country but also grows its global clout and exports its model and technology of repression around the world.

China's military continues to gain in strength and push their unlawful territorial claims further in the Western Pacific. We do virtually nothing. China's Belt and Road Initiative is forging

linkages across the globe, building foundations for long-term technological, economic, and strategic dominance.

The United States stands on the sidelines under the Trump administration. The sum total of our bilateral interactions thus far with China has been a bungled, disastrous, job-killing trade war. It is a trade war that really only made sense in Trump's campaign speeches but never had a chance to succeed without the help of other potential partners that the President never tried to enlist.

Every single day, Trump is losing the trade war badly. Our trade deficit with China isn't going down; it is going up. The tariffs on Chinese imports could cost middle-class American consumers \$1,000 a year, and our economy has slowed down and is on its way to potentially losing 300,000 jobs because of the trade war. It is an unmitigated economic disaster for our Nation, and this nightmare, like all the others, seems to be getting worse. All the while, China forges ahead to corner the market on next-generation technologies like 5G, drones, and artificial intelligence, leaving America and American companies potentially shut out of these markets.

Nowhere has China's heavyhanded repression been more apparent than right here in Hong Kong. Yet again, we have been totally absent. In Hong Kong, brave, pro-democracy protesters should be seen as America's best friends—Chinese people who are risking everything to fight for basic freedoms in an increasingly totalitarian state. There is no better way to undermine China's unfair trade model than to promote the rights of its consumers and its citizens. But Trump promised the Chinese regime that he would offer no support to the Hong Kong protesters—an unconscionable promise that he has kept—while China runs circles around him on trade talks.

Staying in Asia, let's run right up the road to the most immediate and terrifying existential threat: a nuclear-armed homicidal dictator with the capacity and willingness to nuke us and our allies in the region—North Korea. A lot of ink has been spilled on the pomp and circumstance of Trump's summits and the ongoing love affair that he claims with Kim Jong Un, but what has actually been the result of nearly 3 years of Trump's North Korean diplomacy besides stroking his ego? The answer is nothing. Kim continues to fire missiles into the Sea of Japan. He continues to quietly build his nuclear stockpile. Even the freeze on nuclear long-range missile tests is temporary, and the North Koreans are warning they might resume that at the end of the year.

Meanwhile, we abandoned the South Koreans, we canceled our joint military exercises, and we nearly withdrew our troops entirely. Kim got international recognition and essentially a free pass to keep building his arsenal and making it more deadly while we

weakened all of our regional alliances. America and the world are dramatically less safe right now.

All over the world, in fact, dictators and would-be dictators are racking up stunning records of human rights abuses right now because they know that under President Trump, America will really raise no issue and no protests.

Go down here to the Philippines, for instance, where there have been 20,000 people who have vanished in the extrajudicial massacres by President Duterte. No protests from the United States, and 20,000 have vanished.

Thousands of political dissidents are being locked up in places like Turkey, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia—these are supposed U.S. allies—and have no one to speak for them because America now doesn't do anything about civil rights or human rights. We have vanished from the human rights playing field.

In Saudi Arabia, in fact, their leadership felt so emboldened by Trump's embrace of brutal strongmen that they kidnapped an American resident who was critical of the Saudi regime. They chopped him to pieces, and then they got rid of the body parts. The dots are piling up in the Middle East. The response from the United States to Jamal Khashoggi's murder was a visit to Riyadh by the American Secretary of State for a smiling photo op to make sure that every foreign leader in every corner of the world recognized that human rights abuses would be forgiven pretty immediately by this new American regime.

Elsewhere in the Middle East—I don't know that I can just keep on piling up more and more dots, but elsewhere in the Middle East, things are falling apart fast due mostly to the Trump administration's incompetence. It started with this nonsensical fracture of relations between Saudi Arabia and another key U.S. Gulf ally, Qatar. It was the kind of disruption that, frankly, would normally be papered over and fixed by a competent U.S. administration probably in days, but 3 years later, the two countries—Saudi Arabia and Qatar—still aren't talking, largely because we did nothing to fix it. Making matters worse, Saudi Arabia and their one remaining friend in the region, UAE, aren't getting along now either.

Under Trump, the war in Yemen began to rage out of control. Tens of thousands of innocent Yemenis, many of them little children, died needlessly as Trump piled more weapons and more bombs into the war and did really nothing to try to find a peace agreement between the parties who for a year had been begging the United States to step in and play a traditional role as mediator. The conflict has raged on for so long due to Trump's unwillingness to use America's diplomatic muscle that events on the ground have become so chaotic that the Saudis and the Emiratis have now parted ways. Now, with the Qataris,

the Saudis, and the Emiratis all on different wavelengths, the potential for proxy wars between these wealthy nations could get much worse all over the Middle East.

In Iran, right next door, the campaign of blind escalation and provocation has been disastrous. Every one of the President's national security advisors told him to stay in the Iran nuclear agreement and focus his energies on addressing Iran's other malevolent behavior in the region, like their ballistic missile program or their support for terrorist organizations. Trump ignored all his advisors, like he has ignored all the rest of the counsel he has received on major foreign policy matters, and he canceled the agreement and implemented a series of unilateral sanctions against Iran. He coordinated with absolutely no one.

Now, Iran, feeling cornered but also not feeling particularly vulnerable, given the fact that America couldn't recruit any of our friends to our new anti-Iran campaign, hit back against oil tankers, American drones, and Saudi pipelines. We now seem perpetually on the precipice of war with Iran. Meanwhile, they have restarted parts of their shuttered nuclear program. We haven't convinced a single nation to help us build new sanctions, and there is absolutely no chance that Trump is going to secure a better deal than the JCPOA before he leaves office in just over a year.

Iran is a bigger menace than before he took office. They just scored another major victory with Trump's abandonment of the Kurds, and an anti-Iran coalition that the United States methodically built under Barack Obama has vanished, perhaps never again to be resurrected.

In this very red region of the world right now, the only leader who has been happy with Trump's dangerous, bizarre, nonstrategy on Iran has been Benjamin Netanyahu, but he may not be in power much longer, and his alliance with Trump has left his successor a frightening legacy. Under Trump's watch, the two-state solution in Israel—a longtime bipartisan lynchpin of American policy in the Middle East—has effectively fallen apart.

Trump has allowed Israel to take steps that make a future Palestinian state almost impossible. For 3 years, he has put his son-in-law—whose only experience was using his father's money to buy real estate—in charge of brokering peace between Israel and the Palestinians. It was a joke. Everybody knew it, but since Trump was President, everybody had to play along. Now there is no peace plan. There was never going to be a peace plan, and the chances for one are almost nonexistent after 3 years of the Trump administration.

Down in Libya, Trump admittedly inherited a pretty miserable situation, but somehow, like everything else, he managed to make it worse. The country has been fractured for years, as

rival militias with a host of foreign patrons have been fighting a civil war that has created a vacuum that has been filled in by extremists and a migrant crisis that continues to expand. But instead of doing the hard work of diplomacy to try to get the warring parties back to the table, instead, Trump threw his support—his personal support—behind General Haftar, upending years of American diplomacy and endorsing Haftar's plan to try to take Tripoli by force. As a result, the fighting there continues, peace talks are failing, and the humanitarian crisis grows by the day.

One of the consequences of this Trump death spiral in Libya and the Middle East is that the economic and political refugees continue to flow into Europe, which simply isn't politically ready to accept this rate of inflow, and by slashing the number of refugees allowed in the United States from over 100,000 to 18,000, we have communicated to the Europeans that we have no interest in helping. Just like everything else, Trump has made the assimilation of the Muslim immigrants into Europe even harder by serving as a model for racist, xenophobic demagogues, and rightwing nationalist political parties who want to bring Trump's form of political nativism into Europe.

Nationalist political parties are on the rise all across the West, and Trump is absolutely central to their development. He gravitates not toward Angela Merkel, whose courageous leadership has held the EU together through all these crises, but he hews to Viktor Orban, who has stoked the embers of nationalism to take Hungary down a dark path. Trump and his nationalist compatriots weaponize these fears of immigration and cultural change to justify really bad policies—from labeling journalists as enemies of the state to putting kids in cages. And when rightwing groups try to copy Trump's success and deploy his playbook in countries all throughout Europe, he doesn't stand up and object, as the leader of the free world should; he offers a wink and a nod or sometimes a warm embrace.

Trump doesn't stop there in his deliberate attempts to undermine European democracy. He has carried out a systematic, purposeful campaign to weaken the European Union and NATO. By now, we have all grown used to Trump's attacks on globalism, but it is still pretty extraordinary that we have a President who just doesn't attack the specific institutions he loathes, such as the U.N., the EU, or NATO; he levies regular broadsides against the entire concept of global cooperation. He sees multilateralism as a weakness, and his cheerleading of Britain out the door of the EU and his constant attacks on NATO, even to the point of wondering out loud if the United States would defend allies if attacked risks taking down the entire post-World War II order. That would be a disaster for us and a gift to countries like China, Rus-

sia, India, and nonstate actors such as al-Qaida and ISIS.

When it comes to our relations with Europe, Trump reserves his greatest multilateral animus for global attempts to address climate change. The Paris Agreement wasn't even a binding commitment on the United States, but Trump felt so strongly that climate change was a Chinese-perpetrated hoax—unwind that riddle for me—that he pulled us out of the agreement in a big, grand, festive ceremony at the White House.

Global climate catastrophe is coming if we don't do anything. In fact, it is already here. The story of Syria's descent into madness can partially be told through the tale of successive global warming-connected droughts that forced farmers into overcrowded cities that weren't ready for those population surges. Trump's hostility to climate action is one of his most unforgivable global legacies, and the next President may not have enough time or political capital to make up the ground we have lost on climate change, especially with European partners.

Speaking of failure to capitalize on opportunities, let's spin the globe back to our own hemisphere, where, according to the script, things couldn't be going much worse. Here in the Americas everything that Trump has touched thus far has fallen apart, and the United States is weaker regionally than ever before.

Trump's nativism is his political calling card, but his own policies seem to encourage more migration to the United States, not less of it. President Trump's decision to cut off foreign assistance to Central American countries because they weren't doing enough to stop migration is lunacy. President Obama's program of investing in Central American security so that less of their citizens felt the need to flee to America was beginning to work, and Trump gave it all away simply to provide fuel to his domestic political agenda.

Further south, U.S.-Venezuela policy is one of the few times Trump's Presidency stood up to a dictator. Unfortunately, because Trump doesn't know how to do foreign policy, he botched that intervention too. It has been really embarrassing to watch this administration repeatedly and wrongly claim that the Maduro regime is on the verge of collapse. They did it in January, when Juan Guaido swore himself in as interim President. They did it again in February, when they said deploying American aid along the border would trigger the regime's fall, and they did it again in April in a lead-up to a military uprising that went nowhere. The White House has engaged in tough talk only to see Maduro's hold on power endure.

Trump played all his cards on this crisis right in the first few days, like a nervous teenager. Now we are left sanctioning the Venezuelan people and rec-

ognizing a leader of the country who isn't really the leader of that country and probably isn't going to be the leader of that country. It is yet another failure that makes us look weak and foolish. We make a play and can't back it up. It is hard to be scared of the United States when everything we try to do goes wrong.

Let's move back over to the African Continent for a moment. Now, as a candidate, Trump repeatedly stoked fears of the Ebola epidemic in West Africa, tweeting that the United States "must immediately stop all flights from EBOLA infected countries or the plague will start to spread inside our borders!" Of course, this didn't make any sense, and it doesn't make any sense now. We have known for ages that travel bans aren't actually the best way to deal with an outbreak of disease, but since he has become President, the Trump administration has asked Congress to rescind \$252 million that had been put aside to deal with the virus. He ousted the NSC's top bio-defense expert and repeatedly sought to slash funding for global health programs. Sadly, Trump's default response to epidemics and barriers of exclusion, defunding preventive measures, and opting to feed panic rather than deploy an orderly response that is driven by science and led by scientists only hurts our ability to control outbreaks that are present today and in the future.

Finally, Denmark. Trump managed to even screw up our relationship with Denmark, which many of us would have thought was impossible. Out of an episode of "The Simpsons," Trump canceled a diplomatic meeting with Denmark's leader because they wouldn't agree to sell us Greenland. It sounds funny, but it is an example of the relatively small things compared to the big world screw-ups that happen every day that only get a few days of media attention.

Denmark is one of our strongest NATO allies. At the height of the war in Afghanistan, they had one of the highest numbers of troops per capita fighting alongside us. They hold the key to blocking a Russian gas pipeline that could avoid Ukraine, damaging their economy, and come into Europe, but now we have managed to even make Denmark an adversary. I know it sounds implausible, but this is just the tip of the iceberg. It is a policy massacre everywhere. The world is on fire, and in most places Trump is one of the arsonists. Meanwhile, who is benefiting? Across the board, America's enemies and our competitors are rubbing their hands with delight as we score own goal after own goal. Putin, Xi, Erdogan, Kim, the hard-liners in Iran, could not have scripted a better opportunity to gain power for themselves at our expense.

I say that Trump's foreign policy is a global joke, but calling what he does policy is probably unfair. He doesn't really care to take the time to learn about the world. He doesn't read his

briefings. He makes it up day by day, with his personal political priorities, his jealousies, and his headline addiction guiding his decisions rather than anything connected to our actual national security interests. Our foreign policy is in complete, utter, total meltdown, and it is time for all of us to face facts.

You can't impeach a President because you disagree with their policies, but this is beyond a policy disagreement. This is a President who has compromised our Nation's integrity and our credibility, who has put in jeopardy the safety of our citizens, especially as ISIS breaks out of detainment and looks to regroup to threaten America again in Syria.

These kinds of things—the perversion of the powers of the Presidency—are not allowed in a democracy. Our refusal to accept this kind of behavior is what separates us from all the tin-pot dictatorships around the world.

I hope, eventually, my Republican colleagues see this, but I also want my Republican colleagues who spend their time thinking of themselves as bulwarks of national security to see the damage, much of it irreparable, that Trump is doing to our position in the world. Why continue to offer him this unconditional protection from an impeachment inquiry if the cost of his staying in office is the shattering of our reputation around the world?

Why continue to defend him if his actions everywhere are causing the world to fall apart—and it is falling apart in every part of the globe. Everything this administration has touched has gotten worse. The scariest part is that this President and this administration still have 14 more months to do even more damage.

I yield the floor.

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

TURKEY AND SYRIA

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, let me take you back to December 2016. We are all getting ready for Christmas. It is a month after President Trump is elected. He will not take his office for another month after that, but in Turkey they are reeling from a coup attempt that happened in October. Hundreds of people were killed—chaos. Turkish President Erdogan overreacted, locking up hundreds of thousands of people, including one of our pastors, Pastor Andrew Brunson, and implementing martial law, which was kept in place for years after that. Rapidly changing the Constitution, he has transitioned himself from a President duly elected and operating a free democracy that has been Turkey to radically changing the direction of the country in the future. A long-term NATO ally is going through real turmoil.

In October that coup happened, and all the transition was occurring, but by December, as I mentioned before, they were rocked again. On December 17, 2016, a bus was stopped at a red light

near a campus in Turkey when a car bomb exploded, killing members of the Turkish military. Thirteen people were killed and 55 were wounded in that blast. Forty-eight of those killed and wounded were off-duty military personnel, most of them privates and corporals.

The same day, at another location in a different part of that community, still in Turkey, there was a soccer stadium attack that happened. In that attack, 44 people died and more than 150 people were wounded. Three days later—actually two days after that, December 19, 2016, the Russian Ambassador to Turkey was assassinated in Ankara while he was giving a public speech.

Most Americans don't know this because we were getting ready for Christmas, and we were watching the transition of President Obama to President Trump. There was a lot of chaos that was happening in that region at that time. I happened to be in Turkey when all of that was going on, meeting with Turkish officials, trying to negotiate for the release of Andrew Brunson, working toward our ongoing relationship and trying to figure out what direction Turkey was going to go because they have been a longstanding ally to the United States and a NATO partner, but they certainly were not acting like it in 2016, and now, in 2019, they are certainly not acting like it.

The car bombs I mentioned and the terrorist actions that happened might surprise some Americans to know weren't led by ISIS fighters fighting in Turkey. The innocents who were killed that day were killed by Kurdish terrorists—Kurdish folks who had been listed in the U.S. listing of official terrorist organizations, a group called the Kurdistan Workers Party, or the PKK—the abbreviation in that language. The PKK has been listed as a terror organization by the United States for decades.

Let me give some context. In the course of the dialogue I have heard in the last couple of weeks about the Kurds and about the Turks, everyone wants to seem to oversimplify this issue. Everyone wants to say who are the good guys and the bad guys, and they are missing the point in the history of what is happening in this region.

The Kurds have 25 million people. It is the fourth largest ethnic group in the Middle East. They live mostly in Turkey, Iraq, Syria, Iran, and Armenia. They have all different political parties, and they have all different backgrounds. For over a century, they have worked to have their own nation.

Interestingly enough, after World War I and all of the changes on the map after World War I, the Kurds were promised their own country, the country of Kurdistan, because they were a minority population for a long time in that region. So they worked for and pressed for their own country during that time period. Yet, when the bound-

aries were drawn at the end of World War I, after they had been promised that they would have their homeland, instead, a larger Turkey was drawn, and the Kurds were just listed as a minority group inside of Turkey.

They face incredible persecution within Turkey. They are not allowed to call themselves Kurds. Instead, they are called mountain Turks in that area. They are not allowed to wear certain garb, and they are not allowed to practice their customs. They are oppressed in every area. They have worked for a long time and have asked: How can we have a free people's area?

For the Kurds who live in northern Iraq, it is one of the freest areas in all of the Middle East. They have the freedom of religion and a free capitalist economy. It is a thriving economy in northern Iraq. They have democratically led elections, and they worked with us to overthrow Saddam Hussein after Saddam Hussein gassed thousands of Kurds to death in that Kurdish region of Iraq. They were gassed by Saddam Hussein. They have been forced out of their homes and have been isolated, and for decades, they have worked to have a free country.

In 2017, the Kurds who were in northern Iraq had their own referendum to be able to establish their own place. They made a bold move and said: The world will not acknowledge us; so we will acknowledge ourselves. So, in a bold referendum in September of 2017, 90 percent of the Kurds voted to form their own country out of northern Iraq. Quickly, the Iraqi Government moved into that zone and squashed them.

In the middle of the conflict that we have talked about before with ISIS, ISIS moved into areas in Syria and in Iraq and pressed in against the Kurds in order to attack them. When the Kurds were not able to establish their homeland, ISIS was determined to establish its own caliphate and its own land by beheading people and by murdering thousands of people. As they moved into the Kurdish area, the Turks on the other side of the border simply watched the refugees flee across the border, for ISIS was not killing Turks. It was killing Kurds, and they didn't care. The Turks would handle the refugees as long as ISIS was doing their bidding in Syria.

You see, this is a complicated issue for us because there are sections of the Kurds that have fought for democracy for decades. Many of them have been doing it in exactly the right way—in having referendums, in organizing and working with U.N. officials, and in working with the countries around them to demographically establish an area in which they would be free to live and to worship and to function in a capitalist economy. That has been the Kurds' desire. There has also been an offshoot of the Kurds, called the PKK, that has for decades carried out car bombs and attacks, many of them in Turkey, where hundreds of civilians have been killed.

President Erdogan, of Turkey, has determined that all Kurds are the same and has ruthlessly lashed out at them. Now, I think about how we operated in Afghanistan and how differently the United States really thought about military warfare. As the Taliban and al-Qaida rose up in Afghanistan, we engaged in the most Surgical way we possibly could with violent Taliban members and with members of al-Qaida and took the battle specifically to them while we established a friendship and a longstanding partnership with the Afghan people.

We don't look at all Afghans in the same way, in some blanket declaration. We understand that there is a violent faction that has to be addressed for world peace and that there are others who just want their children to grow up and go to school.

We have engaged them in a way that is very different than how Turkey is currently engaging them in the Turkish population. As the battle raged in Syria and finished out with the civil war in Syria and the fight with ISIS off the Kurdish areas, everyone knew, when this calmed down, that at some future date, the Turks would start going after the Kurds. It has been known for years. In fact, in 2016, when I was in Ankara, Turkey, at that point in December, and watched all of this chaos occur, that was the ongoing dialogue among Turkish leaders at that time—that they were going to go after the Kurds. Over and over, this has been the repetitive statement to the administration and, quite frankly, to the previous administration.

In a series of phone calls in which President Erdogan talked to President Trump and said, "We are crossing the border and going in," it left President Trump in a very difficult situation. Does he leave our American men and women—a very small number—in a forward operating base to sit there while tanks roll by and the battle rages between the Kurds and the Turks? Do we use them as some kind of tool to try to stop this? Do we get out of harm's way?

Secretary Esper just made a statement last weekend that was very clear: The Turks didn't ask permission to cross the border. They said, "We are coming," and notified us in advance so that if we wanted to move out of the way, we could, but either way, they were coming.

We have moved our forces into other areas and combined them into bases. Just recently, within the last couple of days, when the Turks started getting closer to our combined forces in northern Syria, we responded by putting up Apache helicopters and F-16s in order to fly by the Turks and say: Don't you dare come near American forces. At the same time, we are trying to do everything that we can and should in order to stop the bloodshed between two allies.

I have been amazed at the number of people who have stepped up and said that President Trump is to blame for

all that is happening with the Kurdish people and the Turks. They have ignored the basic history of what has happened in that region for a very long time—for over a century—with regard to the ongoing battle between the Kurds and the Turks. We should do everything we can to push back on this, because, for a large group of the Kurdish population, especially those in northern Iraq, they have been very close allies and friends and tenacious fighters against Saddam Hussein. They left their own place of safety in northern Iraq to help us fight the fight in Syria—to protect other Kurdish people, yes, but also to help protect the entire world from the ruthless nature of ISIS.

We should engage and do what we can to help stop the bloodshed. As I mentioned before, when we moved into Afghanistan, we did it as surgically as we could. When Turkey moved into the Kurdish regions, it unleashed artillery fire against civilians and pummeled homes and businesses in the Kurdish towns of people who meant them no harm as they crossed the border into Syria.

So what do we do? How do we respond in the days ahead? There are a few things I would bring up. One is the "what I wish."

I wish the administration had been more clear with Turkey and her leaders and would have said: If you do this, it is not that we will impose sanctions, but here is exactly what the sanctions will be. We need you to know it, and it is going to happen as rapidly as possible.

I wish that we would have moved all of the ISIS fighters out of the region. There are ISIS fighters who are currently imprisoned in northern Syria who are waiting to return back to their home countries, for many of them are foreign fighters from other places. Yet their home countries are not willing to take them back. So they are currently imprisoned in Syria. I wish, before the Turks crossed the border, that we would have done more to help to protect those prisoners and make sure they didn't get freed. Many of them did get freed, and the entire region will suffer the consequences of some very bad actors who will get back to the battlefield again because of that.

I wish there had actually been coordination. Clearly, the administration did not coordinate with the State Department, the Department of Defense, and with other Kurdish leaders with regard to what was happening in the region and did not make sure we were securing those fighters and preparing for that moment. Instead, it was a rapid transition and a hurried process to move Americans out of harm's way in between two allies who were fighting each other and to try to shift them to other places and be able to stabilize them in those locations. There have been a lot of hurried responses that could have been done differently but were not.

The "now whats" are pretty clear, though.

President Trump has launched out and stated very clearly that there will be strong sanctions against military leaders within the Turkish Army and the key leaders in the government. He will try to put sanctions down as rapidly as possible on those individuals.

He has also announced a 50-percent steel tariff on Turkey. You may say that it is no big deal, except for the fact that steel is a major export for Turkey, and it is a punishing tariff on it as a country.

He has also started laying down additional sanctions on Turkey and has said all of the trade agreements and conversations are currently at a standstill. Turkey's economy is on the razor's edge because Erdogan has so mismanaged its economy for so many years.

We have no beef with the Turkish people, but, currently, Turkey is being led by a leader who is leading their country into economic ruin and leading their military across foreign borders to haphazardly kill civilians. We should not tolerate that, and we should engage. We should make it very clear that there will be consequences.

We should work with the U.N., as we already have started, and be more aggressive, by which, if there is someone to stand between two warring parties, it will be the U.N. peacekeepers who will do that, not American men and women who are sitting out there in a forward operating base.

We should continue to sanction Turkish banks—those banks that did business with Iran. When Iran was sanctioned, Turkey continued to do business with some of those banks. We should increase our sanctions there.

We should be extremely clear that Turkey will not get access to the F-35s. I cannot imagine how much stronger the response of the American people would be right now if it were American F-35s that were flying across the Syria-Turkey border to bomb our own allies the Kurds. We should make it very clear that there is no foreign military sales to Turkey, and we should continue to cut them off.

We have to be clear in the consequences. We have to be rapid in the response because, right now, people are dying in northern Syria. Those same families and those same individuals put their own lives on the line to stand up against ISIS, and they stood with us in multiple areas. They have a great propensity toward freedom and toward democracy, which desperately need to grow in the Middle East.

The chaos that is ensuing is the chaos of war. It is the pain of over a century of the mismanagement of this entire region. We need to stop the bloodshed first and continue to negotiate with every possible lever that we can to make sure we can bring a sense of calm to the chaos that is starting and do so with the greatest pressure on the Turks and on President Erdogan, who clearly hasn't gotten the message yet as to what the will of the American

people and this Congress really involves.

This is a changing situation. It is not simple, but it is one about which I will come back and try to inform in every way that I can. In order to bring justice to the process, I will encourage this body to smartly and quickly engage, to help impress upon the Turks to back off the bloodshed, and to bring war crimes against any Turk or any individual we can identify who is killing prisoners and attacking civilians.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from the Nebraska.

UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise to voice my strong support for the passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or the USMCA.

When I travel the State of Nebraska, I always hear directly from our farmers and our ag producers. Nebraska's farmers have endured some of the most challenging setbacks in recent memory. The severe flooding from last spring devastated thousands of acres of our farm and our ranch land, brought hundreds of livestock deaths, and destroyed barns, countless grain bins, hay, and critical farm equipment. This list of daunting obstacles continues to grow.

Last July, the Gering-Fort Laramie-Goshen irrigation tunnel collapsed and cut off a crucial source of surface irrigation water to the western region of our State for several weeks.

Only a few days earlier, a devastating fire broke out in a Tyson beef processing plant in Holcomb, KS. The plant processed about 6,000 head of cattle every single day. That is roughly 6 percent of the total fed cattle processing capacity in the United States.

The effects of the plant's closure rippled throughout the entire cattle industry and the beef processing chain. This is all in addition to 5 years of low commodity prices, the unfair small refinery exemptions for oil refiners, and the cloud of uncertainty over trade.

While all of these factors have caused anxiety and unpredictability, there is one solution that Nebraska's farmers, ranchers, ag producers, manufacturers, and hard-working men and women have made clear, and that is the passage of the USMCA.

Nebraska's farmers and ranchers have a different lifestyle than most people. Their patience is steadfast. They plan for the long term. They can envision how they want their land to look, not only next year but 100 years into the future. It is in their DNA, and families are fed around the world because of it.

They are optimists, but they are realists. As Secretary Perdue recently said, "they know you can't plant in August and harvest in September."

That is exactly right. Our producers have remained patient during these tough and turbulent times because they know that there is an opportunity for a better, long-term trade solution on the horizon.

The USMCA would replace the 25-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement, or NAFTA, and bring the deal into the 21st century, while fortifying our strong trading relationships with Canada and Mexico and growing critical market access for Nebraska.

The heart of Nebraska beats in the same rhythm as agriculture. It is who we are, and as the world knows that it is what we do better than anyone. So it is not hard to understand why our State needs this deal.

America's neighbors to the north and south are the destination of 44 percent of Nebraska's total exports. In 2017, Nebraska shipped \$447 million of agricultural products to Canada and a staggering \$898 million to Mexico. These exports include hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of Nebraska's high-quality corn, soybeans, ethanol, and beef.

Specifically, the USMCA maintains and strengthens those markets for corn and soybeans. It also allows U.S. beef producers to continue to grow their exports to Mexico, which have risen 800 percent since NAFTA was first ratified.

In 2018 alone, Nebraska exported over \$250 million dollars of beef to both countries.

It is important to note that the benefits of the USMCA extend far beyond our farmland. Agricultural trade between Canada and Mexico supports nearly 54,000 jobs in the State of Nebraska. According to the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska's \$6.4 billion in agricultural exports in 2017 translated into \$8.19 billion in additional economic activity. For the good of our State and our Nation, these markets need to be protected.

The USMCA goes even further than NAFTA. It adopts labor and environmental standards that Democrats have long advocated for. It requires that 40 to 45 percent of auto content be made by workers who earn at least \$16 an hour by 2023. This will undoubtedly help close the gap in labor standards between our Nation and Mexico.

According to the U.S. Trade Representative, the deal includes new provisions to prohibit the importation of goods produced by forced labor.

The USMCA addresses violence against workers exercising their labor rights, and it ensures that migrant workers are protected under labor laws.

The deal brings labor obligations into the core of the agreement, and most importantly, it makes them fully enforceable.

On top of that, the USMCA deploys the most advanced, comprehensive set of environmental protections of any trade agreement in our Nation's history. The list of environmental protections includes first-ever articles to improve air quality, support forest management, and ensure procedures for studies on its environmental impact.

New provisions protect a variety of marine species, such as whales and sea turtles, and there are prohibitions on shark finning.

Unlike NAFTA, the USMCA provides enforcement mechanisms that will ensure that all countries not only meet but strengthen their environmental responsibilities.

Lastly, I want to point out to my Democrat colleagues the support the USMCA is receiving on both sides of the aisle.

I recently heard Tom Vilsack say this:

I think under any evaluation, from the U.S. agriculture perspective it clearly is a better deal. So, with that our hope is that it gets done, and gets done soon.

These are not the words of some Trump administration official. These are the words of President Obama's former Secretary of Agriculture.

Here is another quote from Dan Glickman:

We have a good agreement. We cannot let the perfect be the enemy of the good. This is a good deal for America and particularly a good deal for farmers at this vulnerable time.

Again, this isn't support from some Republican Member of Congress. This is support that is voiced by President Clinton's former Secretary of Agriculture.

What is more, all former Agriculture Secretaries since the Reagan administration have voiced their full support for the USMCA.

We have seen the headlines of endorsements, and one especially caught my attention. The title of a recent op-ed read: "Democrats Should Give Trump a Win on His Trade Deal with Mexico and Canada." Well, this piece wasn't composed by a conservative publication. It was penned by the editorial board of the Washington Post.

Finally, a group of 14 House Democrats sent a letter to Speaker PELOSI last July urging her to take up the USMCA for a vote.

The letter reads: "Canada and Mexico are by far our most important trading partners, and we need to restore certainty in these critical relationships that support millions of American jobs."

Both sides of the aisle agree that the USMCA is a significant win for farmers, ranchers, ag producers, and America's economy as a whole.

Nebraska's farmers and ranchers have maintained patience in these tough times. They deserve to know without a doubt that they will continue to have access to their two largest markets and closest trading partners.

As I said earlier, farmers aren't just thinking about themselves. They are planning for the future generations that will proudly carry on their life's work and continue feeding our world.

Right now, we have an opportunity to come together around a common-sense, bipartisan agreement that will benefit the American people both now and for years to come. Now it is up to Congress to deliver.

I urge Speaker PELOSI to stop needlessly delaying this vote, and I encourage all of my Democrat colleagues not

to allow politics to stand in the way of sound policy. It is time to push the USMCA over the finish line.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. SASSE. Mr. President, first I would like to associate myself with the comments of my senior Senator about the necessity of the passage of the USMCA. The House of Representatives and the Speaker should schedule that vote immediately. There is clearly overwhelming support in both bodies for its passage.

I would also like to underscore my senior Senator's comments about the tragedy of the irrigation tunnel collapse in Nebraska and about the character of Nebraska's farmers and ranchers. They have dealt with yet another catastrophe after 81 of our 93 counties went through a state of emergency earlier this year in a flood.

I would like to just commend my senior Senator for a fine speech on a really important topic.

(The remarks of Mr. SASSE pertaining to the submission of S.J. Res. 58 are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. SASSE. I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The measure will be received and appropriately referred.

The Senator from Maryland.

S.J. RES. 53

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I come to the floor to talk about S.J. Res. 53. We will have a chance to vote on that tomorrow. I am joined by my colleague from Maryland, Senator VAN HOLLEN, and my colleague on the Environment and Public Works Committee, Senator WHITEHOUSE from Rhode Island. I also want to thank Senator CARPER for his leadership as the senior Democrat on the Environment and Public Works Committee in regard to this resolution.

This resolution will be voted on tomorrow. It deals with the CRA—Congressional Review Act—vote in regard to the Trump administration's affordable clean energy rule. That is probably a misnomer. It is what I call the dirty powerplant rule. The CRA would repeal that so that we can go back to the Clean Power Plan that was promulgated under the Obama administration in 2015.

Let me explain what the Trump-era rule would do. First, it would repeal the Clean Power Plan that was issued in 2015. That plan had real results in it. It set limits on a powerplant's production of dangerous carbon. It made meaningful progress. The rule promulgated by President Trump's administration would repeal that and substitute it with a plan that would be a powerplant judgment in each powerplant—coal-burning only—and would not take into consideration the powerplant mix of individual States.

The previous rule allowed the States to figure out how to reach those goals. So a State could do a mix. They could start using natural gas. They could

start using renewable energy. They could meet their goals that are set with a reduction of about one-third of these dangerous carbon emissions but with local discretion on how to reach those goals.

The rule that was promulgated that I am seeking to reverse allows only efficiency per coal powerplants, does not allow the mixing of the different technologies, and prohibits the States from pursuing market-based plans.

I am going to tell you, in my region of the country, we have what is known as REGI, which is a compact to reduce carbon emissions. We do it by energizing market forces so that we can get to friendlier sources of energy, which, by the way, has helped our region not only reduce carbon emissions but create green energy jobs, which is in our interest.

Let me point out from the beginning that the powerplants are the largest stationary source of harmful carbon emissions. Why should everybody be concerned about it? We know its impact on climate change. We have seen the harmful impacts of climate change in America, from the wildfires out West to the flooding here in the East. We have seen the problems not only in our own community but throughout the world. In my own State of Maryland, we have had two 100-year floods within 20 months in Ellicott City, MD. The list goes on and on about the impact of climate change. We see the coastal line changing in our lifetime. We are seeing regular flooding. We are seeing habitable land become uninhabitable. All of that is affected by our carbon emissions, and the Obama-era Clean Power Plan did something about it. The rule that we will have a chance to vote on tomorrow would do nothing about it.

We see this as a public health risk. I can't tell you how frequently I have heard from my constituents who have someone in their family who has a respiratory illness: What can we do for cleaner air? Children are staying home from school because of bad air days. Parents are missing time from work. Premature deaths. All that is impacted by clean air.

I talk frequently about the Chesapeake Bay. I am honored to represent the Chesapeake Bay region in the U.S. Senate, along with Senator VAN HOLLEN, and we treasure the work that has been done. It has been an international model of all the stakeholders coming together in order to clean up the Chesapeake Bay, and we are making tremendous progress on dealing with the sorts of pollution coming from runoff or from farming activities or development. But, quite frankly, we have not been successful in dealing with airborne pollutants that are going into the Chesapeake Bay.

In Maryland, we are a downwind State. We need a national effort here. Maryland could be doing everything right, but if the surrounding States are not, we suffer the consequences. That

is why the Clean Power Plan was so attractive in dealing with this issue, because it dealt with it with national goals. Establish how to attain them by the local governments. That is the way it should be.

Let me give the numbers. The Clean Power Plan that is repealed by the rule under the Trump administration would have reduced dangerous carbon emission by about one-third. We believe the rule that was promulgated by the Trump administration could actually increase dangerous emissions.

Let me use EPA's regulatory impact analysis. Looking at CO₂—carbon dioxide—the Agency says that the Trump rule will reduce it by 0.7 percent. That is less than 1 percent. The Clean Power Plan issued by President Obama—19 percent. SO₂s under Trump are 5.7 percent; under the Obama rule, 24 percent. NO_x emissions under the plan that was promulgated under the Trump administration are 0.9 percent—less than 1 percent. Under the Clean Power Plan, it is 22 percent.

We really are talking about whether we are serious about dealing with dangerous carbon emissions or whether we are going to at best maintain the status quo; at worst, make things even worse.

It saddens me that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are embracing the ACE rule, since it threatens to reverse much of the progress we have made in reducing air pollution—progress their conservationist Republican predecessors helped to spur. The Clean Air Act amendments, which established the sulfur dioxide—SO₂—cap-and-trade program, were adopted in 1990. This was never a partisan issue; cap-and-trade was originally a Republican idea. George Herbert Walker Bush was President. It passed the House of Representatives by a 401-to-21 vote. It passed this body, the U.S. Senate, by an 89-to-11 vote. It has been highly successful. During George W. Bush's Presidency, the EPA determined that the SO₂ cap-and-trade program had a 40-1 benefit-to-cost ratio.

The Supreme Court held in *Massachusetts v. EPA* that the EPA has a responsibility to regulate these carbon emissions. So that is exactly what was done in 2015, which is now being jeopardized because of the regulation that was issued under the Trump administration.

I had a chance to serve in the State legislature. This is an affront to federalism. Innovation for green energy and jobs is prohibited under the rule that I am seeking to repeal. It is prohibited. That is why 22 States and 7 local governments have filed suit against this regulation. But we can act.

The Congressional Review Act allows us to take action in this body, and that is why I filed that so we can take action. If we allow this rule to go forward, it will delay the implementation of carbon emission reductions—delay it. If we vote for the CRA, we will be back on track.

We have already seen the U.S. leadership challenged in this area with President Trump's decision to withdraw from the Paris accord—the only nation in the world that has done so. Who has filled that void? Quite frankly, it has been China.

Do we want to cede our leadership globally to a country with a controlled government economy like China or do we want to reassert U.S. leadership? We are going to have a chance to do that tomorrow with a vote in the U.S. Senate. I urge my colleagues to support the Congressional Review Act resolution I have filed, S.J. Res. 53.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I would like to start by thanking my friend and colleague from the State of Maryland, Senator CARDIN, for bringing this resolution to the floor of the Senate—as he said, we will be voting on it tomorrow—but also for his long-standing support and efforts in trying to protect our environment, to protect the Chesapeake Bay, and to address the urgent issue of climate change, which anybody with eyes can see is already having a devastating impact on communities throughout our country and, indeed, throughout the world.

I am also very pleased to be here with our colleague, the Senator from Rhode Island, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, who has made this such an important cause and has kept the Senate focused on this pressing issue.

As Senator CARDIN indicated, under the previous administration, under the leadership of President Obama, as a country we adopted something known as the Clean Power Plan rule. This was a historic step forward. It was a blueprint to create more good-paying jobs in the clean energy sector. In fact, we have seen a tremendous growth of those jobs in the area of solar and wind power and other jobs.

That Clean Power Plan rule, under the Obama administration, also really addressed the issue of carbon pollution in the atmosphere, beginning to reduce it significantly, to offset the damage and real costs we are already experiencing in communities from that climate change.

As Senator CARDIN said, this is an area where there are huge communities, if our country moves forward, in the area of clean energy jobs. Right now, with this new Trump administration action, we are ceding the playing field to China, which is happily seizing the initiative and moving forward and creating more and more jobs in the clean energy sector. If we don't wake up, we are going to lose that important global competition in the vital sector to China, which has established a goal of dominating the area of clean energy technologies by 2025.

Instead of building on the progress of the Obama administration, on June 19, the Trump administration decided to repeal and roll back these important

rules that have been put in place and substitute them with something that, in the worst case, actually makes the situation much worse than even before these Trump rules and, at the very least, is a huge retreat from the progress we were headed toward under the rules of the previous administration.

Let me just point out the analysis that was done by a very good organization called Resources for the Future. They looked at their analysis of this Trump proposal, which I agree with Senator CARDIN is better termed the "Trump dirty power plan," and they concluded it would do very little, if anything, to address climate change and would have an adverse air quality impact in many of our States.

Some people may recall when the Trump version of this power plan, the "dirty power plan," was released last year, people looked at the EPA's own analysis of that rule, and it showed that 1,630 of our fellow Americans would die prematurely under the Trump provisions compared to the Obama-era provisions.

So when the Trump administration released this most recent version of their amended plan back in June, they made it really difficult to put together all the data so people would not be able to connect the dots in many of these areas, but Senator CARDIN has presented some of the results of this. I want to emphasize those and put them in somewhat different terms, which is, what does the Trump rule accomplish compared to the Obama rule on some of these issues?

So with respect to carbon dioxide emissions, the Trump rule would reduce carbon dioxide emissions, carbon pollution emissions, by 2.7 percent of what the Obama administration would have done—2.7 percent of what the rule they are replacing would have done.

With respect to sulfur dioxide, the Trump plan reduces sulfur dioxide emissions by only 1.9 percent of what the Obama administration's rule would have done.

When it comes to nitrous oxide, the Trump proposal, the Trump plan, reduces nitrous oxide by only 2.5 percent compared to what the Obama provisions would have done.

If you take all of these together, you can see it is a really anemic proposal that takes us way backward compared to where we were. That is why I support Senator CARDIN's efforts on the floor, with the vote tomorrow, to say no, to say no to the Trump administration's efforts to roll back the progress on clean air, to roll back the progress on clean water because a lot of that pollution settles in places like the Chesapeake Bay, and to roll back progress on climate change, which we know is hitting our communities as we speak.

I want to give some additional Maryland examples here. The Baltimore Sun ran a story a little while back about the staggering costs that Maryland and

Marylanders would have to pay to build seawalls to protect communities from sea level rise. A study from the Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development found that in the coming decades, seawalls to protect thousands of homes, businesses, and farmlands from Ocean City to Baltimore City will cost more than \$27 billion—\$27 billion.

We have also seen dramatic flooding in the city of Annapolis that is already hurting the Naval Academy. This past week, we just had a famous national boat show, and in the middle of this boat show, there was huge flooding in the city of Annapolis. The costs to the city and that community are rising rapidly and have been well-documented.

I ask my colleagues to support Senator CARDIN's motion. Let's not go backward. Let's not go backward in terms of protecting our air. Let's not go backward in terms of the battle against climate change because going backward means less good jobs in America, it means more dirty air and more asthma, and it means ceding this important area to China and others in the global economy.

I urge my colleagues to support the motion of Senator CARDIN.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). The Senator from Rhode Island.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote be extended until 4:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Seeing none, without objection, it is so ordered.

S.J. RES. 53

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I am delighted to join my colleagues from Maryland and Delaware to support this resolution expressing disapproval of the Trump administration rescinding the Clean Power Plan and replacing it with its so-called affordable clean energy rule, which is a name fanciful enough to make George Orwell blush.

The first thing to understand about the so-called affordable clean energy rule is that it is a do-nothing rule, exactly as the polluters wish. EPA admits its own rule would do virtually zero to reduce carbon pollution. It requires zero emissions reductions at natural gas-fired powerplants, and it would allow coal-fired powerplants to make minor efficiency improvements and then run for longer hours. That could actually lead to an increase in carbon pollution.

This rule is designed to fool people into thinking that the Trump administration is obeying the Clean Air Act, but no one should be fooled.

From the get-go, the Trump administration made clear it didn't care about cutting carbon pollution, fighting climate change, or protecting the environment or public health. It cared about obeying the fossil fuel industry, not the law.

Within weeks of taking office, Trump's swampy Cabinet rolled out the red carpet for coal baron Bob Murray, who had an action plan for the administration. Here is Murray with Energy Secretary Perry, and look who is accompanying Murray at the meeting, our EPA Administrator, Andrew Wheeler, then Murray's lobbyist. It looks like a friendly meeting, and why wouldn't it be? Look at that, such a nice big hug. Isn't that sweet?

Murray was the major financial backer of the Trump administration, and this was his payback time. Individuals associated with Murray Energy were the largest source of donations to Donald Trump's Presidential campaign, and Murray himself chipped in a cool 300 grand for Trump's inaugural festivities. Murray was also one of the largest donors to election spending groups associated with disgraced EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, under whose tenure this botched ACE rule began.

So what was the first item on Bob Murray's action plan? To get rid of the Clean Power Plan. Bob Murray wasn't the only one who wanted to scrap the Clean Power Plan. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers, two of the largest and most powerful trade associations in Washington, also asked the EPA to scrap the Clean Power Plan. That is no surprise. The independent watchdog group InfluenceMap found the chamber and NAM the two worst obstructers of climate action. They will not reveal their donors, but I believe they took lots of money from the fossil fuel industry and became its mouthpiece. They got paid, and this was the play.

The chamber and NAM were also aligned with shadowy fossil fuel industry front groups like the so-called Utility Air Regulatory Group and the American Council for Clean Coal Electricity—more Orwellian names. These groups also asked the EPA to scrap the Clean Power Plan and replace it with this toothless rule.

Is that unsavory enough? It gets worse. Guess who represented UARG, that Utility Air Regulatory Group. It was none other than fossil fuel industry stooge Bill Wehrum, who helped orchestrate a web of front groups, like UARG, which obscured and multiplied the influence of Wehrum's polluter clients—clients responsible for massive carbon pollution.

Naturally, Trump put this guy in as head of EPA's Air Office. Before Wehrum headed for the exits this summer, Murray's man Wheeler praised Wehrum for "tremendous progress" in repealing climate regulations. Pruitt to Wheeler to Wehrum—this is rank fossil fuel crookedness in plain view.

Several of us submitted comments laying out the financial and professional connections between the Trump officials who developed this bogus rule and the fossil fuel industry that asked for it. Those comments are posted on-

line and in the Federal Register. I urge you to have a look. Also available online is a report I did with Senator CARPER detailing Wehrum's industry ties and conflicts of interest. Median.com/@senwhitehouse will link you to all of this.

The crony capture of EPA is not the only problem with the rule. The industry is so greedy and its hacks are so clumsy that they don't bother to align the rule with the scientific and economic evidence.

In court, Agency actions will be found to be arbitrary and capricious—and therefore invalid—if they are not the product of reasoned decision making.

In this case, it is clear that the EPA ignored the science, ignored the economics, and produced exactly what the fossil fuel industry told it to do: a do-nothing rule that took good care of the coal and natural gas industries.

What does the science tell us? According to the world's best scientific report, if we reduce carbon pollution by roughly half by around 2030 and reach net zero emissions sometime around the middle of the century, we stand a chance to hold the global average temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Our own best scientists warn that if we don't limit carbon pollution, we will be hit with economic losses in the hundreds of billions of dollars per year by the end of the century. Legions of economists, investment banks, asset managers, central banks, credit rating agencies, and other experts warn of serious economic risks from climate upheaval. Here is a summary of just some of these warnings, which I have delivered to every colleague in the Senate. That, too, can be found on that Medium page.

Pruitt, Wehrum, and Wheeler ignored all of this for their do-nothing rule. The only voice that mattered was the polluter industry that they came from and will go back to in an oil-greased revolving door. This ACE rule is the exact opposite of reasoned decision making. But that was never the point. The fix was in. Even a bogus rule that courts throw out buys this crooked and corrupting industry time—time to keep polluting, time to burn through reserves, and time to use its political muscle to fend off action here in the Senate. If you are in the fiddling business and fiddle for money, fiddling while Rome burns is a fine economic proposition for you.

The Supreme Court has ruled that greenhouse gases are pollutants under the Clean Air Act. The EPA has found that greenhouse gases from powerplants endanger human health and welfare. Those determinations mean the EPA must limit carbon pollution, consistent with the law. This masquerade of a rule fails to do this, so it must be replaced with something effective, as a matter of law.

I ask colleagues to think carefully about their vote on this resolution. Do you want to endorse this record of ob-

vious industry capture? Do you want to side with this corrupting industry over your own constituents' health and safety? Do you want to go on record ignoring all the warnings from the Bank of England, from Freddie Mac, from Nobel Prize-winning economists, and from hundreds of our own government's most knowledgeable experts?

The fossil fuel industry—its voice full of money, as F. Scott Fitzgerald might say—has drowned out the voices of everyone else for too long here. But you can't shout down the laws of physics. You can't shout down the laws of biology, chemistry, and economics. Those laws will have their way, and we have been well warned. So, please, let's turn the corner to a brighter day where decency rules, not industry political thuggery; a brighter day where facts and science matter more than dark money and paid-for denial; and a brighter day where we don't give our grandchildren daily cause for shame. It is time to wake up, and this vote is a chance to do so.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

HONG KONG

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, as we speak, the brave people of Hong Kong are demonstrating to protect their freedoms from the Chinese Communist Party in Beijing. Chinese state TV has portrayed these millions of demonstrators as violent anarchists and separatists, but these Hongkongers are merely insisting that China live up to the promises it made to Hong Kong and the United Kingdom—promises China made as binding conditions of the transfer of sovereignty from London to Beijing.

The Chinese Government promised that Hong Kong would enjoy a high degree of autonomy, including many of the freedoms that Beijing denies to its more than 1 billion subjects on the mainland, but, as the world has learned through bitter experience, the Chinese Communist Party's promises aren't worth the paper they are written on. Slowly but surely, Beijing has chipped away at the independence it promised Hong Kong—disappearing citizens guilty of wrongthink, undermining Hong Kong's longstanding political and judicial systems, and issuing menacing threats of military intervention to crush the demonstrations.

Most Americans are rightly outraged by China's brutal crackdown in Hong Kong. Daryl Morey is one of them. He is the general manager of the Houston Rockets. Just a few days ago, he tweeted a simple and justified phrase: "Fight for freedom. Stand with Hong Kong."

Morey probably knew his words would offend the Chinese Communist Party, but he was also violating a different party line—that of his own league, the NBA. For daring to speak up about Hong Kong, Morey was disavowed by his team, his fellow executives, and some of the most famous

athletes in the NBA. That is because he was threatening not only the powers that be in China but the cash cow that China represents for American business, including professional basketball. China's government may be red, but its money is green, and plenty of people are willing to cash its checks, no matter the cost.

The league's biggest star, LeBron James, said that Morey's support for Hong Kong was "misinformed" and "not educated." He reportedly called for Morey to be punished. Perhaps it is no coincidence that LeBron James stands to make billions of dollars from the Chinese market—not only from a higher NBA salary cap, shoe sales, and Nike ads, but also from his own movie company. Often known as King James, perhaps "Chairman LeBron" would be a better honorific today.

Joe Tsai, owner of the Brooklyn Nets, called the protest in Hong Kong a separatist movement that was trying to carve up Chinese territories like colonial powers or Imperial Japan. Perhaps it is no coincidence that Mr. Tsai is an executive at Alibaba, a Chinese company that developed a Communist propaganda app that hijacked cell phones of anyone who downloaded it.

At a Wizards game last week, security confiscated a protest sign that said simply "Google Uighurs," referring to the native people of western China whose culture and religion are being exterminated by the Chinese Communist Party. That sign was not confiscated in China by the secret police but right here in America's national capital.

Steve Kerr, the head coach of the Golden State Warriors, drew a moral equivalence between Communist China and the United States. "None of us are perfect," he said, "and we all have different issues we need to get to."

Nobody is perfect. That is what he says of an authoritarian regime that starved, shot, or beat to death 50 million of its own people on a forced march to modernity and a regime that runs a network of concentration camps in its western provinces and harvests the organs of political prisoners for its own pampered elite. Nobody is perfect, indeed.

This is craven and greedy behavior, and it stands in stark contrast to how America has historically used sports to promote our interests and our aspirations, from the triumph of Black Olympians in Hitler's Germany to the Miracle on Ice against the Soviet Union. Even our diplomatic opening to China happened in part through sports with ping-pong diplomacy.

Today, the tables have turned. China has used sports to export its authoritarian model to our soil. So far, it has found too many willing enforcers in the NBA. But it doesn't have to be this way. Commissioner Adam Silver, after a slow start, defended Daryl Morey's right to speak his mind about Hong Kong. He said: Free expression is "what you guys stand for."

Too many American companies kowtow to China not because they love its government but because of the tremendous pressure that government can exert on their operations. But the NBA is in a unique position. Beijing can ban an airline, or it can ban a hotel that lists Taiwan as a country in its online drop-down menu, and the Chinese people can use a different airline, or they can use a different hotel, but there is only one NBA. Beijing can't create another one.

And here is the rub: There are more than 500 million basketball fans in China. More people in China follow the NBA than there are people in the United States. No doubt Beijing has some leverage over the NBA, as it does over all businesses, but the NBA has a lot of leverage over Beijing. Is Beijing really going to ban the entire league, as they have done with the Houston Rockets, at the risk of alienating more than 500 million people who follow the league and the resultant public backlash that could create? So instead of acting as a bullhorn for Communist propaganda in America, the NBA could be a beacon of freedom in China. They could dare China to shut them out.

Let me urge all of these NBA executives and players who say they care about social justice, don't just speak out when the stakes are low for you personally or when the cause is popular among your friends; speak out now when the stakes are deadly high for millions of Hongkongers and more than a billion Chinese, including so many of your fans.

LeBron James tweeted not long ago: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Live out that principle consistently. There are a million Uighurs in concentration camps yearning to hear a champion who speaks out on their behalf, particularly since the NBA runs an elite training academy in proximity to those camps.

Steve Kerr never held back on expressing his opinion about our President. That is fine. That is his right as an American. But how about some outrage for the authoritarian regime in Beijing?

Joe Tsai was born in Taiwan. His fellow Taiwanese live in constant fear of meddling, attack, and subjugation by the Chinese Communist party. Are they separatists for wanting to maintain their way of life? Speak out proudly on behalf of your homeland about the true nature of the government in Beijing.

I realize it is a hard thing to ask any person. No doubt this is a harder path than the path many in the NBA are traveling at present. It would require sacrifice, and it would certainly invite the wrath of the Chinese Communist Party. But if the league used its unique leverage for freedom, millions of ordinary Chinese would surely notice, despite an army of Chinese Communist censors arrayed against them.

The NBA didn't pick this fight. It probably prefers to avoid this fight.

The Chinese Communist Party wants this fight. So the choice isn't to fight or not; it is to win or lose. And perhaps alone among American businesses, the NBA has a shot to win against Beijing. And in any fight against Communists, there can only be one strategy and one policy: victory.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

S.J. RES. 53

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I rise in support of the Congressional Review Act resolution of disapproval of the Trump administration's so-called affordable clean energy rule, which really should be called President Trump's dirty power plan or unclean energy rule.

To be clear, I believe that the Environmental Protection Agency has an urgent moral responsibility and economic imperative to reduce the global warming pollution from powerplants, which are by far the largest stationary source of carbon pollution on our planet. I also believe that those of us in Congress must act now to protect the American people from the dangers posed by poor environmental quality and the worsening impact of climate change. That is why we are holding this vote tomorrow—to send a clear message to this administration and to take a strong stand for the American people.

Truth be told, I am not typically a staunch supporter of the Congressional Review Act. It is a blunt procedural tool, and I prefer to embrace a better way to express our disapproval of the administration's failure to address one of our Nation's major sources of carbon pollution.

For Senate Democrats, this vote is about holding supporters of this shortsighted, irresponsible policy accountable for surrendering America's global leadership and for jeopardizing the health of our planet and the promise of our children's future.

Nearly 4 years ago, the Clean Power Plan set the first Federal targets to reduce carbon emissions from our Nation's powerplants. The Clean Power Plan set meaningful but achievable carbon limits for fossil fuel powerplants and gave flexibility and time for States to meet those standards. It was not a one-size-fits-all deal. It provided quite a bit of time and flexibility for States to try to figure out how they would go about meeting those standards in their own way. This administration's alternative to the Clean Power Plan—President Trump's unclean power plan—allows States to decide whether to regulate harmful emissions. At the same time, this rule will, at best, have essentially no impact on powerplant carbon emissions—no impact.

Let me say that again. At best, this rule will have essentially no impact on powerplant carbon emissions. At worst, it will increase emissions by extending these plants' lifespans and allow them to burn more coal each year.

Today our Nation's utilities are already on track to meet and surpass the emission reduction goals set by the Clean Power Plan way ahead of schedule. All the while, the vast majority of Americans are now enjoying lower utility bills, not higher utility bills, and more than 3 million Americans went to work today in the clean energy sector, which includes jobs in renewable energy generation and energy efficiency. Yes, you heard that right. There are more than 3 million jobs in the clean energy sector today.

The President's dirty power plan does not build on this progress. It does not promote affordable or clean energy. What it actually does is attempt to scam or fool the American people into believing that the EPA is doing something to stem the tide of climate change while taking us backward—backward, not forward.

By repealing and replacing the Clean Power Plan, the Trump administration is ensuring that our country forgoes a vast number of economic opportunities of the clean energy future. Instead of building on the Obama-Biden administration's forward-looking environmental standards, the Trump administration, with its dirty power plan, is refusing to see or accept that the global economy's transition to clean energy sources is already underway. Instead of mustering the political courage to lead on the issue of climate change, yet again, the Trump administration is walking away from the bold action we need to address this climate crisis.

This failure of leadership will make it all the more likely that the worsening storms and flooding, record-setting rainfall, and volatile temperatures we are already seeing all over the world will continue to be our reality.

So where do our Republican colleagues stand? Tomorrow we will find out.

Sadly, for too many of them, President Trump's dirty power plan is a sufficient plan to address carbon pollution. In truth, it is not. It is a failure of vision and a retreat from global leadership, and it is time for Congress—Democrats, Republicans, and maybe an Independent or two—to hold this administration accountable.

That is why Senate Democrats are calling for a vote on this issue. Our government needs to provide the right market signals today if we are going to create a clean energy tomorrow, and we need to take a stand for a stronger economy. We need to lead the world to act on climate change, and we need to take a stand for clean air and environmental quality.

We can do that tomorrow by standing together against President Trump's dirty power plan, and I hope a number

of colleagues will join us by doing just that.

It is a false statement to say we can't have cleaner air, less threat to our planet, and create jobs. We can do both, and we need to.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to complete my remarks prior to the vote for Ambassador Barrett.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF BARBARA MCCONNELL BARRETT

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, a few weeks ago, I had an opportunity to come to the floor and talk about the outstanding public service of some senior U.S. marines: Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis, Secretary of Homeland Security General Kelly, and the outgoing Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Gen. Joseph Dunford. The service these gentlemen have given to their Nation includes almost 140 years of combined Active-Duty military service in the Marine Corps but also at the highest levels of government at a critical time in our Nation's history.

Men and women who are committed to the service of our Nation are continuing to follow in the footsteps of these three very impressive U.S. Marine generals who brought the Marine Corps ethos of honor, courage, and commitment to our Nation's military and to their work in government. We should all be thankful for that.

At the end of September, I had the privilege of attending the swearing-in of a member of the new team that President Trump is putting together in terms of national security, GEN Mark Milley, as the next Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, now in the position succeeding General Dunford. At the Department of Defense, we have Secretary Esper, Secretary McCarthy, the Secretary of the Army, and General Milley who have all served their country with honor and will continue to do so.

Now we are considering the nomination of Ambassador Barbara Barrett to be the next Secretary of the Air Force. In fact, we are going to be voting on her nomination in a few moments.

I want to talk about her experience and her qualifications, which are diverse and very impressive. I think she is extremely well qualified to be the next Secretary of the U.S. Air Force.

Let me provide just a bit about her background and exceptional experience. She is a private pilot, astronaut, Deputy Federal Aviation Administrator, past CEO of the Aerospace Corporation, past member of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services and Defense Business Board. Importantly, she is a former U.S. Ambassador to Finland. That is a very impressive resume, a very impressive background.

I first met Ambassador Barrett in 2015 when I had the opportunity to

share dinner with her and the late Senator John McCain. Prior to that dinner, I was talking to Senator John McCain, and he told me how highly he thought of Ambassador Barrett. I can state—and I think many of my Senate colleagues will agree—that there can be no better an endorsement than that from Senator McCain.

Ambassador Barrett will be taking over from Dr. Heather Wilson, who did an outstanding job as Secretary of the Air Force. Secretary Wilson's leadership was critical in rebuilding the U.S. Air Force, which had shrunk to its smallest level ever just a few years ago since the Air Force was created in the late 1940s. We had to start bringing it back. She did a great job on that, and I know Ambassador Barrett is committed to continuing that rebuilding of this critically important branch of our military.

Another important element of Ambassador Barrett's experience is that as a former U.S. Ambassador to Finland, she understands the strategic importance of the Arctic and what is happening in terms of great power competition in the Arctic.

I want to spend a few minutes talking about that critically important part of the world and the role of my State, the great State of Alaska. Dating back to Gen. Billy Mitchell, who is the father of the U.S. Air Force, Alaska has been recognized as what General Mitchell said in an Armed Services Committee hearing; that it is "the most strategic place in the world." Former Secretary Wilson and our current Chief of the Staff of the Air Force, General Goldfein, have been leaders at the Department of Defense, raising awareness of the critical importance of the Arctic in defending America's national security interests. Additionally, Congress has been playing a role in highlighting this in our national security priorities in the National Defense Authorization Act over the last 3 years and so, too, has the Trump administration.

Secretary Pompeo, our Secretary of State, was recently in Finland for the Arctic Council, all the nations of the Arctic, and he had this to say:

We are entering a new age of strategic engagement in the Arctic, complete with new threats to the Arctic and its real estate. . . . This is America's moment to stand up as an Arctic nation and for the Arctic's future.

That was our Secretary of State a few months ago in Finland.

America is an Arctic nation because of Alaska. I like to say that my State constitutes three pillars of America's military might. We are the cornerstone of missile defense for the entire Nation—the missile fields and the radar sites that protect Washington, DC, New York, Miami, Rhode Island, L.A. They are all based in the great State of Alaska. We are the hub of air combat power for the Arctic in the Asia-Pacific.

In the next 2 years, we are going to have over 100 fifth-generation fighters, F-35s and F-22s, stationed in Alaska.

No place on Earth will have that kind of combat power with those critical fifth-generation supersonic stealth fighters. We have a platform for expeditionary forces—some of our best trained military units—to be able to deploy on a moment's notice because we are so strategically located to other countries.

Because of Alaska's strategic role in defending America's interests in the Arctic and the Indo-Pacific, the Congress and this administration, together in a bipartisan way, have been building up each of these three critical pillars of our Nation's military might and defenses.

Let me give just one example. The Senate has been pushing lately to ensure that the air combat capability we have in Alaska is matched by air refueling capacity. The last three National Defense Authorization Acts passed by this body and signed by the President have established criteria that the Air Force needs to use when deciding where to base the next modern aerial refueling tanker platform, the KC-46.

Ambassador Barrett and I have discussed this issue and what the Air Force is going to do with regard to stationing of the KC-46 outside of the continental United States, and I look forward to working with her on the advice already provided to the administration from the Congress on where those military assets need to be based.

As the current Secretary of Defense, Mark Esper, said in his confirmation hearing, having KC-46s colocated with 100 fifth-generation fighters would give America "extreme strategic reach" anywhere in the world. I believe Ambassador Barrett also understands this, and she clearly understands the importance of the Arctic as a former ambassador to Finland.

So, as I mentioned at the outset, we need good people and highly qualified people to serve at the highest levels of our military, civilian and uniformed, and I believe Ambassador Barrett is certainly one of those individuals.

I was heartened to see that my colleagues in the Senate gave a very strong bipartisan cloture vote, 84 to 7, which shows very strong support for her nomination. I know we are going to vote in a couple of minutes. I encourage my colleagues to vote yes for her nomination to be the next U.S. Secretary of the Air Force.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON BARRETT NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). Under the previous order, all postcloture time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Barrett nomination?

Mr. SULLIVAN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

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 California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 85, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 319 Ex.]

YEAS—85

Baldwin	Graham	Reed
Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hassan	Roberts
Blunt	Hawley	Romney
Boozman	Heinrich	Rosen
Braun	Hirono	Rounds
Brown	Hoeben	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cantwell	Inhofe	Schatz
Capito	Johnson	Schumer
Cardin	Jones	Scott (FL)
Carper	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Casey	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cassidy	King	Shelby
Collins	Lankford	Sinema
Coons	Leahy	Stabenow
Cornyn	Lee	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tester
Cotton	McConnell	Thune
Cramer	McSally	Tillis
Crapo	Menendez	Toomey
Cruz	Moran	Udall
Daines	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murphy	Warner
Enzi	Murray	Whitehouse
Ernst	Paul	Wicker
Feinstein	Perdue	Young
Fischer	Peters	
Gardner	Portman	

NAYS—7

Blumenthal	Markey	Wyden
Duckworth	Merkley	
Gillibrand	Smith	

NOT VOTING—8

Alexander	Harris	Sanders
Bennet	Isakson	Warren
Booker	Klobuchar	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. I ask unanimous consent that the subsequent votes be 10 minutes.

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Frank William Volk, of West Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Volk nomination?

Mr. ROUNDS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

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 California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 92, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 320 Ex.]

YEAS—92

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Portman
Barrasso	Graham	Reed
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Blumenthal	Hassan	Roberts
Blunt	Hawley	Romney
Boozman	Heinrich	Rosen
Braun	Hirono	Rounds
Brown	Hoeben	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cantwell	Inhofe	Schatz
Capito	Johnson	Schumer
Cardin	Jones	Scott (FL)
Carper	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Casey	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cassidy	King	Shelby
Collins	Lankford	Sinema
Coons	Leahy	Smith
Cornyn	Lee	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Sullivan
Cotton	Markey	Tester
Cramer	McConnell	Thune
Crapo	McSally	Tillis
Cruz	Menendez	Toomey
Daines	Merkley	Udall
Duckworth	Moran	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murkowski	Warner
Enzi	Murphy	Whitehouse
Ernst	Murray	Wicker
Feinstein	Paul	Wyden
Fischer	Perdue	Young
Gardner	Peters	

NOT VOTING—8

Alexander	Harris	Sanders
Bennet	Isakson	Warren
Booker	Klobuchar	

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination.

The legislative clerk read nomination of Charles R. Eskridge III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Eskridge nomination?

Mr. JOHNSON. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

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 California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 61, nays 31, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 321 Ex.]

YEAS—61

Barrasso	Fischer	Risch
Blackburn	Gardner	Roberts
Blunt	Graham	Romney
Boozman	Grassley	Rounds
Braun	Hawley	Rubio
Burr	Hoeven	Sasse
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cardin	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Carper	Johnson	Shaheen
Cassidy	Kaine	Shelby
Collins	Kennedy	Sinema
Coons	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lee	Thune
Cotton	McConnell	Tillis
Cramer	McSally	Toomey
Crapo	Moran	Warner
Cruz	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Daines	Murphy	Wicker
Enzi	Paul	Young
Ernst	Perdue	
Feinstein	Portman	

NAYS—31

Baldwin	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Jones	Schatz
Brown	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Leahy	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Markey	Tester
Duckworth	Menendez	Udall
Durbin	Merkley	Van Hollen
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	
Heinrich	Reed	

NOT VOTING—8

Alexander	Harris	Sanders
Bennet	Isakson	Warren
Booker	Klobuchar	

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of David John Novak, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Novak nomination?

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

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

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

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 California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 89, nays 3, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 322 Ex.]

YEAS—89

Baldwin	Gardner	Portman
Barrasso	Graham	Reed
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Blumenthal	Hassan	Roberts
Blunt	Hawley	Romney
Boozman	Heinrich	Rosen
Braun	Hirono	Rounds
Brown	Hoeven	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cantwell	Inhofe	Schatz
Capito	Johnson	Schumer
Cardin	Jones	Scott (FL)
Carper	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Casey	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cassidy	King	Shelby
Collins	Lankford	Sinema
Coons	Leahy	Smith
Cornyn	Lee	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Sullivan
Cotton	McConnell	Tester
Cramer	McSally	Thune
Crapo	Menendez	Tillis
Cruz	Merkley	Toomey
Daines	Moran	Udall
Duckworth	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murphy	Warner
Enzi	Murray	Whitehouse
Ernst	Paul	Wicker
Feinstein	Perdue	Young
Fischer	Peters	

NAYS—3

Gillibrand	Markey	Wyden
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NOT VOTING—8

Alexander	Harris	Sanders
Bennet	Isakson	Warren
Booker	Klobuchar	

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Rachel P. Kovner, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Kovner nomination?

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL).

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 California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 88, nays 3, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 323 Ex.]

YEAS—88

Baldwin	Gardner	Risch
Barrasso	Graham	Roberts
Blackburn	Grassley	Romney
Blumenthal	Hassan	Rosen
Blunt	Hawley	Rounds
Boozman	Hirono	Rubio
Braun	Hoeven	Sasse
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Burr	Inhofe	Schumer
Cantwell	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Capito	Jones	Scott (SC)
Cardin	Kaine	Shaheen
Carper	Kennedy	Shelby
Casey	King	Sinema
Cassidy	Lankford	Smith
Collins	Leahy	Stabenow
Coons	Lee	Sullivan
Cornyn	Manchin	Tester
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Thune
Cotton	McSally	Tillis
Cramer	Menendez	Toomey
Crapo	Merkley	Udall
Cruz	Moran	Van Hollen
Daines	Murkowski	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Whitehouse
Durbin	Murray	Wicker
Enzi	Perdue	Wyden
Ernst	Peters	Young
Feinstein	Portman	
Fischer	Reed	

NAYS—3

Gillibrand	Heinrich	Markey
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NOT VOTING—9

Alexander	Harris	Paul
Bennet	Isakson	Sanders
Booker	Klobuchar	Warren

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

S.J. RES. 53

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, with the election of President Trump in 2016, it was reasonable to believe that the war on coal was settled, or at least we had a lasting cease-fire. This administration's policies, supported by the Congressional Review Act resolutions, undid many of the excesses of the Obama administration's regulatory

assault on coal country. Congress and the President overturned the so-called stream protection rule, which would have made it nearly impossible to mine coal in Appalachia.

The Trump administration has returned sanity to the clean water permitting process in section 404 and is in the process of restoring the Waters of the United States rule to align with congressional intent of protecting Federal waters and not every stream, ditch, and gully across this country, but the jewel of the War on Coal's crown was always the Clean Power Plan.

A sweeping rule to limit the use of coal in our power generation mix, the Clean Power Plan ran roughshod over utility investments and States' rights to protect their taxpayers and ratepayers. In a moment of clarity, then-Candidate Obama acknowledged that under his vision for our power system "electricity rates would necessarily skyrocket."

The Clean Power Plan, if implemented, would have made that vision a reality. Energy is a topline item in many of our families' budgets and very expensive, and this policy would have grown these costs significantly. This plan was so disastrous and so clearly beyond the scope of EPA's authority that 24 States—with West Virginia in the lead—sued to stop it. The Supreme Court—our Supreme Court—heard the call and placed a stay on the rule while a lower court weighed the merits.

This June, the Trump EPA finalized its replacement for this unlawful CPP with the Affordable Clean Energy rule. This commonsense alternative acknowledges the need to reduce carbon emissions from our power sector but ensures that EPA targets are actually achievable and will not kill jobs in the utility and energy sectors, nor crush American families with higher electric bills.

Fully implemented, the ACE rule will reduce the CO₂ emissions by as much as 35 percent from 2005 levels. This administration understands that protecting our environment need not come at the expense of a growing economy. The result has been a growth in our national GDP that the Obama administration's economic projections predicted would be unachievable.

The unemployment rate of my own State of West Virginia is now 4.6 percent, after it had peaked in 2010 at 8.8 percent. This week, many Democrats in this body want to put all this progress in jeopardy and reopen the War on Coal with a Congressional Review Act resolution to block the ACE rule.

Senate Democrats and their Presidential candidates have doubled down on policies that would destroy our jobs, hammer consumers, and burden future generations with staggering amounts of debt.

Refusing to learn the lessons of Hillary Clinton's 2016 failed campaign promise, which was to put a lot of coal

miners and coal companies out of business, the former Vice President has taken it a step further: pledging on a Detroit debate stage in July to "make sure" that coal and natural gas that comes from fracking are "eliminated."

There is much support on the other side for the Green New Deal's energy and environmental components, which would cost between \$8 trillion and \$12 trillion, and that is before adding other extreme visions for the government takeover of healthcare, education, and agriculture.

The Democrats' energy agenda will lead to fewer jobs, more expensive utility bills, and less reliable electricity. We already see the lack of reliability of our electricity grid in California right now. I hope the Senate will refuse to go down this path toward impoverishing the very people who power the country and make our quality of life possible.

Passage of this resolution would serve as the starting point for a resumption of the War on Coal and a march to the extremist excesses of the Green New Deal. I urge my colleagues to heed the voice of the American people and vote no on the resolution disapproving the ACE rule.

COAL MINERS' PENSIONS

Mr. President, it is critical that Congress act soon to protect the pensions of our Nation's coal miners. The pension benefits of nearly 100,000 hard-working people are at risk if Congress fails to take action to stabilize the United Mine Workers pension fund.

Over 25,000 current UMWA pension beneficiaries reside in West Virginia, making this a critical issue for communities and families across our State. I have worked in a bipartisan way with Senator MANCHIN, Senator PORTMAN, Senator BROWN, and others over the past several years to support legislation that stabilizes the mine workers' pension fund and protects these men and women and their families.

We are not talking about lavish pensions here. The average beneficiary receives about \$590 per month. Retired miners from across West Virginia routinely visit me in my office in DC, write letters, and talk with me as I travel the State. I really appreciate their efforts. We are working hard to make sure that when they tell me how critical their pension check is in allowing them to pay for food, medication, housing, and other essentials, that we don't let this critical issue lapse.

These hard-working men and women deserve the pensions they were promised, and we should make sure they receive the benefits they earned by passing legislation to protect their pensions this year.

CONFIRMATION OF FRANK WILLIAM VOLK

Mr. President, one last issue. The Senate voted earlier today to confirm Frank Volk as our U.S. district judge for the Southern District of West Virginia. It was unanimous, 92 to 0. Judge Volk has been serving as the chief bankruptcy judge in the Southern District since 2015.

Prior to that appointment, he worked as a career law clerk for some of our State's most distinguished jurists, including Judges Charles Haden, John Copenhaver, Blaine Michael, and Margaret Workman. Judge Volk is a graduate of the West Virginia University College of Law, where he served as editor-in-chief of the Law Review. For more than a decade, he has taught courses at the law school on topics ranging from bankruptcy to Federal Civil Rights.

I was very pleased that, at my suggestion, President Trump nominated Judge Volk to continue his service on the district court, and I am very pleased about that.

I know he will be a judge who will root his decisions firmly in the text and original meaning of our Constitution and our statutes. I know he will be fair to all parties who appear before him. I know he will bring honor to our Federal judiciary.

Besides all of his legal acumen, which is tremendous, he is a really decent man. He is a great family man who loves his family and has remained very humble through all of his successes.

With our actions today, and I thank my colleagues, the Senate has now confirmed 156 judges nominated by President Trump. That number now includes Judge Volk, as well as Judge Thomas Kleeh, who is now serving as a district judge in the Northern District of West Virginia. It includes 43 judges who now serve on our courts of appeals, and of course it includes two Supreme Court Justices.

It is important that the Senate continue confirming well-qualified men and women who will faithfully apply the law to serve on our Federal courts. I thank my colleagues again for confirming Judge Volk today and hope we will continue to make judicial confirmations a priority as we move forward.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted yes on roll-call vote No. 239, the confirmation of James Wesley Hendrix, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on

rollcall vote No. 240, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Sean D. Jordan to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 241, the confirmation of Sean D. Jordan to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 242, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Mark T. Pittman to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 243, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jeffery Vincent Brown, to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 244, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Brantley Starr, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted yes on rollcall vote No. 245, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Stephanie L. Haines, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 246, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Ada E. Brown to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 247, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Steven D. Grimberg to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 248, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jason K. Pulliam to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 249, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Martha Maria Pacold to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted yes on rollcall vote No. 250, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Steven C. Seeger to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 251, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of William Shaw Stickman IV to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present, would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 252, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kelly Craft to be Ambassador of the United States of America to the United Nations and Representative to the Security Council.

BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I wish to submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report for October 2019. This is my first scorekeeping report since I filed the deemed budget resolution for fiscal year 2020 on September 9, 2019, as required by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019, BBA19. The report compares current-law levels of spending and revenues with the amounts agreed to in BBA19. In the Senate, this information is used to determine whether budgetary points of order lie against pending legislation. The Republican staff of the Budget Committee and the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, prepared this report pursuant to section 308(b) of the Congressional Budget Act, CBA. The information included in this report is current through October 11, 2019.

Since I filed the deemed budget resolution, only one measure with significant budgetary effects has been enacted. That measure, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019, PL 116-59, provided continuing appropriations for discretionary programs through November 21, 2019, Division A, and extended several expiring health programs, Division B. Division A was charged to the Senate Appropriations Committee, while Division B was charged to the Senate Finance Committee. As the direct spending and revenue components of the measure were offset over the 2020 to 2024 and 2020 to 2029 periods, a deficit neutral reserve fund was used to accommodate the budgetary effects of this measure pursuant to section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71—115th Congress—the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, as updated by BBA19.

Budget Committee Republican staff prepared tables A–D.

Table A gives the amount by which each Senate authorizing committee exceeds or is below its allocation for budget authority and outlays under the fiscal year 2020 deemed budget resolution. This information is used for enforcing committee allocations pursuant to section 302 of the CBA. I am pleased to report that for this reporting period, all authorizing committees have complied with their allowable spending limits for each enforceable period.

Table B provides the amount by which the Senate Committee on Appropriations is below or exceeds the statutory spending limits. This information is used to determine points of order related to the spending caps found in sections 312 and 314 of the CBA. The table

shows that the Appropriations Committee is also compliant with spending limits for current the fiscal year. Those limits for regular discretionary spending are \$666.5 billion for accounts in the defense category and \$621.5 billion for accounts in the nondefense category of spending. As no full-year appropriations measures have been enacted for fiscal year 2020, the amounts shown on the table reflect the budgetary authority effects of advanced or permanent appropriations made available in prior law.

The 2018 budget resolution contained points of order limiting the use of changes in mandatory programs, CHIMPs, in appropriations bills. Table C, which tracks the CHIMP limit of \$15 billion for 2020, shows the Appropriations Committee has not yet enacted full-year CHIMPs for this fiscal year.

Table D provides the amount of budget authority enacted for 2020 that has been designated as either for an emergency or for overseas contingency operations pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. Funding that receives either of these designations results in cap adjustments to enforceable discretionary spending limits. There is no limit on either emergency or overseas contingency operations spending; however, any Senator may challenge the designation with a point of order to strike the designation on the floor pursuant to current budgetary statute.

In addition to the tables provided by Budget Committee Republican staff, I am submitting CBO tables, which I will use to enforce budget totals approved by Congress.

CBO provided a spending and revenue report for 2020, which helps enforce aggregate spending levels in budget resolutions under CBA section 311. In its report, CBO annualizes the temporary effects of the latest continuing resolution, which provides funding through November 21, 2019. For the enforcement of budgetary aggregates, the Budget Committee excludes this temporary funding. As such, the committee views current-law levels as being \$1,181.3 billion and \$668.8 billion below budget resolution levels for budget authority and outlays, respectively. Details on 2020 levels can be found in CBO's second table.

Current-law revenues are consistent with the levels assumed by the budget resolution.

Social Security levels are consistent with the budget resolution's figures for all enforceable periods.

CBO's report also provides information needed to enforce the Senate pay-as-you-go—pay-go rule. This rule was established under section 4106 of the 2018 budget resolution. The Senate pay-go scorecard shows that there is currently a zero balance.

This submission also includes a table tracking the Senate's budget enforcement activity on the floor since the enforcement filing on September 9, 2019.

No budgetary points of order have been raised since that filing.

All years in the accompanying tables are fiscal years.

I ask unanimous consent that the tables be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

TABLE A.—SENATE AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES—ENACTED DIRECT SPENDING ABOVE (+) OR BELOW (–) BUDGET RESOLUTIONS

Table with columns for 2020, 2020-2024, and 2020-2029. Rows include Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Finance; Foreign Relations; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Judiciary; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Rules and Administration.

TABLE A.—SENATE AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES—ENACTED DIRECT SPENDING ABOVE (+) OR BELOW (–) BUDGET RESOLUTIONS—Continued

Continuation of Table A with columns for 2020, 2020-2024, and 2020-2029. Rows include Intelligence; Veterans' Affairs; Indian Affairs; Small Business; Total.

This table is current through October 11, 2019. This table tracks the spending effects of legislation enacted compared to allowable levels. Each authorizing committee's initial allocation can be found in the Senate Budget Committee Chairman's Congressional Record filing on September 9, 2019.

TABLE B.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED REGULAR DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS 1

Table with columns for 2020, Security 2, and Nonsecurity 2. Rows include Statutory Discretionary Limits; Amount Provided by Senate Appropriations Subcommittee; Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies; Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies; Defense; Energy and Water Development; Financial Services and General Government; Homeland Security; Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies; Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies; Legislative Branch; Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies; State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs.

TABLE B.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED REGULAR DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS 1—Continued

Continuation of Table B with columns for 2020, Security 2, and Nonsecurity 2. Rows include Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies; Current Level Total; Total Enacted Above (+) or Below (–) Statutory Limits.

This table is current through October 11, 2019. As no full-year appropriations bills have been enacted this cycle, the budget authority displayed here represents funding made available through either advance or permanent appropriations.

1 This table excludes spending pursuant to adjustments to the discretionary spending limits. These adjustments are allowed for certain purposes in section 251(b)(2) of BBEDCA.

2 Security spending is defined as spending in the National Defense budget function (050) and nonsecurity spending is defined as all other spending.

TABLE C.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED CHANGES IN MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAMS (CHIMPS)

Table with columns for 2020. Rows include CHIMPS Limit for Fiscal Year 2020; Senate Appropriations Subcommittees; Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies; Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies; Defense; Energy and Water Development; Financial Services and General Government; Homeland Security; Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies; Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies; Legislative Branch; Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies; State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs; Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies; Current Level Total; Total CHIMPS Above (+) or Below (–) Budget Resolution.

This table is current through October 11, 2019.

TABLE D.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED EMERGENCY AND OVERSEAS CONTINGENCE OPERATIONS SPENDING

(Budget authority, millions of dollars)

Table with columns for 2020, Emergency, Overseas Contingency Operations, Security 1, Nonsecurity 1. Rows include Emergency and Overseas Contingency Operations Designated Spending; Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act 2019 (P.L. 116–20) 2; Current Level Total.

This table is current through October 11, 2019.

1 Security spending is defined as spending in the National Defense budget function (050) and nonsecurity spending is defined as all other spending.

2 The Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 was enacted after the publication of CBO's May 2019 baseline but before the Senate Budget Committee Chairman published the deemed budget resolution for 2020 in the Congressional Record. Pursuant to the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019, the budgetary effects of this legislation have been incorporated into the current level as previously enacted funds.

U.S. CONGRESS, CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE, Washington, DC, October 16, 2019.

Hon. MIKE ENZI, Chairman, Committee on the Budget, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2020 budget and is current

through October 11, 2019. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels printed in the Congressional Record on September 9, 2019, pursuant to section 204 of

the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 (Public Law 116–37).

This is CBO's first current level report for fiscal year 2020.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL, Director.

Enclosure.

TABLE 1.—SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, AS OF OCTOBER 11, 2019

(In billions of dollars)

Table with columns for Budget Resolution, Current Level, Current Level Over/Under (–) Resolution. Rows include ON-BUDGET (Budget Authority, Outlays, Revenues) and OFF-BUDGET (Social Security Outlays, Social Security Revenues).

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

^a Excludes administrative expenses paid from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund of the Social Security Administration, which are off-budget, but are appropriated annually.

TABLE 2.—SUPPORTING DETAIL FOR THE SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, AS OF OCTOBER 11, 2019

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted ^{a b}			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,740,538
Permanents and other spending legislation	2,397,769	2,309,887	n.a.
Authorizing and Appropriation legislation	0	595,528	0
Offsetting receipts	-954,573	-954,573	n.a.
Total, Previously Enacted	1,443,196	1,950,842	2,740,538
Enacted Legislation			
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (P.L. 116-59)	693	795	0
Continuing Resolution ^{a b}			
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (P.L. 116-59)	1,238,519	684,615	0
Total, Enacted Legislation	1,239,212	685,410	0
Entitlements and Mandatories	1,079,063	1,061,080	0
Total Current Level ^b	3,761,471	3,697,332	2,740,538
Total Senate Resolution ^c	3,704,246	3,681,491	2,740,538
Current Level Over Senate Resolution	57,225	15,841	n.a.
Current Level Under Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Memorandum			
Revenues, 2020-2029			
Senate Current Level	n.a.	n.a.	34,847,317
Senate Resolution ^c	n.a.	n.a.	34,847,317
Current Level Over Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Current Level Under Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = public law.

^a Sections 1001-1004 of the 21st Century Cures Act (P.L. 114-255) require that certain funding provided for 2017 through 2026 to the Department of Health and Human Services—in particular the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health—be excluded from estimates for the purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Deficit Control Act) and the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (Congressional Budget Act). Therefore, the amounts shown in this report do not include \$562 million in budget authority and \$854 million in estimated outlays.

^b For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the Senate, the resolution, as unmodified by the Senate, does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, amounts in this current level report do not include those items.

^c Section 204 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 requires the Chair of the Senate Committee on the Budget to publish the aggregate spending and revenue levels for fiscal year 2020; those aggregate levels were first published in the Congressional Record on September 9, 2019. The Chair of the Senate Committee on the Budget has the authority to revise the budgetary aggregates for the budgetary effects of certain revenue and spending measures pursuant to the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, as updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019:

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original Aggregates Printed on September 9, 2019:	3,703,553	3,680,696	2,740,538
Revisions:			
Adjustment for P.L. 116-59, Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (pursuant to sections 311 and 314 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71)	693	795	0
Revised Senate Resolution	3,704,246	3,681,491	2,740,538

TABLE 3.—SUMMARY OF THE SENATE PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD AS OF OCTOBER 11, 2019

[In millions of dollars]

	2019	2020	2019-2024	2019-2029
Beginning Balance ^a	0	0	0	0
Enacted Legislation ^{b,c}				
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (H.R. 4378, P.L. 116-59) ^d	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

TABLE 3.—SUMMARY OF THE SENATE PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD AS OF OCTOBER 11, 2019—Continued

[In millions of dollars]

	2019	2020	2019-2024	2019-2029
Impact on Deficit	0	0	0	0
Total Change in Outlays	0	0	0	0
Total Change in Revenues	0	0	0	0

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = public law.

^a On September 9, 2019, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget reset the Senate's Pay-As-You-Go Scorecard to zero for all fiscal years.

^b The amounts shown represent the estimated effect of the public laws on the deficit.

^c Excludes off-budget amounts.

^d The budgetary effects of division B of this act are excluded from the Senate's PAYGO scorecard, pursuant to sec. 1701(b) of the act. The budgetary effects of division A were fully incorporated into the PAYGO ledger pursuant to the authority provided to the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee in section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018. The Chairman exercised that authority through filing an adjustment in the Congressional Record on September 26, 2019.

ENFORCEMENT REPORT OF POINTS OF ORDER RAISED SINCE THE FY 2020 ENFORCEMENT FILING

Vote	Date	Measure	Violation	Motion to Waive	Result
No points of order have been raised as of September 9, 2019					

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such

annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 19-0J. This report relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in

the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 18-43 of November 27, 2018.

Sincerely,

GREGORY M. KAUSNER,
(for Charles W. Hooper, Lieutenant
General, USA, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19-0J

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Qatar.
(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 18-43; Date: 27 November 2018; Military Department: Air Force.

(iii) Description: On November 27, 2018, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 18-43 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of forty (40) AIM-120C-7 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM) and one (1) spare AIM-

120C-7 AMRAAM Guidance Section. Also included were one (1) spare AIM-120C-7 control section, eight (8) AMRAAM Captive Air Training Missile (CATM-120C), missile containers, classified software for the AN/MPQ-64FI Sentinel Radar, spare and repair parts, cryptographic and communication security devices, precision navigation equipment, other software, site surveys, weapons system equipment and computer software support, publications and technical documentation, common munitions and test equipment, repair and return services and equipment, personnel training and training equipment, integration support and test equipment, and U.S. Government and contractor, engineering, technical and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost was \$215 million. Major Defense Equipment* (MDE) constituted \$95 million of this total. This proposed sale was in support of Qatar's procurement of the National Advanced Surface to Air Missile System (NASAMS) via Direct Commercial Sale (DCS).

This transmittal reports the inclusion of up to eighty additional (80) AIM-120C-7 missiles, one hundred twenty (120) AIM-120C-7 ER missiles, thirteen (13) Multifunction Information Distribution System Low Volume Terminal (MIDS-LVT) Block Upgrade 2, and associated materiel, support, and services. These additional MDE items will result in an increase in MDE cost of \$461 million, for a total MDE value of \$556 million. Non-MDE cost will increase by \$16 million. Total case value will increase to \$692 million.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided as these additional missiles represent an increase in capability over what was previously notified. This equipment meets Qatar's requirements for a NASAMS capability providing a full range of protection from imminent hostile cruise missile, unmanned aerial vehicle, rotary wing, and fixed wing threats. The MIDS-LVT BU2 will contribute to the crypto capability of the NASAMS to enable Qatar's self-defense capabilities, and enhance its interoperability with the United States and regional partners.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale supports the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping improve the security of a key partner that has been, and continues to be, a significant host and member of coalition forces in the Middle East.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to the AIM-120C-7 missiles. The AIM-120C-7 ER missiles have the same capability and sensitivity of technology as the AIM-120C-7 but with a larger rocket motor to allow it to travel further. The MIDS LVT BU2 is classified CONFIDENTIAL and is a secure data and voice communication network using the Link-16 architecture. The system provides enhanced situational awareness, positive identification of participants within the network, and secure voice capability. The system provides the critical ground link for simultaneous coordination of air, land, and maritime forces.

(vi) Date Report Delivered to Congress: October 1, 2019.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon

such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 19-54 concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Japan for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$140 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,

Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19-54

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Japan.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$0 million.
Other \$140 million.
Total \$140 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE:

Follow-On Technical Support (FOTS) sustainment and services in support of eight (8) Japan AEGIS Destroyers consisting of four (4) KONGO Class Destroyers, two (2) ATAGO Class Destroyers, two (2) MAYA Class Destroyers and one (1) Japanese Computer Test Site (JCPTS). The sustainment efforts will include AEGIS software updates, system integration and testing, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (JA-P-QFA).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: JA-P-LYJ, JA-P-LZU, and JA-P-LZW.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: October 1, 2019.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Japan—Follow-On Technical Support (FOTS) for AEGIS Destroyers

The Government of Japan has requested to buy Follow-On Technical Support (FOTS)

sustainment and services in support of eight (8) Japan AEGIS Destroyers consisting of four (4) KONGO Class Destroyers, two (2) ATAGO Class Destroyers, two (2) MAYA Class Destroyers and one (1) Japanese Computer Test Site (JCPTS). The sustainment efforts will include AEGIS software updates, system integration and testing, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost is \$140 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of a major ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Asia-Pacific region. It is vital to U.S. national interests to assist Japan in developing and maintaining a strong and effective self-defense capability.

The proposed follow-on technical support is critical to ensure Japan Maritime Self Defense Force's (JMSDF) Aegis Destroyer fleet and JCPTS remain ready to provide critical capabilities in the defense of Japan. Japan's AEGIS Destroyers provide ship-based ballistic missile defense capabilities and build upon a longstanding cooperative effort with the United States to provide enhanced capability with a valued partner in a geographic region of critical importance to Japan and the United States. Japan will have no difficulty absorbing this support into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be Lockheed Martin, Moorestown, NJ. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of two contractor representatives to Japan to support the program.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of

the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 19-56 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Tunisia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$234 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,

Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19-56

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Tunisia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$115 million.

Other \$19 million.

Total \$234 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twelve (12) T-6C Texan Trainer Aircraft.

Non-Major Defense Equipment (MDE): Also included in this sale are spare engines, cartridge actuated devices/propellant actuated devices operational flight trainer, spare parts, ground handling equipment, support equipment, software delivery and support, publications and technical documentation, clothing, textiles and individual equipment, aircraft ferry support, technical and logistical support services, site surveys, minor modifications/class IV support, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (TU-D-SAB).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: October 10, 2019.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Tunisia—T-6C Texan Trainer Aircraft

The Government of Tunisia has requested a possible sale of twelve (12) T-6C Texan trainer aircraft, spare engines, cartridge actuated devices/propellant actuated devices operational flight trainer, spare parts, ground handling equipment, support equipment, software delivery and support, publications and technical documentation, clothing, textiles and individual equipment, aircraft ferry support, technical and logistical support services, site surveys, minor modifications/class IV support, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated value is \$234 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the defense capabilities and capacity of a major non-NATO ally, which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in North Africa. This potential sale will provide additional opportunities for bilateral engagements and further strengthen the bilateral relationship between the United States and Tunisia.

The proposed sale will replace Tunisia's aging trainer fleet and allow Tunisia to continue training pilots to support Tunisia's counter-terrorism and border security missions. Tunisia will have no difficulty absorbing this aircraft into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be Textron Aviation Defense LLC of Wichita, Kansas. There are no known offset agreement proposed with this potential sale. However, the purchaser typically requests offsets. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of nine U.S. Government and one contractor representative to Tunisia.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19-56

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The T-6C is a single engine turboprop trainer aircraft that includes a virtual no-drop scoring capability. Its primary purpose is to teach air to ground operations. No hard points or weapons can be carried on the T-6C.

2. A determination has been made that the recipient country can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

3. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Tunisia.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH, Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of

the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 19-70 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Ukraine for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$39.2 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,

Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19-70

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Ukraine.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$31.0 million.

Other \$8.2 million.

Total \$39.2 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

One hundred fifty (150) Javelin Missiles.

Ten (10) Javelin Command Launch Units (CLU).

Non-MDE: Also included are training devices, transportation, support equipment, technical data and publications, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. government, engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics support tools and test equipment; support equipment; publications and technical documentation; spare and repair parts; equipment training and training devices; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical, sustainment, and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (UP-8-UCJ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: UP-8-UBT.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: October 3, 2019.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Ukraine—Javelin Missiles and Command Launch Units

The Government of Ukraine has requested to buy one hundred fifty (150) Javelin missiles and ten (10) Javelin Command Launch Units (CLUs). Also included are training devices, transportation, support equipment, technical data and publications, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. government, engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics support tools and test equipment; support equipment; publications and technical documentation; spare and repair parts; equipment training and training devices; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical, sustainment, and program support. The total estimated cost is not to exceed \$39.2 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of Ukraine. The Javelin system will help Ukraine build its long-term defense capacity to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity in order to meet its national defense

requirements. Ukraine will have no difficulty absorbing this system into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor for the Javelin Missile System is Raytheon Company, Waltham, MA. There are no known offset agreements proposed in conjunction with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed program will require additional contractor representatives to travel to Ukraine. It is not expected additional U.S. Government personnel will be required in country for an extended period of time.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19-70

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Javelin Weapon System is a medium-range, man portable, shoulder-launched, fire and forget, anti-tank system for infantry, scouts, and combat engineers. The system weighs 49.5 pounds and has a maximum range in excess of 2,500 meters. The system is highly lethal against tanks and other systems with conventional and reactive armors. The system possesses a secondary capability against bunkers.

2. Javelin's key technical feature is the use of fire-and-forget technology which allows the gunner to fire and immediately relocate or take cover. Additional special features are the top attack and/or direct fire modes, an advanced tandem warhead and imaging infrared seeker, target lock-on before launch, and soft launch from enclosures or covered fighting positions. The Javelin missile also has a minimum smoke motor thus decreasing its detection on the battlefield.

3. The Javelin Weapon System is comprised of two major tactical components, which are a reusable Command Launch Unit (CLU) and a round contained in a disposable launch tube assembly. The CLU incorporates an integrated day-night sight that provides a target engagement capability in adverse weather and countermeasure environments. The CLU may also be used in a stand-alone mode for battlefield surveillance and target detection. The CLU's thermal sight is a second generation Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) sensor operating in the 8-10 micron wavelength and has a 240 x 240 pixel scanning array with a Dewar-coolant unit.

4. The missile is autonomously guided to the target using an imaging infrared seeker and adaptive correlation tracking algorithms. This allows the gunner to take cover or reload and engage another target after firing a missile. The missile contains an infrared seeker with a 64 x 64 pixel element Mercury-Cadmium-Telluride (HgCdTe) Focal Plane Array (FPA) operating in the 8-10 micron wavelength. The missile has an advanced tandem warhead and can be used in either the top attack or direct fire modes (for target undercover). An onboard flight computer guides the missile to the selected target.

5. The Javelin Missile System hardware and the documentation are UNCLASSIFIED. The missile software which resides in the CLU is considered SENSITIVE. The sensitivity is primarily in the software programs which instruct the system how to operate in the presence of countermeasures. The overall hardware is also considered SENSITIVE in that the infrared wavelengths could be useful in attempted countermeasure development.

6. If a technologically advanced adversary obtains knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

7. A determination has been made that Ukraine can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary to further the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

8. All defense articles and services listed on this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Ukraine.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO RONNI K. COHEN

• Mr. COONS. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the service and dedication of a distinguished Delawarean with a track record of putting service before herself. She is a thoughtful friend, not just to me, but to hundreds of Delawareans up and down the State.

Ronni K. Cohen of Claymont, DE, is a well-known educator and civic leader in Delaware and recently retired after 50 years of public service. She taught thousands of students—children and adults—financial planning, problem-solving, entrepreneurship, and so much more. A Delaware school official once described Ronni as “one of the most dedicated teachers that I have ever met.”

In total, Ronni spent 33 years in the classrooms of Delaware's Brandywine School District and in 2000 was recognized as Teacher of the Year by the Delaware Department of Education. She was an economics and entrepreneurship teacher at elementary schools like P.S. duPont, Marguerite H. Burnett, and Claymont. During her time with her third, fourth, and fifth graders, Ronni instilled in them an industrial spirit and deployed hands-on lessons about the crucial role that finances play in our everyday lives.

Ronni earned many accolades during her career, including the Delaware Chamber of Commerce Superstars in Education Award, the Small Business Administration Women in Business Champion Award, the Consortium of Entrepreneurship Education Leadership and Advocacy Award, the Delaware Library Partnership Award, and a Freedoms Foundation Leavey Award for private enterprise education.

In 1992, Ronni and her principal opened the first bank within a Delaware public school. This innovative program, in partnership with Wilmington Trust, expanded to 20 other schools across Delaware.

In 2001, when the Delaware Financial Literacy Institute—DFLI—was born, Ronni was the obvious choice to lead it. This not-for-profit organization set out to promote financial education through its Delaware Money School

and help individuals gain a better understanding of the consumer marketplace while providing them with the necessary instruments to improve their financial health.

For the next 17 years, Ronni served as DFLI's executive director. She taught classes while recruiting a battalion of volunteer instructors to multiply the efforts of the Delaware Money School. Under her leadership, thousands of adult students completed DFLI coursework and gained the knowledge they needed to take control of their financial futures.

Ronni also served on the Governor's Task Force for Financial Independence and the Delaware General Assembly's Joint Committee on Financial Literacy. In 2016, when the State was developing its financial literacy standards for K-12, she was hand-picked as cochairperson of that committee.

From “EconoM&Mics” to “Purses to Portfolios” and “Investing for Your Future,” Ronni's unique classes have impacted many Delawareans over the years and made our state stronger and more prosperous.

“Ronni Cohen is a remarkably effective educator. She took her prodigious skills to a different platform by helping tens of thousands of Delawareans take control of their personal finances,” said former Governor Jack Markell. “Ronni is beloved in the Delaware Money School community—and for a good reason. She gave fully of herself to improve other peoples' lives. Ronni leaves a remarkable legacy of achievement and contribution. I love Ronni Cohen!”

Mr. President, Ronni sees all Delawareans as lifelong students, and she always ensured that her students and mentees had the proper tools to build strong and stable financial futures. Her legacy is one of a teacher who consistently went to extraordinary lengths to make sure her lessons made “cents.”

Ronni Cohen, from all of your schoolchildren, your adult learners, your neighbors, and your state, please accept our sincere thanks and gratitude. Thank you for dedicating 50 years to public service—and on behalf of our entire state, I wish you a happy, fulfilling retirement. Thank you. •

TRIBUTE TO JOEL GRAVES

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Joel Graves, principal at Lincoln County High School, for his tremendous impact on the students in Eureka and the local community.

Joel was selected as the recipient of the 2019 Montana Association of Secondary School Principals' Principal of the Year award in late January.

This prestigious award recognizes outstanding school leaders who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students, as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession.

Joel's commitment to the young people of North Lincoln County has earned

him the recognition and admiration of his colleagues, students, and teachers across the State. His leadership as an administrator has fostered an environment where the teachers at Lincoln County High School can excel in providing their students a quality education. He is a strong supporter of encouraging young Montanans to explore all educational opportunities, including career technical training and the trades.

It is my honor to recognize Joel Graves for his excellence as principal of Lincoln County High School. I look forward to following the wonderful successes that will come out of Lincoln County High School because of Joel's leadership.●

HIGH PLAINS HONOR FLIGHT

● Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I stand here today to recognize the veterans of High Plains Honor Flight who have made their inaugural trip to Washington, DC. Distinguished veterans from World War II, the Korean war, and the Vietnam war have made the journey to visit the national memorials dedicated to their service.

Military service is an exceptional duty to the country. Few words can describe the gratitude we all share for sacrifice that these men and women have made to preserve our rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. When the United States has been threatened, our veterans have bravely answered our countries call without reservation. Twice a year, the Honor Flight welcomes veterans from across the country to fly to Washington, DC, free of charge, so that they can visit the national memorials dedicated to their service.

Please join me in honoring Charles Assmus, Clarence Carlson, John Dutton, Gordon Norton, Willis Sibley, Michael Abramovich, George Edinger, James Forrest, Alan Gates, Charles Hall, Jason Laguna, Richard Lindemann, Richard McCown, James McWilliams, Gerald Mitchell, Erlis Morse, John Oliver, Bernard Pisciola, Donald Price, Earle Ridgway, Richard Stoltzfus, Wayne Tobey, Johnny West, Benjamin Zimmerman, Robert Davison, Gerald McDuffee, Jed Pancoast, Ronald Adam, Ronald Albers, Leon Bartholomay, Richard Belt, Hal Bennett, Kenneth Blum, Clyde Bullard Jr., Kenneth Butcher, Jan Carlson, Allan Cazer, Terry Chandler, Spencer Chapin, Daniel Crego, James Crowell, James Davies, Robert Delva, William Dowling, Gerald Ecker, Carl England, Thomas Evans, Ricky Farrier, Markton Gadbury, Roy George, Don Gooding, Jack Hall, Calvin Hamilton, Robert Jacobson, Charles Jett, Larry Johnson, Daniel Katze, James Keeler, Gene Keys, Daniel King, Raymond Kirchner Jr., Damian Kisner, Richard Knight, Terrence Kullbom, Dale Langholz, Noel LaRose II, Harvey Lawson, Richard Lawson, Robert Loner, Jerald Lucas

Antonio Luna, Thomas Mason, Tony Mathias, Bobby Matthews, Charles McConnell, Timothy McGinnis, Allen Meyer, Blythe Miley, Richard Miller, Thomas Mitchell, Robert Montgomery, James Morgan, Richard Morris, Paul Niebel, Larry Odegard, Carol Jean Padilla, Theron Parlin, David Patterson, Mark Patterson, Robert Pennington, Randall Peonio, Arturo Perez, Floyd Peterson, Christopher Petroff, Linda Pickett, Gary Pitt, Donald Posselt, Richard Ranabargar, John Rasmussen, Robert Righi, Gary Schuler, Curtis Shaffer, John Shaffner, Lee Sherbenou, Donald Simmons, Jerry Skelton, Richard Smith, Richard Smith Jr., Jimmy Spence, Donald Spotanski, Roger Stocker, Thomas Tedesco, Virgil Treadway, Ted Turner, Thomas Wartella, Arthur Weidner, Mark Williamson, Garry Wilson, William Woolman, Darell Zimbelman.●

REMEMBERING HOWARD LUKE

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I want to take a few minutes to recognize the life of a highly respected Athabascan elder Howard Luke, who died September, 21, 2019 in Fairbanks, AK, at age 95.

With the passing of Native elder Howard Luke, Alaska has lost a highly respected Athabascan leader who dedicated his life to empowering the Alaska Native community and ensuring that cultural and traditional knowledge will be passed down to younger generations.

Howard Luke was born in 1923 in Nenana, later moving to Fairbanks with his mother at age 13. A man with a true gentle spirit, Howard made a unique contribution to our State, and he shared his passion of the Athabascan language and traditional ways.

He always stressed the importance of school for young people while also learning their traditions. At his mother's side, he learned the stories and values and subsistence way of life of his people. He sometimes talked about wishing he had received more formal schooling and that he felt hindered by stopping school after the fourth grade; yet he was constantly pursuing learning. He travelled to New Zealand, Australia, Russia, and visited other Tribes throughout the United States. In honor of his efforts, the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District named an alternative school after him. In 1991, he received an honorary high school diploma from that school. Howard later received an honorary doctorate from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

In discussing his efforts with schools, he said that he wanted teachers to help the kids more than anything else. He knew that you can't just tell them, "This is the way to do it," and leave them alone. You have got to help them. His approach was based on the idea that you have got to make the kids proud of themselves for what they were able to do.

Howard made sure to focus on educating young indigenous people, "the grandkids," about the rich culture and values that are their inheritance.

Howard dedicated his later life to culture camps and cultural education in the schools. He started a camp on the banks of the Chena River, the Gaaleeya Spirit Camp, to teach skills to Native youth, such as art, language, and how to live off the land.

He was a common and welcoming elder in Canada and the Chilkoot Culture Camp in Haines. He shared traditional practices of hunting, teaching deep respect for those resources that are so much a part of Alaska Natives lifestyles.

The knowledge that he had and shared with others is something you cannot learn in a university. This knowledge is passed down from elders to youth, and he recognized the importance of sustaining places for younger generations to learn the ways of their ancestors.

Howard Luke always said, if you love the kids, they will know that they are loved. He also always told the kids to be proud of themselves. Howard was loved in return, and Alaskans are immensely proud of all that he contributed to the State. My deepest condolences to his friends, family, and loved ones during this time as we reflect on the life a legendary Alaskan.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. ANDREW REHFELD

● Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Dr. Andrew Rehfeld, who will be inaugurated as the 10th President of Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion on Sunday, October 27, 2019.

Founded in Cincinnati, OH in 1875, Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion, or HUC—JIR, is today a premier institution of higher Jewish learning and the center of academic, spiritual, and professional leadership development for Reform Judaism. Over the past 144 years, HUC—JIR has grown into one of this Nation's most distinguished Jewish seminaries, and literally thousands of its rabbinical and cantorial alumni have been leading a Jewish renaissance in North America, Israel, and around the globe. HUC—JIR is also internationally recognized for teaching and mentoring students to serve as Jewish educators and communal leaders in synagogues, schools, Hillel's, hospitals, camps, the U.S. military, and Jewish organizations worldwide. For more than 70 years, HUC—JIR's Pines School of Graduate Studies has been conferring Ph.D. degrees on scholars of all religious traditions who have gone on to teach in colleges, universities, and seminaries around the world. Today, HUC—JIR has campuses in Cincinnati, Jerusalem, Los Angeles, and New York, all of which are vital centers for educational and cultural outreach to those of all faiths and backgrounds.

Dr. Andrew Rehfeld, the new president of HUC–JIR, is a leading political scientist and distinguished Jewish communal leader. Dr. Rehfeld's career has bridged both the academic and professional worlds as associate professor of political science at Washington University and as president and CEO of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis. Elected on December 18, 2018 by the HUC–JIR Board of Governors after a national search, he began his tenure on April 1, 2019, succeeding the late Rabbi Aaron Panken.

Dr. Rehfeld is married to Dr. Miggie Greenberg, a board-certified psychiatrist and director of outpatient psychiatry at St. Louis University. They have two children: Emma, who is the music and T'filah coordinator at Larchmont Temple in Larchmont, NY, and Hoben, who is an artist currently working in St. Louis.

I salute HUC–JIR on this milestone occasion, and I congratulate Dr. Rehfeld and wish him all the best.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT OF THE VETO OF S.J. RES. 54, A JOINT RESOLUTION THAT WOULD TERMINATE THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES DECLARED IN PROCLAMATION 9844 OF FEBRUARY 15, 2019, PURSUANT TO THE NATIONAL EMERGENCIES ACT REGARDING THE ONGOING CRISIS ON THE SOUTHERN BORDER—PM 32

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States which was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, spread in full upon the Journal, and held at the desk:

To the Senate of the United States:

I am returning herewith without my approval S.J. Res. 54, a joint resolution that would terminate the national emergency I declared in Proclamation 9844 of February 15, 2019, pursuant to the National Emergencies Act, regarding the ongoing crisis on our southern border. I am doing so for the same reasons I returned an identical resolution, H.J. Res. 46, to the House of Representatives without my approval on March 15, 2019.

Proclamation 9844 has helped the Federal Government address the national emergency on our southern border. It has empowered my Administration's Government-wide strategy to counter large-scale unlawful migration and to respond to corresponding humanitarian challenges through focused

application of every Constitutional and statutory authority at our disposal. It has also facilitated the military's ongoing construction of virtually insurmountable physical barriers along hundreds of miles of our southern border.

The southern border, however, continues to be a major entry point for criminals, gang members, and illicit narcotics to come into our country. As explained in Proclamation 9844, in my veto message regarding H.J. Res. 46, and in congressional testimony from multiple Administration officials, the ongoing crisis at the southern border threatens core national security interests. In addition, security challenges at the southern border exacerbate an ongoing humanitarian crisis that threatens the well-being of vulnerable populations, including women and children.

In short, the situation on our southern border remains a national emergency, and our Armed Forces are still needed to help confront it.

Like H.J. Res. 46, S.J. Res. 54 would undermine the Government's ability to address this continuing national emergency. It would, among other things, impair the Government's capacity to secure the Nation's southern borders against unlawful entry and to curb the trafficking and smuggling that fuels the present humanitarian crisis.

S.J. Res. 54 is also inconsistent with other recent congressional actions. For example, the Congress, in an overwhelmingly bipartisan manner, has provided emergency resources to address the crisis at the southern border. Additionally, the Congress has approved a budget framework that expressly preserves the emergency authorities my Administration is using to address the crisis.

Proclamation 9844 was neither a new nor novel application of executive authority. Rather, it is the sixtieth Presidential invocation of the National Emergencies Act of 1976. It relies upon the same statutory authority used by both of the previous two Presidents to undertake more than 18 different military construction projects from 2001 through 2013. And it has withstood judicial challenge in the Supreme Court.

Earlier this year, I vetoed H.J. Res. 46 because it was a dangerous resolution that would undermine United States sovereignty and threaten the lives and safety of countless Americans. It was, therefore, my duty to return it to the House of Representatives without my approval. It is similarly my duty, in order to protect the safety and security of our Nation, to return S.J. Res. 54 to the Senate without my approval.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 15, 2019.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:45 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 95. An act 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.

H.R. 1199. An act 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.

H.R. 2334. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Odessa, Texas, as the "Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic".

H.R. 2385. An act 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.

H.R. 3289. An act to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 and for other purposes.

H.R. 4270. An act to prohibit commercial exports of certain nonlethal crowd control items and defense articles and services to the Hong Kong Police, and for other purposes.

At 3:24 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 joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 77. Joint resolution opposing the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 95. An act 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; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1199. An act 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; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 2334. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Odessa, Texas, as the "Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 2385. An act 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; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 4270. An act to prohibit commercial exports of certain nonlethal crowd control items and defense articles and services to the Hong Kong Police, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3289. An act to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following joint resolutions were read the first time:

H.J. Res. 77. Joint resolution opposing the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria.

S.J. Res. 58. Joint resolution expressing support for freedom of conscience.

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-2724. 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; Missouri; Revocation of Kansas City Area Transportation Conformity Requirements Plans" (FRL No. 10000-76-Region 7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2725. 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; SC; 2010 1-Hour SO₂ NAAQS Transport Infrastructure" (FRL No. 10000-84-Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2726. 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; District of Columbia; Reasonably Available Control Technology State Implementation Plan for Volatile Organic Compounds under 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard" (FRL No. 10000-90-Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2727. 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; New York; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Ozone, 2010 Sulfur Dioxide, and 2012 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 10000-78-Region 2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2728. 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 Source-Specific Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Jersey" (FRL No. 10000-91-Region 2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2729. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule en-

titled "Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances; Technical Correction" (FRL No. 9999-12) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2730. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revocation of Significant New Uses of Fatty Acid Amide" (FRL No. 9999-88) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2731. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "State of Vermont: Discontinuance of Certain Commission Regulatory Authority Within the State; Notice of Agreement Between the NRC and the State of Vermont" ((10 CFR Part 150) (NRC-2019-0114)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2732. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applicability of Existing Regulatory Guides to the Design, Construction, and Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation" (NRC-2019-0157) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2733. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of New Reactors, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Piping Systems and Components - Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria" (NUREG-0800, Chapter 14.3.3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2734. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Consolidated Guidance About Material Licenses: Program-Specific Guidance About Medical Use Licenses" (NUREG-1556, Volume 9, Revision 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2735. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Childhood Obesity Research Demonstration Project"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2736. 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 Under Secretary (International Affairs), Department of Treasury received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2737. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of

Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicaid Program; State Disproportionate Share Hospital Allotment Reductions" (RIN0938-AS63) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2738. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 199A Trade or Business Safe Harbor - Rental Real Estate" (Rev. Proc. 2019-38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2739. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hardship Distributions of Elective Contributions, Qualified Matching Contributions, Qualified Nonelective Contributions, and Earnings" (RIN1545-BO82) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2740. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Additional First Year Depreciation Deduction" (RIN1545-BO74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2741. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fringe Benefits Aircraft Valuation Formula" (Rev. Proc. 2019-22) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2742. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice Regarding the Special Per Diem Rates for 2019-2020" (Notice 2019-55) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2743. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guidance Related to Section 958(b)(4) Repeal Relief" (Rev. Proc. 2019-40) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2744. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Remedial Amendment Periods, Pre-approved Plan Cycles, and Plan Amendment Deadlines for 403(b) Plans" (Rev. Proc. 2019-39) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2745. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Expiration Dates for Two Body System Listings" (RIN0960-AI44) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2746. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Revisions to Requirements for Discharge Planning for Hospitals, Critical Access Hospitals, and Home Health Agencies, and Hospital and Critical Access Hospital Changes to Promote Innovation, Flexibility, and Improvement in Patient Care" (RIN0938-AS59) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2747. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Regulatory Provisions to Promote Program Efficiency, Transparency, and Burden Reduction; Fire Safety Requirements for Certain Dialysis Facilities; Hospital and Critical Access Hospital (CAH) Changes to Promote Innovation, Flexibility, and Improvement in Patient Care" (RIN0938-AT23) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2748. A communication from the Division Director for Policy, Legislation, and Regulation, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "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" (RIN1205-AB81) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2749. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the report on Other U.S. Contributions to the United Nations and its affiliated agencies during fiscal year 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2750. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2019-0078 - 2019-0093); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2751. A communication from the Executive Secretary, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Asia, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 26, 2019; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2752. A communication from the Rule-making Coordinator, Office for Management, Policy, Budget, and Performance, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Streamlining the Registration Process for Private Voluntary Organizations" (RIN0412-AA91) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2753. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress Regarding National HIV

Testing Goals"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2754. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress: Pediatric Research in Fiscal Year 2018"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2755. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Informational Draft: Requirements for State and Local Report Cards" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 26, 2019; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2756. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Additional Ambient Aerosol CNC Quantitative Fit Testing Protocols: Respiratory Protection Standard" (RIN1218-AC94) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 30, 2019; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2757. A communication from the Deputy Director of the Directorate of Standards and Guidance, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Occupational Exposure to Beryllium and Beryllium Compounds in Construction and Shipyard Sectors" (RIN1218-AD21) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2758. A communication from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's annual submission regarding agency compliance with the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act and revised Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-123; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2759. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "ANC 8C Misappropriated Funds"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2760. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2761. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator, Department of Homeland Security, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2762. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Employee's Retirement System; Present Value Conversion Factors for Spouses of Deceased Separated Employees" (RIN3206-AN87) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 30,

2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2763. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the activities and operations of the Public Integrity Section, Criminal Division for 2018, and the nationwide federal law enforcement effort against public corruption; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2764. A communication from the Federal Liaison Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Eliminating Unnecessary Regulations" (RIN0651-AD25) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 26, 2019; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2765. A communication from the Division Director for Policy, Legislation, and Regulation, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modernizing Recruitment Requirements for the Temporary Employment of H-2A Foreign Workers in the United States" (RIN1205-AB90) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2019; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2766. A communication from the Chief of the Regulatory Coordination Division, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds; Correction" (RIN1615-AA22) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 2, 2019; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HOEVEN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 2159. A bill to repeal the Act entitled "An Act to confer jurisdiction on the State of North Dakota over offenses committed by or against Indians on the Devils Lake Indian Reservation" (Rept. No. 116-130).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BARR (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. TESTER, Mr. JONES, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 2602. A bill to exclude vehicles to be used solely for competition from certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2603. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to end the immigrant visa backlog, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. UDALL (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 2604. A bill to require the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to work with vehicle manufacturers, suppliers, and other interested parties to advance the technology developed by the Driver Alcohol Detection System for Safety Research Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2605. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to award grants to States that have enacted and are enforcing certain laws with respect to stretch limousines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2606. A bill to establish safety standards for certain limousines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 2607. A bill to prescribe zoning authority with respect to commercial unmanned aircraft systems and to preserve State, local, and Tribal authorities and private property with respect to unmanned aircraft systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. HASSAN:

S. 2608. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize competency-based education demonstration projects; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. SANDERS):

S. 2609. 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 Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 2610. A bill to reauthorize certain programs under the Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 2611. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to modify the definition of commercial motor vehicle, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2612. A bill for the relief of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. HARRIS (for herself, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR)):

S. 2613. A bill to provide a path to end homelessness in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 2614. A bill to prohibit certain noncompete agreements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 2615. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2616. A bill to provide civil and criminal jurisdiction over Alaska Natives and non-Alaska Natives for certain Indian tribes in the State of Alaska; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. SASSE:

S.J. Res. 58. A joint resolution expressing support for freedom of conscience; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. LANKFORD, and Ms. WARREN):

S. Res. 358. A resolution designating the week beginning October 20, 2019, as "National Character Counts Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BLUNT)):

S. Res. 359. A resolution authorizing the use of the atrium in the Philip A. Hart Senate Office Building for the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, a semiannual event for the Drug Enforcement Administration; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 117

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 117, a bill to prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 175

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 175, a bill to improve agricultural job opportunities, benefits, and security for aliens in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 433

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) 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. 477

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 477, a bill to authorize the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a Climate Change Education Program, and for other purposes.

S. 518

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 518, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items as items of durable medical equipment.

S. 595

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 595, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coordination of programs to prevent and treat obesity, and for other purposes.

S. 655

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 655, a bill to impose additional restrictions on tobacco flavors for use in e-cigarettes.

S. 727

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 727, a bill to combat international extremism by addressing global fragility and violence and stabilizing conflict-affected areas, and for other purposes.

S. 753

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 753, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S. 803

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 803, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore incentives for investments in qualified improvement property.

S. 879

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 879, a bill to provide a process for granting lawful permanent resident status to aliens from certain countries who meet specified eligibility requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 983

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 983, a bill to amend the Energy Conservation and Production Act to reauthorize the weatherization assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 1012

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1012, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to protect the confidentiality of substance use disorder patient records.

S. 1015

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr.

WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1015, a bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to review and make certain revisions to the Standard Occupational Classification System, and for other purposes.

S. 1032

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1032, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the definition of income for purposes of determining the tax-exempt status of certain corporations.

S. 1045

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1045, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to expand the authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to permit nurses to practice in health care facilities with critical shortages of nurses through programs for loan repayment and scholarships for nurses.

S. 1048

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1048, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a Reducing Youth Use of E-Cigarettes Initiative.

S. 1168

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1168, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure campus access at public institutions of higher education for religious groups.

S. 1203

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1203, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to improve the public service loan forgiveness program, and for other purposes.

S. 1235

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1235, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

S. 1253

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1253, a bill to apply requirements relating to delivery sales of cigarettes to delivery sales of electronic nicotine delivery systems, and for other purposes.

S. 1267

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Minnesota

(Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1267, a bill to establish within the Smithsonian Institution the National Museum of the American Latino, and for other purposes.

S. 1564

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor 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. 1725

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1725, a bill to permit occupational therapists to conduct the initial assessment visit and complete the comprehensive assessment under a Medicare home health plan of care for certain rehabilitation cases.

S. 1822

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) 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 Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 1838, a bill to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

S. 1908

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1908, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the efficiency of summer meals.

S. 2059

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2059, a bill to provide a civil remedy for individuals harmed by sanctuary jurisdiction policies, and for other purposes.

S. 2074

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2074, a bill to amend section 303(g) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 823(g)) to eliminate the separate registration requirement for dispensing narcotic drugs in schedule III, IV, or V, such as buprenorphine, for maintenance or detoxification treatment, and for other purposes.

and for other purposes.

S. 2158

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2158, a bill to improve certain programs of the Department of Health and Human Services with respect to heritable disorders.

S. 2160

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) 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. 2179

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2179, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide social service agencies with the resources to provide services to meet the urgent needs of Holocaust survivors to age in place with dignity, comfort, security, and quality of life.

S. 2216

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2216, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to formally recognize caregivers of veterans, notify veterans and caregivers of clinical determinations relating to eligibility for caregiver programs, and temporarily extend benefits for veterans who are determined ineligible for the family caregiver program, and for other purposes.

S. 2254

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2254, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a Pension Rehabilitation Trust Fund, to establish a Pension Rehabilitation Administration within the Department of the Treasury to make loans to multiemployer defined benefit plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2289

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2289, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an extension of the energy credit and the credit for residential energy efficient property.

S. 2295

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2295, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, and for other purposes.

S. 2417

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 2434

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2434, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

S. 2439

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2439, a bill to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to provide that the licensing of a mark for use by a related company may not be construed as establishing an employment relationship between the owner of the mark, or an authorizing person, and either that related company or the employees of that related company, and for other purposes.

S. 2461

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2461, a bill to designate a portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness.

S. 2546

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2546, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a group health plan or health insurance coverage offered in connection with such a plan to provide an exceptions process for any medication step therapy protocol, and for other purposes.

S. 2550

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2550, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny the deduction for advertising and promotional expenses for tobacco products and electronic nicotine delivery systems.

S. 2574

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2574, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to increase the ability of Medicare and Medicaid providers to access the National Practitioner Data Bank for the purpose of conducting employee background checks.

S.J. RES. 53

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLI-

BRAND), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 53, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Repeal of the Clean Power Plan; Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From Existing Electric Utility Generating Units; Revisions to Emission Guidelines Implementing Regulations".

S.J. RES. 57

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of 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.

S. CON. RES. 21

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 21, a concurrent resolution strongly condemning human rights violations, violence against civilians, and cooperation with Iran by the Houthi movement and its allies in Yemen.

S. RES. 303

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 303, a resolution calling upon the leadership of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to dismantle its kwan-li-so political prison labor camp system, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 318

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 318, a resolution to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment.

S. RES. 339

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 339, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Retirement Security Week, including raising public awareness of the various tax-preferred retirement vehicles, increasing personal financial literacy, and engaging the people of the United States on the keys to success in achieving and maintaining retirement security throughout their lifetimes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2603. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to end the immigrant visa backlog, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. 2603

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 "Resolving Extended Limbo for Immigrant Employees and Families Act" or the "RELIEF Act".

SEC. 2. NUMERICAL LIMITATION TO ANY SINGLE FOREIGN STATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 202(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1152(a)(2)) is amended—

(1) in the paragraph heading, by striking "AND EMPLOYMENT-BASED";

(2) by striking "(3), (4), and (5)," and inserting "(3) and (4).";

(3) by striking "subsections (a) and (b) of section 203" and inserting "section 203(a)";

(4) by striking "7" and inserting "15"; and

(5) by striking "such subsections" and inserting "such section".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 202 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1152) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3), by striking "both subsections (a) and (b) of section 203" and inserting "section 203(a)";

(2) by striking subsection (a)(5); and

(3) by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

"(e) SPECIAL RULES FOR COUNTRIES AT CEILING.—If it is determined that the total number of immigrant visas made available under section 203(a) to natives of any single foreign state or dependent area will exceed the numerical limitation specified in subsection (a)(2) in any fiscal year, in determining the allotment of immigrant visa numbers to natives under section 203(a), visa numbers with respect to natives of that state or area shall be allocated (to the extent practicable and otherwise consistent with this section and section 203) in a manner so that, except as provided in subsection (a)(4), the proportion of the visa numbers made available under each of paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 203(a) is equal to the ratio of the total number of visas made available under the respective paragraph to the total number of visas made available under section 203(a)."

(c) COUNTRY-SPECIFIC OFFSET.—Section 2 of the Chinese Student Protection Act of 1992 (8 U.S.C. 1255 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "subsection (e))" and inserting "subsection (d))"; and

(2) by striking subsection (d) and redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (d).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if enacted on September 30, 2019, and shall apply to fiscal years beginning with fiscal year 2020.

(e) TRANSITION RULES FOR EMPLOYMENT-BASED IMMIGRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the succeeding paragraphs of this subsection and notwithstanding title II of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151 et seq.), the following rules shall apply:

(A) For fiscal year 2020, 15 percent of the immigrant visas made available under each of paragraphs (2), (3), and (5) of section 203(b) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)) shall be allotted to immigrants who are natives of a foreign state or dependent area that is not one of the two states with the largest aggregate numbers of natives who are beneficiaries of approved petitions for immigrant status under such paragraphs.

(B) For fiscal year 2021, 10 percent of the immigrant visas made available under each of such paragraphs shall be allotted to immigrants who are natives of a foreign state or dependent area that is not one of the two states with the largest aggregate numbers of natives who are beneficiaries of approved petitions for immigrant status under such paragraphs.

(C) For fiscal year 2022, 10 percent of the immigrant visas made available under each of such paragraphs shall be allotted to immigrants who are natives of a foreign state or dependent area that is not one of the two states with the largest aggregate numbers of natives who are beneficiaries of approved petitions for immigrant status under such paragraphs.

(2) PER-COUNTRY LEVELS.—

(A) RESERVED VISAS.—With respect to the visas reserved under each of subparagraphs (A) through (C) of paragraph (1), the number of such visas made available to natives of any single foreign state or dependent area in the appropriate fiscal year may not exceed 25 percent (in the case of a single foreign state) or 2 percent (in the case of a dependent area) of the total number of such visas.

(B) UNRESERVED VISAS.—With respect to the immigrant visas made available under each of paragraphs (2), (3), and (5) of section 203(b) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)) and not reserved under paragraph (1), for each of fiscal years 2020, 2021, and 2022, not more than 85 percent shall be allotted to immigrants who are natives of any single foreign state.

(3) SPECIAL RULE TO PREVENT UNUSED VISAS.—If, with respect to fiscal year 2020, 2021, or 2022, the operation of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection would prevent the total number of immigrant visas made available under paragraph (2) or (3) of section 203(b) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)) from being issued, such visas may be issued during the remainder of such fiscal year without regard to paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection.

(4) TRANSITION RULE FOR CURRENTLY APPROVED BENEFICIARIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 202 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended by this Act, immigrant visas under section 203(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)) shall be allocated such that no alien described in subparagraph (B) receives a visa later than the alien otherwise would have received said visa had this Act not been enacted.

(B) ALIEN DESCRIBED.—An alien is described in this subparagraph if the alien is the beneficiary of a petition for an immigrant visa under section 203(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)) that was approved prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

(5) RULES FOR CHARGEABILITY.—Section 202(b) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1152(b)) shall apply in determining the foreign state to which an alien is chargeable for purposes of this subsection.

(6) ENSURING AVAILABILITY OF IMMIGRANT VISAS.—For each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024, notwithstanding sections 201 and 202 of

the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151, 1152), as amended by this Act, additional immigrant visas under section 203 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153) shall be made available and allocated—

(A) such that no alien who is a beneficiary of a petition for an immigrant visa under such section 203 receives a visa later than the alien otherwise would have received such visa had this Act not been enacted; and

(B) to permit all visas to be distributed in accordance with this section.

SEC. 3. ENDING IMMIGRANT VISA BACKLOG.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any immigrant visa made available under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.), as amended by this Act, subject to paragraphs (1) and (2), the Secretary of State shall make immigrant visas available to—

(1) aliens who are beneficiaries of petitions filed under subsection (b) of section 203 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1153) before the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) aliens who are beneficiaries of petitions filed under subsection (a) of such section before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) ALLOCATION OF VISAS.—The visas made available under this section shall be allocated as follows:

(1) EMPLOYMENT-SPONSORED IMMIGRANT VISAS.—In each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024, the Secretary of State shall allocate to aliens described in subsection (a)(1) a number of immigrant visas equal to 1/5 of the number of aliens described in such subsection the visas of whom have not been issued as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) FAMILY-SPONSORED IMMIGRANT VISAS.—In each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024, the Secretary of State shall allocate to aliens described in subsection (a)(2) a number of immigrant visas equal to 1/5 of the difference between—

(A) the number of aliens described in such subsection the visas of whom have not been issued as of the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) the number of aliens described in subsection (a)(1).

(c) ORDER OF ISSUANCE FOR PREVIOUSLY FILED APPLICATIONS.—The visas made available under this section shall be issued in accordance with section 202 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1152), as amended by this Act, in the order in which the petitions under section 203 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1153) were filed.

SEC. 4. KEEPING AMERICAN FAMILIES TOGETHER.

(a) RECLASSIFICATION OF SPOUSES AND MINOR CHILDREN OF LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS IMMEDIATE RELATIVES AND EXEMPTION OF DERIVATIVES.—The Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 201(b) (8 U.S.C. 1151(b))—

(A) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end the following:

“(F) Aliens who derive status under section 203(d).”; and

(B) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2)(A) IMMEDIATE RELATIVES.—Aliens who are immediate relatives.

“(B) DEFINITION OF IMMEDIATE RELATIVE.—In this paragraph, the term ‘immediate relative’ means—

“(i) a child, spouse, or parent of a citizen of the United States, except that in the case of such a parent such citizen shall be at least 21 years of age;

“(ii) a child or spouse of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence;

“(iii) a child or spouse of an alien described in clause (i), who is accompanying or following to join the alien;

“(iv) a child or spouse of an alien described in clause (ii), who is accompanying or following to join the alien;

“(v) an alien admitted under section 211(a) on the basis of a prior issuance of a visa to the alien’s accompanying parent who is an immediate relative; and

“(vi) an alien born to an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence during a temporary visit abroad.

“(C) TREATMENT OF SPOUSE AND CHILDREN OF DECEASED CITIZEN OR LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT.—If an alien who was the spouse or child of a citizen of the United States or of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence and was not legally separated from the citizen or lawful permanent resident at the time of the citizen’s or lawful permanent resident’s death files a petition under section 204(a)(1)(B), the alien spouse (and each child of the alien) shall remain, for purposes of this paragraph, an immediate relative during the period beginning on the date of the citizen’s or permanent resident’s death and ending on the date on which the alien spouse remarries.

“(D) PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF ABUSE.—An alien who has filed a petition under clause (iii) or (iv) of section 204(a)(1)(A) shall remain, for purposes of this paragraph, an immediate relative if the United States citizen or lawful permanent resident spouse or parent loses United States citizenship on account of the abuse.”; and

(2) in section 203(a) (8 U.S.C. 1153(a))—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “23,400” and inserting “111,334”; and

(B) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) UNMARRIED SONS AND UNMARRIED DAUGHTERS OF LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS.—Qualified immigrants who are the unmarried sons or unmarried daughters (but are not the children) of aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence shall be allocated visas in a number not to exceed 26,266, plus—

“(A) the number of visas by which the worldwide level exceeds 226,000; and

“(B) the number of visas not required for the class specified in paragraph (1).”.

(b) PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM AGING OUT.—Section 203(h) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(h)) is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (d), a determination of whether an alien satisfies the age requirement in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) of section 101(b)(1) shall be made using the age of the alien on the date on which the petition is filed with the Secretary of Homeland Security under section 204.”;

(2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) PETITIONS DESCRIBED.—A petition described in this paragraph is a petition filed under section 204 for classification of—

“(A) the alien’s parent under subsection (a), (b), or (c); or

“(B) the alien as an immediate relative based on classification as a child of—

“(i) a citizen of the United States; or

“(ii) a lawful permanent resident.”;

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking “subsections (a)(2)(A) and” and inserting “sub-section””; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) TREATMENT FOR NONIMMIGRANT CATEGORIES PURPOSES.—An alien dependent treated as a child for immigrant visa purposes under this subsection shall be treated as a dependent child for nonimmigrant categories.”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—Section 101(a)(15)(K)(ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(K)(ii)) is amended by striking “section 201(b)(2)(A)(i)” and inserting “section 201(b)(2) (other than clause (v) or (vi) of subparagraph (B))”.

(2) RULES FOR DETERMINING WHETHER CERTAIN ALIENS ARE IMMEDIATE RELATIVES.—Section 201(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151(f)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraphs (2) and (3),” and inserting “paragraph (2).”;

(B) by striking paragraph (2);

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and

(D) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by striking “through (3)” and inserting “and (2)”.

(3) PER COUNTRY LEVEL.—Section 202(a)(1)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1152(a)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “section 201(b)(2)(A)(i)” and inserting “section 201(b)(2) (other than clause (v) or (vi) of subparagraph (B))”.

(4) NUMERICAL LIMITATION TO ANY SINGLE FOREIGN STATE.—Section 202(a)(4) (8 U.S.C. 1152(a)(4)) is amended—

(A) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B);

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively; and

(C) in subparagraph (A), as so redesignated—

(i) by striking the undesignated matter following clause (ii);

(ii) by striking clause (ii);

(iii) in clause (i), by striking “, or” and inserting a period; and

(iv) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “section 203(a)(2)(B) may not exceed” and all that follows through “23 percent” in clause (i) and inserting “section 203(a)(2) may not exceed 23 percent”.

(5) PROCEDURES FOR GRANTING IMMIGRANT STATUS.—Section 204 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1154) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) in subparagraph (A)—

(aa) in clause (i), by striking “section 201(b)(2)(A)(i)” and inserting “clause (i) or (ii) of section 201(b)(2)(B)”;

(bb) in clause (ii), by striking “the second sentence of section 201(b)(2)(A)(i)” and inserting “section 201(b)(2)(C)”;

(cc) by amending clause (iii) to read as follows:

“(iii)(I) An alien who is described in clause (ii) may file a petition with the Secretary of Homeland Security under this subparagraph for classification of the alien (and any child of the alien) if the alien demonstrates to the Secretary that—

“(aa) the marriage or the intent to marry the citizen of the United States or lawful permanent resident was entered into in good faith by the alien; and

“(bb) during the marriage or relationship intended by the alien to be legally a marriage, the alien or a child of the alien has been battered or has been the subject of extreme cruelty perpetrated by the alien’s spouse or intended spouse.

“(II) For purposes of subclause (I), an alien described in this subclause is an alien—

“(aa)(AA) who is the spouse of a citizen of the United States or lawful permanent resident;

“(BB) who believed that he or she had married a citizen of the United States or lawful permanent resident and with whom a marriage ceremony was actually performed and who otherwise meets any applicable requirements under this Act to establish the existence of and bona fides of a marriage, but whose marriage is not legitimate solely because of the bigamy of such citizen of the

United States or lawful permanent resident; or

“(CC) who was a bona fide spouse of a citizen of the United States or a lawful permanent resident within the past 2 years and whose spouse died within the past 2 years, whose spouse renounced citizenship status or renounced or lost status as a lawful permanent resident within the past 2 years related to an incident of domestic violence, or who demonstrates a connection between the legal termination of the marriage within the past 2 years and battering or extreme cruelty by a spouse who is a citizen of the United States or a lawful permanent resident spouse;

“(bb) who is a person of good moral character;

“(cc) who is eligible to be classified as an immediate relative under section 201(b)(2)(B) or who would have been so classified but for the bigamy of the citizen of the United States or lawful permanent resident that the alien intended to marry; and

“(dd) who has resided with the alien’s spouse or intended spouse.”;

(dd) by amending clause (iv) to read as follows:

“(iv) An alien who is the child of a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States, or who was a child of a United States citizen or lawful permanent resident parent who within the past 2 years lost or renounced citizenship status related to an incident of domestic violence, and who is a person of good moral character, who is eligible to be classified as an immediate relative under section 201(b)(2)(B), and who resides, or has resided in the past, with the citizen or lawful permanent resident parent may file a petition with the Secretary of Homeland Security under this subparagraph for classification of the alien (and any child of the alien) under such section if the alien demonstrates to the Secretary that the alien has been battered or has been the subject of extreme cruelty perpetrated by the alien’s citizen or lawful permanent resident parent. For purposes of this clause, residence includes any period of visitation.”; and

(ee) in clause (v)(I), in the matter preceding item (aa), by inserting “or lawful permanent resident” after “citizen”;

(ff) in clause (vi), by striking “renunciation of citizenship” and all that follows through “citizenship status” and inserting “renunciation of citizenship or lawful permanent resident status, death of the abuser, divorce, or changes to the abuser’s citizenship or lawful permanent resident status”; and

(gg) in clause (vii), by striking “section 201(b)(2)(A)(i)” each place it appears and inserting “section 201(b)(2)(B)”;

(II) by amending subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

“(B)(i)(I) Except as provided in subclause (II), any alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence claiming that an alien is entitled to a classification by reason of the relationship described in section 203(a)(2) may file a petition with the Attorney General for such classification.

“(II) Subclause (I) shall not apply in the case of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence who has been convicted of a specified offense against a minor (as defined in subparagraph (A)(viii)(II)), unless the Secretary of Homeland Security, in the Secretary’s sole and unreviewable discretion, determines that such person poses no risk to the alien with respect to whom a petition described in subclause (I) is filed.

“(ii) An alien who was the child of a lawful permanent resident who within the past 2 years lost lawful permanent resident status due to an incident of domestic violence, and who is a person of good moral character, who is eligible for classification under section

203(a)(2), and who resides, or has resided in the past, with the alien’s permanent resident alien parent may file a petition with the Secretary of Homeland Security under this subparagraph for classification of the alien (and any child of the alien) under such section if the alien demonstrates to the Secretary that the alien has been battered by or has been the subject of extreme cruelty perpetrated by the alien’s permanent resident parent.

“(iii)(I) For purposes of a petition filed or approved under clause (ii), the loss of lawful permanent resident status by a parent after the filing of a petition under that clause shall not adversely affect approval of the petition, and for an approved petition, shall not affect the alien’s ability to adjust status under subsections (a) and (c) of section 245 or obtain status as a lawful permanent resident based on an approved self-petition under clause (ii).

“(II) Upon the lawful permanent resident parent becoming or establishing the existence of United States citizenship through naturalization, acquisition of citizenship, or other means, any petition filed with the Secretary of Homeland Security and pending or approved under clause (ii) on behalf of an alien who has been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty shall be deemed reclassified as a petition filed under subparagraph (A) even if the acquisition of citizenship occurs the termination of parental rights.”; and

(III) in subparagraph (D)(i)(I), by striking “paragraph (1), (2), or (3)” and inserting “paragraph (1) or (3)”;

(i) in paragraph (2)—

(I) by striking “spousal second preference petition” each place it appears and inserting “petition for the spouse of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence”; and

(II) in the undesignated matter following subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “preference status under section 203(a)(2)” and inserting “classification as an immediate relative under section 201(b)(2)(B)(ii)”;

(B) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “or preference status”; and

(C) in subsection (k)(1), by striking “203(a)(2)(B)” and inserting “203(a)(2)”.

(6) EXCLUDABLE ALIENS.—Section 212(d)(12)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(12)(B)) is amended by striking “section 201(b)(2)(A)” and inserting “section 201(b)(2) (other than subparagraph (B)(vi))”.

(7) ADMISSION OF NONIMMIGRANTS.—Section 214(r)(3)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(r)(3)(A)) is amended by striking “section 201(b)(2)(A)(i)” and inserting “section 201(b)(2) (other than clause (v) or (vi) of subparagraph (B)).”

(8) DEFINITION OF ALIEN SPOUSE.—Section 216(h)(1)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1186a(h)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting “or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence” after “United States”.

(9) REFUGEE CRISIS IN IRAQ ACT OF 2007.—Section 1243(a)(4) of the Refugee Crisis in Iraq Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-118; 8 U.S.C. 1157 note) is amended by striking “section 201(b)(2)(A)(i)” and inserting “section 201(b)(2) (other than clause (v) or (vi) of subparagraph (B))”.

(10) PROCESSING OF VISA APPLICATIONS.—Section 233(b)(1) of the Department of State Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228; 8 U.S.C. 1201 note) is amended by striking “section 201(b)(2)(A)(i)” and inserting “section 201(b)(2) (other than clause (v) or (vi) of subparagraph (B))”.

By Mr. UDALL (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):
S. 2604. A bill to require the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic

Safety Administration to work with vehicle manufacturers, suppliers, and other interested parties to advance the technology developed by the Driver Alcohol Detection System for Safety Research Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. UDALL. 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:

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Reduce Impaired Driving for Everyone Act of 2019 or RIDE Act of 2019. I would like to thank my co-sponsor, Senator RICK SCOTT of Florida, who joins me on this important bill—a bill that will help end drunk driving and prevent thousands of fatalities and injuries across the nation.

While we have made progress over the last several decades to reduce drunk driving on our roads, it is still a national tragedy. In 2017, the latest year for which we have statistics, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration found that 10,874 person were killed on American roads by a drunk driver. That's one death every 48 minutes. And most tragically: every single one of those 10,874 deaths could have been prevented.

Traffic fatalities due to drunk driving account for one-third of all such fatalities. Yet, drunk drivers have only a two percent chance of being caught. And one study found that the average drunk driver has driven drunk 87 times before being arrested. The RIDE Act aims to make sure these drivers do not hit the road in the first place.

I'm not new to this fight. When I was Attorney General of New Mexico in the 1990's, our State had one of the highest DWI rates in the Nation. Then, on Christmas Eve in 1992, a drunk driver killed a mother and her three young daughters as he sped down the highway the wrong way going 90 miles per hour. That tragedy galvanized me and many others in our State. I worked to impose stronger penalties for repeat offenders, impose a lower legal limit for intoxication, and close drive-up liquor windows. Those efforts and the efforts of many others across New Mexico helped bring down the number of alcohol-related fatalities from 460 in 1992 to 131 in 2017. But that's 131 too many. And so we have more work to do in New Mexico and across the Nation.

I've worked many years to fund development of the Driver Alcohol Detection System for Safety or DADSS technology—technology that prevents drivers impaired above the legal limit from ever taking the wheel. When I first started advocating for this technology, it seemed far-fetched to some, out of reach. But, now—it's being road-tested and within our grasp.

The RIDE Act builds on the \$50 million dollars Congress has appropriated since 2008 by appropriating \$5 million

per year toward drunk driver detection technology during fiscal years 2021 and 2022. The bill will fund the technology transfer of this software to ready it for installation and testing in vehicles.

At the same time the Federal government has moved to introduce this technology, some private automobile manufacturers are also developing technology of their own for installation in their vehicles. They are to be applauded.

NHTSA and the Automotive Coalition for Traffic Safety, of which every major automobile manufacturer is a member, have engaged in a decade-long public-private partnership to research, manufacture, and test equipment to make vehicles inoperable if alcohol is present in a person's breath. They are engaged now in calibration to ensure that a vehicle will be inoperable only if a driver is above the legal limit. NHTSA and ACTS are working with the states of Maryland and Virginia to test this technology. Real world testing is essential—which is why the RIDE Act will empower the Federal General Services Administration to incorporate anti-drunk driving software into its fleet on a pilot basis.

Finally, the RIDE Act requires the NHTSA to promulgate rules to require installation of advanced drunk driving prevention technology in all new vehicles not later than two years after enactment of the bill. Automobile manufacturers will have two model years to comply with the rule. This means the RIDE Act sets out about a four year window to prevent drunk driving in all new vehicles. This tremendous goal is within reach.

Again, I appreciate the support of my colleague, Senator SCOTT. The RIDE Act should have strong bipartisan support. Drunk drivers don't discriminate on the basis of political party. I urge all our colleagues to join us in this important fight against drunk driving and the devastation that it causes.

S. 2604

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 "Reduce Impaired Driving for Everyone Act of 2019" or the "RIDE Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) alcohol-impaired driving fatalities represent approximately 1/3 of all highway fatalities in the United States each year;

(2) in 2017, there were 10,874 alcohol-impaired driving fatalities in the United States involving drivers with a blood alcohol concentration level of .08 or higher, and 68 percent of the crashes that resulted in those fatalities involved a driver with a blood alcohol concentration level of .15 or higher;

(3) the estimated economic cost for alcohol-impaired driving in 2010 was \$44,000,000,000;

(4) the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has partnered with automobile manufacturers to develop alcohol detection technologies that could be installed in vehicles to prevent drunk driving; and

(5) the Federal Government has invested nearly \$50,000,000 in advanced alcohol detec-

tion software, and companies are actively pursuing solutions to the significant problem of drunk driving.

SEC. 3. ADVANCED DRUNK DRIVING PREVENTION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

(2) DADSS.—The term "DADSS" means the Driver Alcohol Detection System for Safety Research Program carried out through a public-private partnership between the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Automotive Coalition for Traffic Safety.

(3) NEW VEHICLE.—The term "new vehicle" has the meaning given the term in section 37.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

(b) TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND VEHICLE INTEGRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—During fiscal years 2021 and 2022, the Administrator shall work directly with vehicle manufacturers, suppliers, and other interested parties, including institutions of higher education with expertise in automotive engineering, to advance the technology developed by DADSS, and other suitable advanced drunk driving prevention technology, as determined by the Administrator, with the goal of integrating the technology, at the earliest practicable date, into new vehicles.

(2) FUNDING.—Any amounts made available to carry out this subsection under subsection (h)(1) shall be made available for the purposes described in paragraph (1) pursuant to the existing cooperative agreement entered into by the Administrator and the Automotive Coalition for Traffic Safety to carry out DADSS.

(c) DEMONSTRATION OF TECHNOLOGY IN FEDERAL FLEETS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning in fiscal year 2021, the Administrator shall work with the Administrator of General Services to demonstrate advanced drunk driving prevention technology in not fewer than 2,500 vehicles in Federal fleets.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Administrator shall ensure that the fleet vehicles in which advanced drunk driving prevention technology is demonstrated—

(A) are driven not less than 3 days per week;

(B) are located in various regions in the United States; and

(C) collectively include not more than 3 make, model, and model year combinations.

(d) PILOT DEPLOYMENT OF PROTOTYPE ADVANCED DRUNK DRIVING PREVENTION TECHNOLOGY IN NON-FEDERAL FLEETS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To assist in the development of, and to aid the creation of market demand for, advanced drunk driving prevention technology, the Administrator shall carry out a program to encourage the use of advanced drunk driving prevention technology in—

(A) State and local government fleets; and

(B) private sector fleets.

(2) FUNDING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Out of any amounts made available to the Administrator and not otherwise obligated, the Administrator shall use such sums as are necessary to carry out paragraph (1).

(B) EXISTING PROGRAM FUNDING.—The Administrator may continue to use, in accordance with existing guidelines for the relevant fund, any Federal fund used by the Administrator on the date of enactment of this Act to carry out an existing program that satisfies the requirements of paragraph (1).

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report describing the progress of the Administrator in carrying out subsections (c) and (d).

(f) STAKEHOLDER TEAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish and maintain a team, to be known as the “Stakeholder Team”, to provide input for the Administrator to consider on issues of public policy, deployment, and State law relating to the deployment of advanced drunk driving prevention technology in motor vehicles.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Stakeholder Team shall be composed of—

- (A) vehicle manufacturers;
- (B) suppliers;
- (C) safety advocates;
- (D) fleet administrators or managers; and
- (E) other interested parties with expertise in public policy, marketing, or product release.

(g) RULEMAKING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3), not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue a final rule prescribing a Federal motor vehicle safety standard that requires advanced drunk driving prevention technology in all new vehicles.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) LEAD TIME.—The compliance date of the rule issued under paragraph (1) shall be not more than 2 model years after the effective date of that rule.

(B) TECHNICAL CAPABILITY.—Any advanced drunk driving prevention technology required for new vehicles under paragraph (1) that measures blood alcohol concentration shall automatically use the legal limit for blood alcohol concentration of the jurisdiction in which the vehicle is located.

(3) TIMING.—If the Administrator determines that it is not practicable to issue the rule described in paragraph (1) by the applicable date, the Administrator—

(A) may extend the time period for such time as the Administrator determines to be necessary; and

(B) shall, not later than the date described in paragraph (1), and not less frequently than annually thereafter until the date on which the rule under that paragraph is issued, submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report describing, as of the date of submission of the report—

(i) the reasons for not prescribing a Federal motor vehicle safety standard that requires advanced drunk driving prevention technology in all new vehicles;

(ii) the deployment of advanced drunk driving prevention technology in vehicles;

(iii) any information regarding the ability of vehicle manufacturers to include advanced drunk driving prevention technology in new vehicles; and

(iv) an anticipated timeline for prescribing the Federal motor vehicle safety standard described in paragraph (1).

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated—

(1) to carry out subsection (b), \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 and 2022; and

(2) to carry out subsection (c), \$25,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2021 through 2022, to remain available until expended.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2605. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to award grants to States that have enacted and are enforcing certain laws with respect to stretch limousines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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. 2605

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 “Take Unsafe Limos Off the Road Act”.

SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR SAFETY OF STRETCH LIMOUSINES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter IV of chapter 311 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 31162. Grant program for safety of stretch limousines

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) ELIGIBLE DEFECT.—The term ‘eligible defect’ means a defect that would cause a motor vehicle to fail a commercial motor vehicle safety inspection.

“(2) PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term ‘passenger motor vehicle’ has the meaning given the term in section 32101.

“(3) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Transportation.

“(4) STRETCH LIMOUSINE.—The term ‘stretch limousine’ means a new or used passenger motor vehicle that—

“(A) has been modified, altered, or extended in a manner that increases the overall wheelbase of the vehicle—

“(i) beyond the wheelbase dimension of the original equipment manufacturer for the base model and year of the vehicle; and

“(ii) to a length sufficient to accommodate additional passengers; and

“(B) after being altered as described in subparagraph (A), has a seating capacity of not fewer than 9 passengers, including the driver.

“(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—Each fiscal year, the Secretary shall make a grant, in accordance with this section, to each State that is eligible for a grant under subsection (c).

“(c) ELIGIBILITY.—A State is eligible for a grant under this section for a fiscal year if, on October 1 of that fiscal year, the State—

“(1) has enacted a law that requires the impoundment or immobilization of a stretch limousine that is found to have an eligible defect on inspection; and

“(2) is enforcing the law described in paragraph (1), as determined by the Secretary.

“(d) GRANT AMOUNTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on October 1 of the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall apportion the amounts appropriated to carry out this section to each State that is eligible to receive a grant under subsection (c) in an amount that is equal to the quotient obtained by dividing—

“(A) the difference between—

“(i) \$5,000,000; and

“(ii) the total amount provided to States under paragraph (2); and

“(B) the number of States eligible for a grant under subsection (c) for the fiscal year.

“(2) INCREASE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—Beginning on October 1 of the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this section, a State that is eligible for a grant under subsection (c) may receive an addi-

tional \$50,000 in grant funds if, on October 1 of that fiscal year, the State has enacted and is enforcing a law or regulation that requires—

“(A) any safety inspection of a stretch limousine to be conducted at a designated site controlled by the State; and

“(B) the inspection described in subparagraph (A) to be conducted by employees trained in the inspection of stretch limousines.

“(e) USE OF FUNDS.—A State receiving a grant under this section may use grant amounts—

“(1) for the impoundment or immobilization of a stretch limousine;

“(2) for the establishment and operating expenses of designated stretch limousine safety inspection sites; or

“(3) to train employees in the inspection of stretch limousines.

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2024.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter IV of chapter 311 of title 49 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 31161 the following:

“31162. Grant program for safety of stretch limousines.”.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2606. A bill to establish safety standards for certain limousines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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. 2606

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 “Safety, Accountability, and Federal Enforcement of Limos Act of 2019” or the “SAFE Limos Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CERTIFIED VEHICLE.—The term “certified vehicle” means a motor vehicle that has been certified in accordance with section 567.4 or 567.5 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, to meet all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

(2) INCOMPLETE VEHICLE.—The term “incomplete vehicle” has the meaning given such term in section 567.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.

(3) STRETCH LIMOUSINE.—The term “stretch limousine” means a new or used passenger motor vehicle that has been altered in a manner that increases the overall wheelbase of the vehicle, exceeding the original equipment manufacturer’s wheelbase dimension for the base model and year of the vehicle, in any amount sufficient to accommodate additional passengers with a seating capacity of not fewer than 9 passengers including the driver.

(4) STRETCH LIMOUSINE ALTERER.—The term “stretch limousine alterer” means a person who alters by addition, substitution, or removal of components (other than readily attachable components) a certified passenger motor vehicle before or after the first purchase of the vehicle to produce a stretch limousine.

(5) **STRETCH LIMOUSINE OPERATOR.**—The term “stretch limousine operator” means a person who owns or leases and operates a stretch limousine in interstate commerce.

(6) **PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.**—The term “passenger motor vehicle” has the meaning given that term in section 32101 of title 49, United States Code.

(7) **SAFETY BELT.**—The term “safety belt” means an occupant restraint system consisting of integrated lap shoulder belts.

(8) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Transportation.

SEC. 3. STRETCH LIMOUSINE STANDARDS.

(a) **SAFETY BELT STANDARDS FOR STRETCH LIMOUSINES.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe a final rule amending Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Numbers 208 to require safety belts to be installed in stretch limousines with a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 8,500 pounds at each designated seating position, including on side-facing seats.

(b) **SEATING SYSTEM STANDARDS FOR STRETCH LIMOUSINES.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe a final rule amending Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 207 to require stretch limousines to meet standards for seats (including side-facing seats), attachment assemblies, and installation to minimize the possibility of their failure by forces acting on them as a result of vehicle impact.

(c) **REPORT ON RETROFIT ASSESSMENT FOR STRETCH LIMOUSINES.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report that assesses the feasibility, benefits, and costs with respect to the application of any requirement established under subsection (a) or (b) to a stretch limousine altered before the date on which the requirement applies to a new stretch limousine.

(d) **SAFETY STANDARDS FOR ALTERING USED VEHICLES INTO STRETCH LIMOUSINES.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe a final rule revising the regulations under section 567.7 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, to require a stretch limousine alterer to comply with the requirements for persons who alter certified vehicles.

SEC. 4. STRETCH LIMOUSINE COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL SAFETY STANDARDS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 301 of subtitle VI of title 49, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 30128 the following new section:

“§ 30129. Stretch limousine compliance with Federal safety standards

“(a) **GUIDELINES, BEST PRACTICES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, and not less than every 4 years thereafter, the Secretary shall develop and issue guidelines, best practices, and recommendations to assist a stretch limousine alterer to develop and administer the vehicle modifier plan required under subsection (c).

“(b) **PROCESS AND ANALYSIS.**—

“(1) **NOTICE REQUIRED.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, and as necessary thereafter, the Secretary shall publish a notice in the Federal Register that describes the process and analysis used for approving or denying a vehicle modifier plan submitted by a stretch limousine alterer.

“(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The notice required under paragraph (1) shall include—

“(A) a description of the safety elements described in subsection (c) in a vehicle modifier plan; and

“(B) a description of the process and criterion that the Secretary will use for determining whether a vehicle modifier plan ensures that a stretch limousine meets applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

“(c) **REQUIREMENT.**—Not later than 2 years after the Secretary has released the notice required by subsection (b), a new stretch limousine may not be offered for sale, lease, or rent, introduced or delivered for introduction in interstate commerce, or imported into the United States unless the stretch limousine alterer has developed, and the Secretary has approved, a vehicle modifier plan. A vehicle modifier plan includes the following safety elements:

“(1) Design, quality control, manufacturing, and training practices adopted by a stretch limousine alterer to ensure that a stretch limousine complies with Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

“(2) Customer support guidelines, including instructions for stretch limousine occupants to wear seatbelts and stretch limousine operators to notify occupants of the date and results of the most recent inspection of the stretch limousine.

“(3) Any other safety elements that the Secretary determines to be necessary.

“(d) **VEHICLE MODIFIER PLAN.**—

“(1) **APPLICATION.**—A stretch limousine alterer shall submit to the Secretary an application for approval of a vehicle modifier plan in such a form, at such a time, and containing the information required to be included in the notice published pursuant to subsection (b). A vehicle modifier plan required under subsection (a) may be approved for not more than 4 years after the date on which the plan is approved.

“(2) **REVIEW.**—The Secretary may approve a vehicle modifier plan submitted under paragraph (1) on a finding that the plan ensures that a stretch limousine will meet Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

“(3) **TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS.**—The Secretary shall approve or reject a vehicle modifier plan not later than 1 year after receiving an application from a stretch limousine alterer.

“(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

“(1) **INCOMPLETE VEHICLE.**—The term ‘incomplete vehicle’ has the meaning given such term in section 567.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.

“(2) **STRETCH LIMOUSINE.**—The term ‘stretch limousine’ means a new or used passenger motor vehicle that has been altered in a manner that increases the overall wheelbase of the vehicle, exceeding the original equipment manufacturer’s wheelbase dimension for the base model and year of the vehicle, in any amount sufficient to accommodate additional passengers with a seating capacity of not fewer than 9 passengers including the driver.

“(3) **STRETCH LIMOUSINE ALTERER.**—The term ‘stretch limousine alterer’ means a person who alters by addition, substitution, or removal of components (other than readily attachable components) an incomplete vehicle or a certified passenger motor vehicle before or after the first purchase of the vehicle to produce a stretch limousine.

“(4) **PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.**—The term ‘passenger motor vehicle’ has the meaning given that term in section 32101.”

(b) **ENFORCEMENT.**—Section 30165(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by inserting “30129,” after “30127.”

SEC. 5. STRETCH LIMOUSINE CRASH-WORTHINESS.

(a) **RESEARCH.**—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment, the Secretary shall complete research into side impact protection, roof crush resistance, and air bag systems for the protection of occupants in stretch limousines given alternative seating

positions or interior configurations, including perimeter seating arrangements.

(b) **RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS.**—In conducting the research required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) develop one or more tests to evaluate side impact protection, roof crush resistance, and air bag systems of stretch limousines;

(2) determine metrics that would be most effective at evaluating the side impact protection, roof crush resistance, and air bag systems of stretch limousines; and

(3) determine criteria to assure the stretch limousines are protecting occupants in any alternative seating positions or interior configurations.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report describing the findings of the research required under this section to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(d) **VEHICLE MODIFIER PLANS.**—The Secretary shall incorporate the findings of the research conducted under this section into the guidelines required under section 30129(a) of title 49 and the process and analysis required under section 30129(b) of title 49, United States Code, as added by section 4(a).

(e) **CRASHWORTHINESS STANDARDS.**—The Secretary shall issue final motor vehicle safety standards for side impact protection, roof crush resistance, and air bag systems for stretch limousines if the Secretary determines that such standards meet the requirements and considerations set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of section 30111 of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 6. STRETCH LIMOUSINE EVACUATION.

(a) **RESEARCH.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall complete research into safety features and standards that aid egress and regress in the event that one exit in the passenger compartment of a stretch limousine is blocked.

(b) **STANDARDS.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue stretch limousine evacuation standards based on the results of the Secretary’s research.

SEC. 7. STRETCH LIMOUSINE INSPECTION DISCLOSURE.

(a) **STRETCH LIMOUSINE INSPECTION DISCLOSURE.**—A stretch limousine operator introducing a stretch limousine into interstate commerce may not deploy for commercial use a stretch limousine unless the stretch limousine operator has prominently disclosed in a clear and conspicuous notice, including on its website to the extent the stretch limousine operator uses a website, that includes—

(1) the date of the most recent inspection of the stretch limousine required under State or Federal law;

(2) the results of the inspection; and

(3) any corrective action taken by the stretch limousine operator to ensure the stretch limousine passed inspection.

(b) **FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION ENFORCEMENT.**—A violation of subsection (a) shall be treated as an unfair or deceptive act or practice within the meaning of section 5(a)(1) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 45(a)(1)). The Federal Trade Commission shall enforce this section in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act were incorporated into and made a part of this Act.

(c) **SAVINGS PROVISION.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority of the Federal Trade Commission under any other provision of law.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 8. EVENT DATA RECORDERS FOR STRETCH LIMOUSINES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, shall issue a final rule requiring the use of event data recorders for stretch limousines.

(b) PRIVACY PROTECTIONS.—Any standard promulgated under subsection (a) pertaining to event data recorder information shall comply with the collection and sharing requirements under the FAST Act (Public Law 114-94).

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2612. A bill for the relief of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I am introducing a bill with Senate Judiciary Chairman LINDSAY GRAHAM for the private relief of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera and her parents, Ms. Bueso is a Guatemalan national living in Concord, California. She has a rare medical condition and her removal from the United States would deprive her of lifesaving medical care.

Ms. Bueso suffers from a rare, life-threatening disorder called Mucopolysaccharidosis Type VI (MPS-VI)—a rare genetic condition caused by the absence of an enzyme that is needed for the growth of healthy bones and connective tissues. Ms. Bueso uses a wheelchair for mobility, has a shunt in her brain, and requires a tracheotomy to help her breathe.

In 2003, Ms. Bueso and her family came to the United States at the invitation of doctors who were conducting a clinical trial to treat her condition. That trial led to Food and Drug Administration approved treatment for MPS-VI. Ms. Bueso now receives this life-saving treatment every week at UCSF Children's Hospital in Oakland, CA, where she undergoes a 6-hour infusion of a prescription drug that replaces the enzyme that people with MPS-VI lack. Ms. Bueso has participated in six other medical trials.

For the past 10 years, Isabel and her family received deferred action from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services so that she could continue receiving the treatments that keep her alive. This treatment is not available in Guatemala.

On August 13, 2019, USCIS notified Ms. Bueso and her family that their extensions of deferred action were denied, and that they would be deported if they did not leave the United States within 33 days. This decision was effectively a death sentence for Ms. Bueso. On September 3, 2019, USCIS announced that they would reconsider her case, but a final decision has not been made.

Ms. Bueso has beaten the odds because of the life-saving treatment that she has received in the United States.

She is now 24 years old, and a 2018 graduate of California State University, East Bay. She has become an outspoken advocate on behalf of people with rare diseases. Her family pays taxes, owns a home, and is active in their community.

The Bueso family should be allowed to remain in California, where they will continue to enrich their community, and where Isabel will be able to receive the care that allows her to survive and thrive.

The legislation that Chairman GRAHAM and I are introducing today would provide a permanent solution for Isabel and her parents. I ask my colleagues to support this private bill, which makes the Bueso family eligible for issuance of an immigrant visa or for adjustment of status.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. 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. 2612

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

SECTION 1. PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS FOR MARIA ISABEL BUESO BARRERA, ALBERTO BUESO MENDOZA, AND KARLA MARIA BARRERA DE BUESO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of section 201 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151), Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso shall each be eligible for issuance of an immigrant visa or for adjustment of status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence upon filing an application for issuance of an immigrant visa under section 204 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1154) or for adjustment of status to lawful permanent resident.

(b) ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—If Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, or Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso enters the United States before the filing deadline specified in subsection (c), Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, or Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso shall be considered to have entered and remained lawfully in the United States and shall be eligible for adjustment of status under section 245 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1255) as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) APPLICATION AND PAYMENT OF FEES.—Subsections (a) and (b) shall apply only if the applications for issuance of immigrant visas or the applications for adjustment of status are filed with appropriate fees not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) REDUCTION OF IMMIGRANT VISA NUMBERS.—Upon the granting of immigrant visas or permanent resident status to Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso, the Secretary of State shall instruct the proper officer to reduce by three, during the current or next following fiscal year—

(1) the total number of immigrant visas that are made available to natives of the country of birth of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso under section 203(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(a)); or

(2) if applicable, the total number of immigrant visas that are made available to na-

tives of the country of birth of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso under section 202(e) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1152(e)).

(e) PAYGO.—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 Senate Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

By Mr. SASSE:

S.J. Res. 58. A joint resolution expressing support for freedom of conscience; read the first time.

Mr. SASSE. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to ask each and every Member of Congress to answer this simple question: Is it right for the U.S. Federal Government to get into the business of policing Muslims', Jews', and Christians' religious beliefs, about whether or not they are acceptable? Is it the business of the Federal Government of the United States to determine true and false religion?

Last week, a former Member of Congress now running for President, didn't blink an eye when he announced that he would strip religious institutions, colleges, churches, and other not-for-profit service organizations of their tax-exempt status if they don't agree with his political positions.

That is a pretty major departure from what America is and what we usually talk about in this body. So we should pause, and we should call that what it is. That is extreme intolerance, it is extreme bigotry, and it is profoundly un-American.

The whole point of America is the First Amendment, and the whole point of the First Amendment is that, no matter who you love and no matter how you worship, we believe in America that everyone—everyone—is created with dignity. This is a fundamental American tenet. It is why this country was founded.

Because we are all created with dignity, none of us has the right to dictate the conscience commitments of other people. The freedom of conscience is a fundamental American belief, and, thankfully, politicians have no business policing that.

At the end of the day, there are really just two kinds of societies. There are societies that are about force and power, and there are societies that are about persuasion, about assembly, and about love.

For more than 230 years, we have decided in this country that we are the latter. We are a community of persuasion, not primarily a community of power and force.

In America, we don't think the center of life is defined by government. We think the frame of life is defined by government.

Abraham Lincoln often, sort of apocryphally summarizing George Washington, used to talk about the silver frame and the golden apple. In America, the government is just the silver

frame. It is the structure that defines the framework for the order of liberty so that the golden apple—the good, the true, and the beautiful, the things that you love and that you want to build—you go do by persuading people to join with you in a cause. Government doesn't define the center.

Washington, DC, is not the center of American life. Washington, DC, is supposed to be a servant community that exists to maintain a framework for the order of liberty and guards us against enemies, foreign and domestic, so that your household and your neighborhood and your place of worship can be the center of life.

We are not Chinese Communists who take Uighurs and throw them into camps. We are not Russian oligarchs who tell journalists what they can and can't write. We are not Venezuelan strongmen who beat the hell out of protesters. We are Americans. And in America, we disagree about many things. We disagree profoundly and vigorously, but then we come together and create a system where we work out our differences not with fists but with words. We work out our differences with civility and tolerance and respect and persuasion.

All of this starts with the First Amendment. The five freedoms of the First Amendment—religion, speech, press, assembly, and protest—define who we are as a people and what we believe in common. And guess what. You can't separate these five. These five freedoms are all in the same amendment for a reason—because if one of them falls, they all fall. They stand or fall together, and you are a hypocrite if you pat yourself on the back for defending one of these five freedoms and then the next day, when another one is unpopular, say: Well, we don't need that one; we can throw it overboard. The five freedoms are interconnected and are interdependent, and they are all in that same amendment, the First Amendment, for a reason.

These are the rights of conscience that belong together, and they cannot be taken or policed by government. That means that if a Texas politician pandering for a sound bite decides to make a boldfaced threat against Muslims and Jews and Christians—all Americans from every faith and every walk of life—we have an obligation to come together and defend our freedoms, so we should do that.

That is what I am on the floor here today to do. I am introducing a simple resolution today that will give every Member of the Congress—the House and Senate—the opportunity to tell our constituents whether we still believe in the First Amendment. It is an opportunity to show the American people that bigotry against religion in the name of partisan politics is not permitted in our system of government. This isn't a Republican or a Democratic premise; this is an American idea, that we condemn politicians who say they are going to police other peo-

ple's religious beliefs. Congress doesn't target or punish organizations that are exercising constitutionally protected rights.

This really shouldn't be complicated. Government doesn't rifle through your pastor's or your rabbi's sermon notes. Government doesn't tell your clerics what they can or can't say. Government doesn't tell your religious leaders how they will perform their services. Government doesn't tell you where or when you will worship. Government doesn't teach our kids how they are to pray. Government doesn't lecture you on Heaven and Hell. Government's job is not to define true and false religion. That is something much closer to the center of the frame, the golden apple. The silver frame is the humble job we have to do in public life, which is to maintain a framework for ordered liberty so that Americans, in their neighborhoods and over dinner tables, can try to persuade each other how to worship and what to believe by arguments, not by fists and not by the police.

Government doesn't get to do any of that in this country because we recognize that government is not God. Americans reject the divine right of Kings, and we reject the infallibility of politics.

Government doesn't try to make an example of your church or your synagogue or your mosque because some politician decided your views were out of favor. Your religious organization doesn't get taxed differently because a politician running for office decides to disagree with one of your beliefs. Whatever faith you are from in America, whatever party you are in, we believe in America that all 225 million of us are created equal, and we believe that whether your faith is traditional or progressive, it is yours, and it is between you and your religious community and your God. It is not the domain of politicians.

Government can't force you out of the public square because of the faith you hold—at least that is what we have always believed in the past. It is what we believed for more than 200 years. We are not perfect, of course. We have fallen short of that idealism time and again. That doesn't mean the ideas of the American founding in the First Amendment are wrong; it means that our ideals need to be strived for yet again and reaffirmed.

I want to give every Member of Congress the opportunity in the coming weeks to do just that. The resolution I am introducing today ought to get a vote so House and Senate Members can be on record for our constituents about whether we affirm the First Amendment and in particular the free exercise of religion and the free assembly clause. I am going to read it for everyone's benefit. It is pretty short. This is the resolution being submitted:

Whereas the settlement of the 13 colonies was driven in part by those seeking refuge from government-sponsored religious persecution;

Whereas the Framers of the Constitution of the United States recognized the centrality of freedom of conscience to the establishment of the United States, enshrining in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances";

Whereas churches, synagogues, mosques, and other religious organizations have played a central and invaluable role in life in the United States; and

Whereas Congress has recognized the importance of religious institutions by enacting a variety of legal protections for those institutions, including exemption from income taxes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That—

(1) the protections of freedom of conscience enshrined in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States remain central to the experiment of the United States in republican self-government under the Constitution of the United States;

(2) government should not be in the business of dictating what "correct" religious beliefs are; and

(3) any effort by the government to condition the receipt of the protections of the Constitution of the United States and the laws of the United States, including an exemption from taxation, on the public policy positions of an organization is an affront to the spirit and letter of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

I don't care what some nitwit said on CNN last week to satisfy his fringy base and try to get a sound bite in a Presidential debate. The American people ought to know that this body stands for the historic First Amendment. That is what we all took an oath to uphold and to defend, and that is what we ought to vote to affirm again. Let's do it.

S.J. RES. 58

Whereas the settlement of the 13 colonies was driven in part by those seeking refuge from government-sponsored religious persecution;

Whereas the Framers of the Constitution of the United States recognized the centrality of freedom of conscience to the establishment of the United States, enshrining in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances";

Whereas churches, synagogues, mosques, and other religious organizations have played a central and invaluable role in life in the United States; and

Whereas Congress has recognized the importance of religious institutions by enacting a variety of legal protections for those institutions, including exemption from income taxes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That—

(1) the protections of freedom of conscience enshrined in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States remain central to the experiment of the United States in republican self-government under the Constitution of the United States;

(2) government should not be in the business of dictating what “correct” religious beliefs are; and

(3) any effort by the government to condition the receipt of the protections of the Constitution of the United States and the laws of the United States, including an exemption from taxation, on the public policy positions of an organization is an affront to the spirit and letter of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 358—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 20, 2019, AS “NATIONAL CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK”

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. LANKFORD, and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 358

Whereas the well-being of the United States requires that the young people of the United States become an involved, caring citizenry of good character;

Whereas the character education of children has become more urgent, as violence by and against youth increasingly threatens the physical and psychological well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas, more than ever, children need strong and constructive guidance from their families and their communities, including schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, and civic groups;

Whereas the character of a nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens;

Whereas the public good is advanced when young people are taught the importance of good character and the positive effects that good character can have in personal relationships, in school, and in the workplace;

Whereas scholars and educators agree that people do not automatically develop good character and that, therefore, conscientious efforts must be made by institutions and individuals that influence youth to help young people develop the essential traits and characteristics that comprise good character;

Whereas, although character development is, first and foremost, an obligation of families, the efforts of faith communities, schools, and youth, civic, and human service organizations also play an important role in fostering and promoting good character;

Whereas Congress encourages students, teachers, parents, youth, and community leaders to recognize the importance of character education in preparing young people to play a role in determining the future of the United States;

Whereas effective character education is based on core ethical values, which form the foundation of a democratic society;

Whereas examples of character are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship, and honesty;

Whereas elements of character transcend cultural, religious, and socioeconomic differences;

Whereas the character and conduct of youth reflect the character and conduct of society, and, therefore, every adult has the responsibility to teach and model ethical values and every social institution has the responsibility to promote the development of good character;

Whereas Congress encourages individuals and organizations, especially those that have

an interest in the education and training of the young people of the United States, to adopt the elements of character as intrinsic to the well-being of individuals, communities, and society;

Whereas many schools in the United States recognize the need, and have taken steps, to integrate the values of their communities into teaching activities; and

Whereas the establishment of “National Character Counts Week”, during which individuals, families, schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, civic groups, and other organizations focus on character education, is of great benefit to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning October 20, 2019, as “National Character Counts Week”; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States and interested groups—

(A) to embrace the elements of character identified by local schools and communities, such as trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship; and

(B) to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 359—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ATRIUM IN THE PHILIP A. HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING FOR THE NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY, A SEMI-ANNUAL EVENT FOR THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BLUNT)) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 359

Resolved,

SECTION 1. USE OF THE ATRIUM IN THE HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING FOR TAKE BACK DAY.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The atrium in the Philip A. Hart Senate Office Building is authorized to be used on October 23, 2019, for the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, a semiannual event of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the event described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 945. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill 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 for other purposes; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 945. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2511, to amend title 40, United States Code, to provide the Marshal of the Supreme Court of the United States and Supreme Court Po-

lice 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 for other purposes; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; as follows:

On page 2, strike lines 1 through 4 and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Reauthorizing Security for Supreme Court Justices Act”.

SEC. 2. UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT BUILDING AND GROUNDS POLICING AUTHORITY.

Section 6121 of title 40, United States code, is amended—

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 8 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Barbara Lagoa and Robert J. Luck, both of

Florida, both to be a 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 Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and Sherri A. Lydon, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following leader remarks on Thursday, October 17, the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 53. I further ask unanimous consent that if a motion to proceed is made and agreed to, the time until noon be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, on the joint resolution, and that upon the use or yielding back of that time, the bill be read a third time and the Senate vote on passage of S.J. Res. 53.

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

RELATING TO A NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE PRESIDENT ON FEBRUARY 15, 2019—VETO

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, is the veto message with respect to S.J. Res. 54 at the desk?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. It is.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the veto message on S.J. Res. 54 be considered as having been read, that it be printed in the RECORD, and spread in full upon the Journal.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The veto message is ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

I am returning herewith without my approval S.J. Res. 54, a joint resolution that would terminate the national emergency I declared in Proclamation 9844 of February 15, 2019, pursuant to the National Emergencies Act, regarding the ongoing crisis on our southern border. I am doing so for the same reasons I returned an identical resolution, H.J. Res. 46, to the House of Representatives without my approval on March 15, 2019.

Proclamation 9844 has helped the Federal Government address the national emergency on our southern border. It has empowered my Administration's Government-wide strategy to counter large-scale unlawful migration and to respond to corresponding humanitarian challenges through focused

application of every Constitutional and statutory authority at our disposal. It has also facilitated the military's ongoing construction of virtually insurmountable physical barriers along hundreds of miles of our southern border.

The southern border, however, continues to be a major entry point for criminals, gang members, and illicit narcotics to come into our country. As explained in Proclamation 9844, in my veto message regarding H.J. Res. 46, and in congressional testimony from multiple Administration officials, the ongoing crisis at the southern border threatens core national security interests. In addition, security challenges at the southern border exacerbate an ongoing humanitarian crisis that threatens the well-being of vulnerable populations, including women and children.

In short, the situation on our southern border remains a national emergency, and our Armed Forces are still needed to help confront it.

Like H.J. Res. 46, S.J. Res. 54 would undermine the Government's ability to address this continuing national emergency. It would, among other things, impair the Government's capacity to secure the Nation's southern borders against unlawful entry and to curb the trafficking and smuggling that fuels the present humanitarian crisis.

S.J. Res. 54 is also inconsistent with other recent congressional actions. For example, the Congress, in an overwhelmingly bipartisan manner, has provided emergency resources to address the crisis at the southern border. Additionally, the Congress has approved a budget framework that expressly preserves the emergency authorities my Administration is using to address the crisis.

Proclamation 9844 was neither a new nor novel application of executive authority. Rather, it is the sixtieth Presidential invocation of the National Emergencies Act of 1976. It relies upon the same statutory authority used by both of the previous two Presidents to undertake more than 18 different military construction projects from 2001 through 2013. And it has withstood judicial challenge in the Supreme Court.

Earlier this year, I vetoed H.J. Res. 46 because it was a dangerous resolution that would undermine United States sovereignty and threaten the lives and safety of countless Americans. It was, therefore, my duty to return it to the House of Representatives without my approval. It is similarly my duty, in order to protect the safety and security of our Nation, to return S.J. Res. 54 to the Senate without my approval.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 15, 2019.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 1:45 p.m. tomorrow, the Senate vote on passage of S.J. Res. 54, notwithstanding the objections of the President to the contrary.

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

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S.J. RES. 58 AND H.J. RES. 77

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the titles of the bills for the first time en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S.J. Res. 58) expressing support for freedom of conscience.

A resolution (H.J. Res. 77) opposing the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria.

Mr. McCONNELL. I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will receive a second reading on the next legislative day.

NATIONAL CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 358, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 358) designating the week beginning October 20, 2019, as "National Character Counts Week."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

There being no objection, 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 with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 358) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

NATIONAL POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE AWARENESS DAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 356.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 356) designating September 4, 2019, as "National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day", and raising

awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 356) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 26, 2019, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

NATIONAL URBAN WILDLIFE REFUGE DAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 324.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 324) designating September 29, 2019, as "National Urban Wildlife Refuge Day".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 324) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 24, 2019, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ATRIUM IN THE PHILIP A. HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING FOR THE NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY, A SEMI- ANNUAL EVENT FOR THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 359 submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 359) authorizing the use of the atrium in the Philip A. Hart Senate Office Building for the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, a semiannual event for the Drug Enforcement Administration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution 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 (S. Res. 359) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, October 17; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator MARKEY.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the impeachment inquiry currently under way in the House of Representatives. The House impeachment inquiry is a solemn and serious matter. It concerns the official conduct of the President of the United States, and it implicates matters of grave importance: our national security, the rule of law, and the very foundations of our Constitution.

We all—Democrats and Republicans alike—have a duty to defend our democracy, so when we are confronted with evidence that President Donald Trump abused his power and violated his oath of office by seeking foreign interference in our elections and then sought to cover it up, we have a constitutional obligation to investigate.

The evidence we have already seen validates Speaker PELOSI's decision to

open an impeachment inquiry and reinforces the need for this inquiry to continue unimpeded. Indeed, Donald Trump himself has already confirmed key evidence.

Just look at what we know so far. We know that Donald Trump asked a foreign power, Ukraine, to investigate his political opponent. The President both admitted it on live television and then released a transcript showing that it had happened just as a whistleblower alleged that it did. That is not in dispute.

We also know that Donald Trump then doubled down, subsequently admitting on camera that he wants foreign governments like Ukraine and China to investigate his political opponents. That is not in dispute.

So instead of focusing on the Latin phrase "quid pro quo," the President should be saying, "mea culpa"—my fault, but he is not. And with each passing day, additional evidence of serious wrongdoing at the highest levels of our government has surfaced, evidence that Donald Trump has subjugated the Nation's interest to his personal and political interest and evidence that plainly warrants further investigation.

For example, we learned that prior to his phone call with Ukrainian President Zelensky, Donald Trump blocked almost \$400 million in military and security aid to Ukraine. Moreover, as the White House's own partial transcript of the conversation reflects, Donald Trump conditioned this aid on the Ukrainian President's willingness to conduct a political investigation, telling him: "I would like you to do this as a favor though."

Donald Trump's quid pro quo linking U.S. military and security aid to a politically motivated investigation makes his admitted solicitation of foreign interference in our elections that much worse. It is an abuse of power and betrayal of Trump's oath to the Constitution and promise to the American people.

We have also learned that White House officials moved the transcript of the phone call between President Trump and President Zelensky from its typical electronic storage system to a separate system intended to handle classified information of an especially sensitive nature. In other words, there appears to have been an effort to cover up Donald Trump's wrongdoing.

We are also witnessing extraordinary attacks by Donald Trump on the whistleblower who brought the matter to light.

Donald Trump's attacks on this individual are so serious and so harmful that they may rise to the level of witness tampering and obstruction of justice. They send a chilling message to others who may have information and are contemplating coming forward.

It should go without saying that whistleblowers play an important role

in our democracy, especially when it comes to whistleblowers in the intelligence community. They should be praised and not demonized or threatened.

Most recently, we have learned that the President allowed his personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, to conduct a shadow foreign policy outside of proper State Department channels—a foreign policy that serves personal interests and the President's personal political interests, but not the interests of the United States or the American people.

We have learned that two individuals connected to Giuliani have been indicted on charges of violating Federal campaign finance laws stemming from hidden foreign campaign donations. We have learned that a career diplomat with an unblemished record was recalled from Ukraine because she honored her oath to the Constitution, but Trump viewed her as an impediment to his foreign policy agenda.

These are just some of the things we have learned in the past few days.

So what must we do? The answer is simple. We must investigate and get all the facts, Donald Trump's unprecedented and unjustified refusal to cooperate notwithstanding. The torrent of revelations of serious misconduct relating to foreign interference in our elections only underscores the need for the House investigation to continue unimpeded.

The Founding Fathers were very concerned about foreign interference in America's democracy. They knew that foreign involvement in our politics and

elections posed a threat to our sovereignty as a new nation.

In 1787, John Adams wrote: "As often as elections happen, the danger of foreign influence recurs." In 1788, Alexander Hamilton warned us that foreign powers trying to gain influence in our politics would be "the most deadly adversaries of Republican government."

The threat of foreign interference in our elections is as serious today as it was more than 200 years ago. We must do all that we can to defend against it, and that includes an impeachment inquiry into the conduct of the President when he admits to soliciting that very interference.

The House of Representatives is going to begin a process. If the House of Representatives ultimately approves articles of impeachment against Donald Trump, the Senate will hold a trial and our Members will serve as jurors.

As a member of the Senate and a potential juror, I will take my job as seriously as any I have ever had in this institution, and I hope my Republican colleagues will do so as well. The American people deserve nothing less.

Leader McCONNELL and my Republican colleagues must uphold their oaths to the Constitution, put country over party, and conduct a fair trial. Anything short of that would be a dereliction of duty.

No one should prejudge the case. Indeed, that is precisely the advice that Leader McCONNELL gave during the 1998 impeachment proceedings when he stated: "As a potential juror, if it's serious enough to warrant a potential

impeachment proceeding, I don't think I ought to prejudge the case."

We have a constitutional duty to investigate President Trump's attempts to orchestrate foreign interference in our elections, the usage of his office to support his personal political goals, and how he sought to cover up that effort. Nothing less than our national security, the rule of law, and our constitutional order are at stake.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

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

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:11 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, October 17, 2019, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate October 16, 2019:

THE JUDICIARY

DAVID JOHN NOVAK, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA.

RACHEL P. KOVNER, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

FRANK WILLIAM VOLK, OF WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA.

CHARLES R. ESKRIDGE III, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

BARBARA McCONNELL BARRETT, OF ARIZONA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF NURSING

HON. LAUREN UNDERWOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, I stand today to recognize the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)—the national voice for academic nursing—as this organization celebrates 50 years of advancing excellence in baccalaureate and graduate nursing education, promoting nursing research, and improving the health of our nation.

Since 1969, AACN has set the standards for educating the nation's largest healthcare profession, nursing. AACN has consistently illustrated a steadfast commitment to nursing schools, deans, faculty, and students who are essential to ensuring a strong nursing workforce able to support the health and well-being of citizens in all communities throughout the country.

The rich history of AACN began with a modest but significant meeting of 44 deans of nursing who met in Detroit, Michigan in 1969 and formed the Conference of Deans of Colleges and University Schools of Nursing. At its inception, the organization—soon to be renamed the American Association of Colleges of Nursing—represented 121 member institutions. This organization had a number of visionary leaders, not only for higher education, but also for the nursing profession. AACN has provided guidance through changing social, political, and economic context and as our country weathered many changes and advancements in health care and higher education.

Over the last 50 years, AACN's dedication to sustaining the nation's nursing workforce has expanded and evolved with the organization now comprised of more than 825 schools of nursing representing more than 45,000 faculty members and 543,000 students. AACN's commitment to preparing nurses with the skills needed to transform health care and improve the public's health has had a profound impact in every state and has helped to support the nation's healthcare infrastructure.

As the American Association of Colleges of Nursing celebrates its 50th Anniversary, I commend AACN for its leadership in educating the nursing workforce; its commitment to advancing innovation, diversity, inclusion, and research in the nursing profession; and for its dedication to driving excellence in academic nursing.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF DR. JOHNNIE M. ARMSTRONG

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Dr. Johnnie M. Armstrong, who passed away on Monday, September 30th.

Johnnie, a native of Nashville, Tennessee, was a long-time faculty member at Blue Mountain College in Blue Mountain, Mississippi. During her 64-year career at Blue Mountain College, she had many roles in the college's health and physical education, including Athletic Director for the college. Her influence in the athletic program led Blue Mountain College to dedicate both their Campus Fitness Center and the Tyler Gymnasium floor to Johnnie. Johnnie also served as Special Ambassador of Blue Mountain College, where she represented the entire college.

Johnnie's love for fitness education expanded beyond Blue Mountain College and led her to receive many accolades from various organizations. Johnnie was named "Female Athletics Administrator of the Year for District 24," and the "NAIA Athletic Administrator of the Year." She received the "Price in Teaching Award" from the Mississippi Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (MAHPERD), the "Pathfinder Award" from the National Association for Girls and Women in Sports, Blue Mountain College's Outstanding Faculty Member Award in both 1979 and 2000 and the Higher Education Appreciation Day Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) Award in both 1988 and 1997.

Left to cherish her memory are many extended family members, friends, her congregation at Lowrey Memorial Baptist Church in Blue Mountain, MS, as well as the faculty and students at Blue Mountain College.

Johnnie's life was one of service, grace, and love for her community. She will be greatly missed by all who she encountered.

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREENING OF DETROIT

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Greening of Detroit, an organization dedicated to creating a greener and more sustainable Detroit.

Greening of Detroit was founded in 1989 with the primary goal of restoring Detroit's once lush tree-lined neighborhoods and parks. Since then, the organization's mission has expanded to include working toward green infra-

structure, protecting our natural resources, and environmental sustainability. These efforts have not only concentrated on the City's environmental needs, but also on created "green jobs" by recruiting and training local individuals in urban forestry and landscaping. Greening of Detroit has continued to foster passion about creating a sustainable future for Detroit through its youth education and summer jobs programs. In short, Greening of Detroit is an organization that has adapted to the needs of the community it serves and has grown remarkably as one of Detroit's premier environmental stewards.

I therefore ask you to please join me in tribute to Greening of Detroit as they celebrate thirty years of service.

REMEMBERING MAYOR DAMON WELCH

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give my deepest sympathies to the Welch Family and the City of Madison.

On Wednesday September 25, Mayor Damon Welch of Madison, Indiana passed away. Mayor Welch was a devoted public servant who cared deeply about his family, his country, and his community.

Mayor Welch married Virginia "Ginny" Kelley in 1973. He graduated from the University of Kentucky with a degree in Business Administration and was a cadet in the ROTC program. Mayor Welch joined the United States Air Force in 1975 and served five years in the United States Air Force, earning the rank of Captain and meriting the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon.

After his service, Mayor Welch returned to his hometown of Madison where he ran a small business and worked in the health care industry.

Mayor Welch was elected as the Mayor of Madison in 2012 and was finishing his second term in office.

Mayor Welch was a devoted servant to the people of Madison, and he will be dearly missed by all.

I give my deepest condolences to his wife Ginny, daughters Gaeli and Kirsty, son Collin, and the entire community of Madison.

TRIBUTE FOR MARIO SR., JOSEPH, MICHAEL, AND ANGELO PETOSA

HON. MAX ROSE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. ROSE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring four outstanding Staten Islanders and veterans of the United States Military,

● 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.

the Petosa brothers: Mario Sr., Joseph, Michael, and Angelo.

Mario Sr. served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1947, fighting in the Pacific theater during World War II from the Aleutian Islands in Alaska to Okinawa in Japan. Mario received numerous decorations for his service including two Purple Hearts and six Bronze Battle Stars. Joseph served in the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1946, reaching the rank of Metalsmith Third Class and receiving the Asiatic Pacific Theatre Ribbon and 4 Bronze Battle Stars. Michael served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1946 and was awarded the American Service Medal for his actions during the occupation of Japan. Angelo's service in the U.S. Navy began after World War II and he remained in the U.S. Navy from 1952 to 1972, eventually achieving the rank of Lieutenant.

These brothers represent the best among us: a family dedicated to this country. They served America, fighting for our freedom during World War II and during the Cold War. With every day that passes, it becomes more and more important that we all work to recognize their accomplishments and preserve their stories for future generations. Our children and our children's children must know the sacrifices they made so many years ago so that we may be free today.

The Petosa brothers are proof not just of the greatness of our community on Staten Island, but of the entire country. They came here as immigrants from Italy, making tremendous sacrifices not just to call this country home, but to put their lives on the line to defend it. This is a testament not only to the character of these men, but to the country they chose to live in and serve. That spirit lives on in the United States military today, in men and women like the ones I served with in Afghanistan who were willing to risk it all first to become an American, and then to protect that right for others.

So Madam Speaker, during this Italian-American Heritage Month, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing Mario Sr., Joseph, Michael, and Angelo Petosa, four Italian-American heroes who dedicated their lives to serving to this country and who represent the best of Staten Island.

IN RECOGNITION OF SCHROEDER'S
FLOWERS 120 YEARS OF SUCCESS

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 120th anniversary of Schroeder's Flowers.

This family-owned flower shop began in 1899 when award-winning florist Carl Meier immigrated from Germany to Green Bay and opened his own flower shop. A few years after opening, Carl asked Otto Schroeder to leave Germany and help him grow his business. Schroeder stayed in Green Bay and later married Carl's daughter, Clara, and the business was renamed Schroeder's Flowers.

Schroeder's Flowers has always been a family business. In 1949, Otto's son, Otto Jr., took over the business and moved the location of the shop to Webster Avenue in Allouez. Today the business is run by fourth and fifth

generation owners, Charles and Peggy Schroeder and their son, Brian.

Schroeder's Flowers remains a pillar of the Green Bay community. Its prioritization of customer service has created a loyal customer base that depends on Schroeder's for its floral design expertise. Through the years, Schroeder's Flowers has fostered a strong relationship with its customers, who have showed continuous support for the family and their business. From a small shop that used to deliver flowers by horse and wagon, to one that has adapted to the changing economy and now processes orders online, Schroeder's Flowers continues to evolve and provide customers with quality service and beautiful floral arrangements.

Family-run small businesses are the backbone of the American economy. I am proud to have such a flourishing business in my district that puts the needs of the community and its customers first. It is encouraging to see a local business succeed across two centuries, and to continue to uphold the values of Northeast Wisconsin. Family's like the Schroeders are what make our district great, and I am proud to represent them.

Madam speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Schroeder's Flowers on 120 strong years in business. I wish the Schroeder family many more years of continued success.

IN HONOR OF DONALD L. VITNUM

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Director Donald L. Vittum, who is retiring after nearly 50 years of service to the citizens of New Hampshire. Throughout his distinguished career, Director Vittum has served as a Durham Police Officer, NH State Trooper, Chief of Police for Lebanon and Rochester, and, most recently, as the Director of the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council since 2006.

Director Vittum has always distinguished himself as a person of the highest integrity and a champion of law enforcement training. He has received numerous awards, including the 2018 New Hampshire Congressional Law Enforcement Award for Career Service. A graduate of the 139th FBI National Academy, Director Vittum has not only helped keep our communities safe but he has also shared his expertise with the next generation of aspiring community servants by serving as an adjunct professor of criminal justice.

Law enforcement today looks very different than when Director Vittum began his career. But Director Vittum's high integrity and commitment to serving his communities have helped him adapt to the changing landscape and remain effective in every position he has held. This commitment has left a lasting impact on the law enforcement community—in nearly every police department across our state, one can find officers and officials who count Director Vittum as both a mentor and friend.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank Director Vittum and his family for their decades of dedication to our community. I

congratulate him on his accomplished law enforcement career, and I wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, October 15, I was not present for Roll Call votes 556 and 557. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yea" on Roll Call 556, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass 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, and

"Yea" on Roll Call 557, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 95, the Homeless Veteran Families Act.

CONGRATULATING ALICE DEAL MIDDLE SCHOOL, BLESSED SACRAMENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, JOHN W. ROSS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, KIPP DC HEIGHTS ACADEMY AND ST. PETER SCHOOL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating five District of Columbia schools recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as National Blue Ribbon Schools.

For the past 37 years, the Department of Education has recognized schools for overall academic excellence or for reducing achievement gaps. Since 1982, over 40 schools in the District have been recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools. This year, Alice Deal Middle School, Blessed Sacrament Elementary School, John W. Ross Elementary School, KIPP DC Heights Academy and St. Peter School were selected as National Blue Ribbon Schools.

Alice Deal Middle School, located in Northwest DC, was established in 1982 and serves 1,506 students. As an International Baccalaureate School, the committed staff and teachers promote a global learning environment. Students study one of three languages—Chinese, French or Spanish—and have the opportunity to go abroad in 8th grade. I applaud Alice Deal for developing and encouraging students to be global citizens and for its recognition this year as a National Blue Ribbon School.

Located in Chevy Chase, DC, Blessed Sacrament strives to provide quality Catholic education through a caring community that promotes academic excellence and a life of service. This is the second time Blessed Sacrament has been named a National Blue Ribbon School. In 2012, Blessed Sacrament was also recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School under the category of Exemplary High Performing Schools. I applaud Blessed Sacrament for its recognition this year as a National Blue Ribbon School.

John W. Ross Elementary School, located in the heart of Dupont Circle, has shown commitment to hiring excellent teachers who care deeply about their students. With its school motto, "Embraced for who you are and Empowered to be more," John W. Ross Elementary School promotes and values students in a holistic way. I applaud John W. Ross for its recognition this year as a National Blue Ribbon School.

KIPP DC Heights Academy, located in Southeast DC, is known for the importance it places on achievement, community and persistence. Well deserving of this award, KIPP has closed achievement gaps among student subgroups, raising the academic playing field for all. Their strong culture of collaboration and excellence motivates teachers and students alike to work together and become stronger thinkers, readers, writers and mathematicians. I applaud KIPP DC Heights Academy for its recognition this year as a National Blue Ribbon School.

St. Peter School, located in my own Capitol Hill neighborhood, was founded in 1868 by the Sisters of the Holy Cross for the purposes of taking a holistic approach in order to educate the whole child. St. Peter School is committed to cultivating a dedicated team of faculty and staff in one of the oldest continuously operating Catholic elementary schools in Washington, DC. I applaud St. Peter School for its recognition this year as a National Blue Ribbon School.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Alice Deal Middle School, Blessed Sacrament Elementary School, John W. Ross Elementary School, KIPP DC Heights Academy and St. Peter School for their recognition as National Blue Ribbon Schools.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I missed two votes on October 15, 2019.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 556, and YEA on Roll Call No. 557.

CELEBRATING THE CITY OF SANTA ANA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. HARLEY ROUDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the City of Santa Ana, California on October 27, 2019.

The City of Santa Ana was founded on October 27, 1869 by William H. Spurgeon. Santa Ana rapidly became a hub for commercial, financial, and manufacturing businesses. To this day, the city remains a key pillar to Orange County and its culture.

The City of Santa Ana, commonly regarded by locals as "Downtown Orange County" or as the Golden City for its impressive culture and lively history, is the second most-populous city in Orange County with more than 300,000 residents. Located just a few miles away from the Pacific Ocean, Santa Ana is home to an array of attractions, including the Santa Ana Zoo, Grand Central Art Center, Bowers Museum of Cultural Art, and Discovery Museum of Orange County.

Today I ask that all Members join me in recognizing the 150th anniversary of the vibrant and wonderful City of Santa Ana, California.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FREELAND AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 473 ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 on the 100th anniversary of its founding. The Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 is a highly respected veterans' organization located in Northeastern Pennsylvania. In its 100 years, the Post has overcome many obstacles, but, through the determination and dedication of its members, it has withstood the test of time and flourished.

In December 1919, Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 received its charter from the national American Legion organization. The first members were men who served the U.S. during World War I as soldiers or in a naval capacity and received an honorable discharge. In fall 1920, the first Commander, John Rugens, presided over the decision to name the Post "Freeland Post" in honor of the 400 Freeland, Pennsylvania men who enlisted to serve during World War I.

The early years of Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 saw low membership, but, under the leadership of Commander R.R. Oberrender and Commander Thomas Welshko, the post persevered and eventually grew into the thriving organization it is today. In 1924, the first Legion Home was purchased, though it would not be the last. Through the late 1920s into the 1930s, Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 moved its Legion Home to several different locations before finally relocating in 2000 to its permanent home at 532 Centre Street in Freeland.

Throughout its 100-year history, the Post has been a pivotal force within the community. Freeland's Semi-Centennial Celebration was sponsored by Freeland American Legion Post No. 473, and its members served on several of the event's planning committees. The Post oversaw the planting of a memorial grove around Freeland High School with name plates on each tree recognizing service members who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country. The Legion Auxiliary was eventually organized, first under temporary Chairlady Mrs. R.L. Seitzinger, and then Mrs. A.A. Redelin was elected to inaugurally lead the Auxiliary. In September 1928, Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 Drum and Bugle

Corps was organized with thirty men participating, and, by 1930, the group would be recognized as one of the leading Bugle Corps in the country.

Today, Freeland American Legion Post 473 is very active and well-respected in the community. The Post now also encompasses the American Legion Riders, who help raise funds for children's hospitals, schools, veterans' homes, severely wounded servicemembers, and scholarships. On September 28, 2019, the Post donated \$1,200 to the District 12 VA Canteen Fund, and, recently, the Legion Riders had their 14th Emilio Ranieri Run, which is an annual event that benefits the daughter of one of their members.

It is an honor to recognize the Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 on its 100th anniversary. This is a remarkable achievement, and I wish the organization much continued success in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBRA A. HAALAND

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, on October 15th, I missed Roll Call votes 556 and 557. Had I been present, I would have voted "Aye" on Roll Call 556 on the bill H.R. 2385, legislation to create a grant program to support the Veterans Legacy Program and ensure that our veterans are not forgotten. I also would have voted "Aye" on Roll Call 557 on H.R. 95, the Homeless Veteran Families Act. As a cosponsor of the bill and the daughter of two military veterans, I strongly believe that we owe it to those who served our country to ensure that they and their families have a safe place to live.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF MIKE ROLLINS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the retirement of Mike Rollins after 40 years of service with Coosa Valley Youth Services.

Coosa Valley Youth Services works with the juvenile court systems of Calhoun County. Rollins has been involved at the facility in some form or another since it opened its doors in 1974. Rollins even spent time as a detainee when he was in his teens and several years after that, he applied to work at the center part-time in maintenance.

Over the years, he worked his way up to guard, manager and all the way to the top as Executive Director. The center has grown and now has 70 employees and 90 plus program participants and detainees. Rollins has a heart for the children and has helped so many of them get back on the right path.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mike and congratulating him on his retirement after a wonderful career.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF A FIERCE ADVOCATE AND VITAL MEMBER OF THE TAMPA BAY COMMUNITY, ROGER A. VAUGHAN, JR.

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life and contributions of a fierce advocate and vital member of the Tampa Bay community, Roger A. Vaughan, Jr. who passed away on July 3, 2019, at the age of 84. Roger positively impacted Tampa Bay in innumerable ways. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Jean, their 4 children, 12 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren and 4 siblings.

Roger was born in Washington, D.C. and attended St. Anselm's high school. He graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York, and earned his law degree from George Washington University. Roger was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1964, and just three years later co-founded his own law firm, located in beautiful downtown Tampa. Roger became a nationally respected maritime lawyer and represented the claimants in the Sunshine Skyway Bridge case. Roger fought for the victims of one of the worst bridge disasters in history after a freighter ship struck a pier supporting the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. His efforts ensured that the victims and their families were properly compensated and that those at fault were held responsible.

Roger was beloved in the community for his generosity, his selfless disposition to serving those in need and loyal devotion to his family. He also dedicated a large part of his life to helping seamen, other maritime workers and the maritime legal community. He co-authored: "Maritime Law & Practice," The Florida Bar, 1980 Edition, 1987 Edition.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Florida and my neighbors across Tampa Bay, I am proud to honor Roger A. Vaughan, Jr. Roger represents the best Tampa has to offer, his advocacy on behalf of victims and families in the Tampa Bay community is worthy of our respect. Roger A. Vaughan, Jr. leaves behind a legacy of fierce advocacy, service and family. His legacy is cemented into the history of our community and will never be forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, on October 15, 2019, I missed one roll call vote. Had I been present I would have voted: "yes" on Roll Call Vote 557, H.R. 95, the Homeless Veteran Families Act.

RECOGNIZING PAMELA WILHOITE STROMAN

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the life and work of Pamela Wilhoite Stroman on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Stroman was born in Rapidan, Virginia on October 22, 1919. She was the second of three children. In her early teens, she moved to Washington, DC, where she attended Garnett Patterson Jr. High School and Armstrong High School.

After passing the government worker's entrance exam, Stroman worked for 35 years at the Federal Bureau of Engraving and Printing as a final assembler of paper money. She retired in 1974.

As an avid sports lover, she calls herself Tiger Wood's grandmother and coaches him, and the Washington football team, from her living room. She wears T-shirts for good luck and knows all the scores, statistics, players and officials by name.

Stroman is a resident of Ward 5 in the Stronghold community, where she is one of the oldest neighbors. She was one of 15 original residents in the "White Hat Patrol", a group of residents who monitored security in the neighborhood. She is the mother of two daughters, Tayloria and India, and the wife of David Stroman.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the life and work of Pamela Wilhoite Stroman on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF GARRETSON FORGE AND FARM

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Garretson Forge and Farm, a national historical landmark in Fair Lawn, New Jersey. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the settlement of Garretson in 1719. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of the volunteers of Garretson Forge and Farm Restoration, Inc., this special property has been preserved and kept open to the community. In recognition of Garretson's anniversary, I would like to include in the RECORD the poem "A Heritage to Keep," by William F. Haywood which captures the long history of Garretson Forge and Farm, a Bergen County treasure.

The traffic moves in swifter pace
Around the bend that holds this place
In gentle curves where time has flown
And countless passers it has known,

The silent step of moccasin,
The echoing of forge's din;
A gangling pine saw all of these,
New homes replacing other trees.

The continental soldier came,
Lone hunter seeking wary game,
A farmer tilling fertile soil
Where the river turns its coil.
So generations came and went

Through seasons ill and fairly spent.

The Garretsons had built to last,

While time has added to the past

A heritage for here and now—

To keep it whole should be our vow.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Garretson Forge and Farm's 300th anniversary, I know that we will continue to enjoy Garretson for many generations to come.

RECOGNIZING CHARLIE DUNIGAN

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Charlie Dunigan from Jackson, Michigan as he prepares to retire at the end of the year, completing a 42-year career in the construction industry.

Started by Charlie's father, Joseph, Dunigan Brothers, Inc. is a well-respected underground construction company that has serviced the Jackson area and beyond for more than 70 years. Growing up, Charlie spent many nights and weekends working for the family-owned business prior to joining full-time after completing high school.

Throughout his tenure, Charlie and Dunigan Brothers have largely specialized in various types of sewer and water construction projects, including building critical infrastructure around more than 20 lakes throughout Michigan. They played an important role in safeguarding the beauty and ecosystems of these lakes, something we take with great pride in the Great Lakes State.

Despite the many notable projects he has overseen, Charlie would tell you the most fulfilling part of his career is the wonderful people he has worked with over the years.

Charlie's days at Dunigan Brothers may be coming to an end, but his commitment to giving back and making the community a better place will be remembered for years to come.

I congratulate Charlie on his long and distinguished career, and wish him a happy retirement with his wife, Laurie, and his children and grandchildren.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 95, the Homeless Veteran Families Act, which I am proud to co-sponsor. I regret that I was unable to cast my vote in support of this legislation, but I am pleased that it passed with strong bipartisan support.

The issue of homeless veterans in the greater Los Angeles area is a pressing one, and this legislation is an important step to help address the crisis. Specifically, the bill authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to pay a partial per diem to the VA's Homeless Grant Per Diem service providers supporting our nation's homeless veterans with children, making sure that veterans and their

families receive housing and supportive services. I commend the sponsor of the legislation and hope that it can swiftly be enacted.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 557.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORI TRAHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, on October 15, 2019, I was unable to participate in the vote series. I would like the record to reflect how I would have voted if I were present; YEA on Roll Call No. 556, and YEA on Roll Call No. 557.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House Chamber on October 15, 2019, to attend important events in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on Roll Call No. 556 and yes on Roll Call No. 557.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARTIN C. PENETAR, D.O. FFAFP, RECIPIENT OF THE ITALIAN AMERICAN MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Martin C. Penetar, who received the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County's Italian American Man of the Year Award along with his brother, Attorney Daniel L. Penetar. The brothers continue the legacy of their father, the late Judge Daniel L. Penetar, Sr., who was president of the association in 1959 and Man of the Year in 1976. Martin and Daniel were honored on Sunday, October 13, 2019 during the organization's annual dinner honoring the voyage of Christopher Columbus.

Martin received his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Scranton, and he then went on to the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine to complete his medical education. He started his medical career in 1988 as the chief intern at the Shenango Valley Medical Center in Hermitage, Pennsylvania. He then served as chief resident from 1989 to 1991 at the Wyoming Valley Family Practice and as an emergency room physician from 1990 to 1993 at the Nesbitt Memorial Hospital and Mercy Hospital Scranton. Currently, he operates a family practice in Clarks Summit with partners Dr. Philip Boccagno and Dr. Dominic Ruggiero. Martin is also the team doctor for the AAA baseball Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders.

As a preceptor, Martin has given personal instruction, training, and supervision to nurse

practitioner students, medical students, and young physicians from the University of Scranton, Allied Medical Tech, and the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. He is also on the clinical faculty of the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine.

Martin is a member of the American Board of Family Practice, American Academy of Family Practice, Lackawanna County Medical Society, Pennsylvania Medical Society, American Medical Association, and American Academy of Family Physicians. His community involvement includes the Columbus Day Association, UNICO Scranton Chapter, Victor Alfieri Club, and volunteering for the pizza frita stand at the St. Joseph's Festival for 30 years.

Martin is married to Dr. Barbara Penetar, and they have three children, Julianna, Elisa, and Christopher.

It is an honor to recognize Martin as he is named the Italian American Man of the Year by the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County. May he continue to honorably represent and support the Italian American community for many years to come.

HONORING CITY YEAR/SILICON VALLEY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 25th Anniversary of City Year San Jose/Silicon Valley and acknowledge its work and accomplishments.

City Year San Jose/Silicon Valley ("City Year") was founded in 1993. Susan Hammer, the Mayor of San Jose during City Year's early years, supported City Year's mission. She played a key role in connecting City Year to important partners in our San Jose community. Today, City Year prepares 138 AmeriCorps Members who help in over a dozen elementary, middle, and high schools. Its programs reach over 7,000 students each year through partnerships with public schools in our most challenged communities.

City Year's diverse AmeriCorps teams serve as tutors, mentors, and role models, helping to provide research-based student, in classrooms and city wide. City Year strives to help students stay in school and on track to graduate from high school with a solid foundation for college and future careers. A recent study showed that students from schools that partnered with City Year were likely to demonstrate improvement on mathematics and English language arts assessments.

Madam Speaker, I hereby recognize and commend City Year for its dedicated work to improve educational access for all students, regardless of background. Today, we honor City Year San Jose/Silicon Valley for 25 years of service in our Santa Clara County community and for helping our students strive for a better future.

IN RECOGNITION OF TIFFANY JOHNSON COLE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the Tiffany Johnson Cole. Tiffany is an attorney with the Law Offices of Robert Simms Thompson, PC in Tuskegee, Alabama.

She handles cases in the areas of automobile products liability, negligence, wrongful death, trucking litigation, fraud and breach of contract. Tiffany made history when she became the first female to be appointed as Municipal Court Judge in the City of Tuskegee.

Tiffany received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Spelman College and her Juris Doctorate from Cumberland School of Law at Samford University. She is licensed to practice law in Alabama and Georgia.

Tiffany is a member of the North Florida Child Development Center Board and the Alabama A&M Board of Trustees. She is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc where she serves as the Alabama Social Action Coordinator. Tiffany is a member of the Alabama State Bar Association, Alabama Association for Justice, Macon County Bar Association, the Links Incorporated and Jack and Jill of America. Tiffany was recognized as one of the most influential persons in Macon County and most recently named as one of the Women of Shape the State of Alabama.

Tiffany is married to Jermaine and together they share five children.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Tiffany and congratulating her on appointment as the first female Municipal Court Judge in the City of Tuskegee.

HONORING DR. ANNE FRIESEN AS MOORE COUNTY WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Anne Friesen as the recipient of the Moore County Woman of the Year Award.

The Woman of the Year Award is a prestigious honor presented annually by the Moore County Community Foundation to individuals that have impacted Moore County through charitable works and community service. Dr. Friesen has more than 20 years of professional experience in human services and serves as Executive Director of Friend to Friend, a Moore County non-profit whose mission is to help survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking rebuild their lives. During her tenure at Friend to Friend, she quickly responded to a devastating fire and oversaw the creation of a new, state-of-the-art shelter within one year.

In addition to this important work, Dr. Friesen serves on the boards of The North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and The North Carolina Coalition Against Human Trafficking. In 2018, she earned her

Doctorate of Education in Leadership and Professional Practices from Trevecca University and holds graduate and undergraduate degrees from the University of Kansas.

Dr. Friesen has made an immeasurable impact on our community and is deserving of this distinction. I would like to offer my sincerest appreciation and wish her success as she continues to serve our community.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Dr. Anne Friesen for her service to our community and being named the Moore County Woman of the Year.

HONORING LYNDEL "JOE"
WISHCAMPER

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Ms. PINGREE. Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Lyndel "Joe" Wishcamper on his outstanding advocacy for and production of affordable housing. I was thrilled to learn that Joe will receive this year's Affordable Housing Vision Award from the National Housing & Rehabilitation Association. I cannot think of a more deserving recipient.

In his nearly 50 years as a community developer Joe has owned, developed, or redeveloped over 15,000 affordable housing units throughout the country. These include many units throughout Maine including ones in Portland, Eastport, Camden, Freeport, Bath, Rockland, and Wiscasset. He became an early practitioner of historic rehabilitation when he converted a vacant school building in downtown Portland to senior affordable housing. He later reduced their energy costs as well as reduced global warming by investing in a solar farm.

Beyond his work in affordable housing, Joe has also been an asset to the Maine community serving on the boards of countless businesses and nonprofits, including Maine Medical Center, the Nature Conservancy, and the University of Maine System. In recognition of his contributions to the community he has been awarded both the Spurwink Humanitarian of the Year and the Colby College Philanthropy Award.

While we are very proud of Joe and his contributions to his home state, this is a national award and many states have benefitted from his work and his philanthropy. His life's work has earned him many honors. This is a particularly significant one that merits special note.

Congratulations to Joe Wishcamper for this award. I look forward to his continued efforts to create safe, decent, and affordable housing and to his many philanthropic endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF JACK VAN LOAN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, America and South Carolina have

lost a True Hero and Patriot in the passing of Col. Jack Van Loan. Roxanne and I offer our deepest sympathies to his wife Linda and his family. The fitting tribute is from The State of Columbia, South Carolina:

Jack Van Loan, an Oregon native and fighter pilot who spent six years in the infamous Hanoi Hilton as a prisoner of war in Vietnam and then served for 20 years as executive director of the Five Points Association in Columbia, has died. He was 87.

"He was a mentor, a colleague, a co-chair and a friend to me," former Five Points Association executive director Merritt McNeely posted on Facebook. "More than that, he was a true American hero and he loved and fought for Five Points like no one else. Rest In Peace my friend, Jack."

Mayor Steve Benjamin said city flags will be flown at half-staff this week in Van Loan's honor.

"He was a gentleman, stern, loving and a leader," the mayor said. "These men served our country in some of the most challenging situations, never lost their spirit and continued to serve. Jack led the charge in Five Points. When Jack calls you come. He was unique. He was special."

Van Loan received his undergraduate degree from Oregon State in 1954. He spent 30 years in the Air Force. He was a POW for six years, held in the same prison as the late Sen. John McCain.

Van Loan was shot down over North Vietnam on May 20, 1967. He injured his knee when he parachuted, and his captors made the injury worse through torture.

The torture, which became more horrifying, continued for most of his six years of captivity.

Van Loan published a book about his experience in captivity, "Chained Eagles, The Story of Col. Jack Van Loan and the Vietnam POWs in North Vietnam."

He wrote the book because he thought what the POWs experienced needed to be remembered.

"I kept being asked questions about it and realized I needed to write it up," he told The State. "It was a very difficult thing for me to do, to write it out."

Van Loan quickly learned his captors had no intention of adhering to the Geneva Convention, a treaty adopted to protect prisoners of war from the atrocities he suffered. The North Vietnamese torturers unsuccessfully tried to beat information from him.

He wrote in his book, "I wasn't going to tell them about those targets, but I was going to have to come up with something. I tried to knock myself out by beating my head on the floor but that didn't work out. All I was doing was bloodying up my forehead and getting blood in my eyes."

"I just was a total mess. . . . I had just never, ever experienced any pain like that. I just didn't think that it was possible."

Van Loan was released on March 4, 1973, with the second large group of POWs to be freed after the Paris Peace Accords ended America's involvement in the war. He had been held for 70 months.

Van Loan, a colonel, settled in Columbia after retiring from duty at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter. He served for 20 years as executive director of the Five Points Association, and is credited with being the force behind the success of the urban village's annual St. Patrick's Day celebration.

He is honored with a statue in Five Points that portrays him emerging from captivity.

At the time the statue was dedicated, Van Loan was honored by the like of U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-SC.

"Jack sacrificed for his country in a way few have ever done," Graham said at the time. "As a POW he stayed true to the traditions of an American fighting man held in captivity. He's an inspiration, a role model, and a credit to South Carolina in every way."

BENJAMIN MOORE

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great American company with a steadfast commitment to American manufacturing and job creation headquartered in my District, the Fifth Congressional District of New Jersey.

Benjamin Moore currently employs approximately 1,000 individuals and is headquartered in Montvale, New Jersey. Since its founding in 1883, in Brooklyn, Benjamin Moore has maintained an unwavering commitment to selling only through authorized, independent, locally owned and operated paint and decorating retailers.

From Benjamin's Moore's humble beginnings in 1883 with one product—Moore's Prepared Calsom Finish—to now, one of America's leading manufacturers of paints, stains and finishes, is truly a great American story.

In the Fifth District of New Jersey, Benjamin Moore has maintained a commitment to creating jobs and manufacturing their paints and stains in America.

Benjamin Moore has also made sustainable manufacturing practices a major component of their company practice, leading to receiving the "Green" Good Housekeeping Seal and the Edison "Best New Product Award for Sustainability." In 2015, the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America announced that Benjamin Moore's most environmentally friendly paint, Natura, has been certified Asthma and Allergy Friendly.

As the Representative for the Fifth Congressional District of New Jersey, I am proud to recognize Benjamin Moore for their commitment to American jobs and manufacturing, sustainability, and all that the company has accomplished.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Benjamin Moore for the company's commitment to the Fifth Congressional District of New Jersey and to the country and look forward to many great years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on October 15, 2019 for Roll Call Vote 556 and Roll Call Vote 557. Had I been present, my vote would have been the following: Yea on Roll Call Vote 556 and yea on Roll Call Vote 557.

REMEMBERING E.A. CARMEAN, JR.

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to note the passing of art historian E.A. Carmean, Jr., who died Saturday in our nation's capital at age 74. Mr. Carmean was the founding curator of 20th century art at the National Gallery of Art in Washington from 1974 to 1984, working to open the I.M. Pei-designed East Building for its Modernist collection in 1978. During his tenure at the National Gallery of Art, he curated important exhibitions on Georges Braque and David Smith, and on individual works, such as Picasso's *The Saltimbanques*, in 1980. He also acquired important works for the national gallery, including Jackson Pollack's Number 1, 1950 (*Lavender Mist*), and commissioned some of the last public works by such masters as Joan Miro, Henry Moore and Alexander Calder. In 1984, he was appointed director of the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth and, from 1992 to 1997, led the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art.

In Memphis during his tenure, the Brooks hosted exhibitions on the watercolors of John James Audubon, the *Jewels of the Romanovs* and medieval icons. Mr. Carmean left the Brooks to enter Memphis Theological Seminary and later joined the staff of St. George's Episcopal Church in Germantown, Tennessee, and was named Lay Canon for Art and Architecture by the bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee with a license to preach.

Born in Springfield, Illinois, Mr. Carmean received a B.A. in Art History from MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Illinois, and worked toward but did not complete an M.A. at the University of Illinois, while teaching. He was later given an honorary doctorate from MacMurray.

After leaving the museum world, he continued to write about art and religion, often for *The Wall Street Journal*, which in September published his "A Choice at the Final Minute," a meditation on the 15th century Hieronymous Bosch alterpiece *Death and the Miser*. He also wrote the forward to *Elvis: The Personal Archives*, a selection of Elvis photographs that were part of an exhibit at the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, in 2005.

I would like to extend my condolences to his wife, Kathryn Shelton Carmean, his daughter, Elizabeth Carmean Adams, and his two grandchildren, as well as members of the St. George's community in Germantown and his many friends and admirers. He led an inspired life.

CELEBRATING KATHERINE CAMPBELL**HON. MIKE BOST**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Katherine Campbell, who turns 100 later this year. Born on November 11, 1919, her birthday coincided with the first Armistice Day after World War I, which later became Veterans Day.

Katherine, known to her friends and loved ones as "Aunt Kitty," was born in St. Louis be-

fore moving to Carbondale as a young girl. It was there where she met and then later married her first husband, Neal. After having two sons, Katherine worked at the town's Dodge dealership for many years. When Neal passed away, Katherine moved to Louisville and married her second husband, Bob, before moving back to Carbondale where she still lives today. Known to be sweet and caring to anyone she meets, Katherine is a true friend and loving mother and grandmother.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Katherine Campbell on her milestone 100th birthday. On behalf of Southern Illinois, happy birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF DANIEL L. PENETAR, JR., RECIPIENT OF THE ITALIAN AMERICAN MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Attorney Daniel L. Penetar, Jr., who received the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County's Italian American Man of the Year Award along with his brother, Dr. Martin C. Penetar. The brothers continue the legacy of their father, the late Judge Daniel L. Penetar, Sr., who was president of the association in 1959 and Man of the Year in 1976. Daniel and Martin were honored Sunday, October 13, 2019 during the organization's annual dinner honoring the voyage of Christopher Columbus.

Daniel is a 1972 graduate of Scranton Preparatory School, and he earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of Scranton in 1976. In 1979, Daniel completed his juris doctorate at Duquesne University School of Law.

Daniel has found continual success in his legal career since it began in 1979. He is admitted to practice before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the Lackawanna Court of Common Pleas, and the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, and he is a member of the American Bar Association, the Pennsylvania Bar Association, and the Lackawanna Bar Association. He is the owner of the Gazda and Penetar Law Firm, and he is the solicitor for the Taylor and Scranton Zoning Boards, as well as the Lackawanna County Sheriffs Office, Real Estate Division. He has served as the Special Solicitor for Lackawanna Tax Claim Bureau for Judicial Sales since 2008. Daniel is the chairman for the Board of Viewers of Lackawanna County and a Title Agent for Old Republic National Title Insurance Company. In recognition of his impressive legal career, the Lackawanna Bar Association awarded him the President's Award in 2015 and the Exemplary Service Award in 2019.

In addition to his impressive legal career, Daniel has been very active in his community. He served as the president for the Columbus Day Association in 1988, Family Services of Lackawanna County in 1989, and the Monroe Softball League from 1980 to 2001. From 1984 to 1994, Daniel served as the treasurer for the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association of Wrestling Officials. He is also a

member of the UNICO Scranton Chapter and Victor Alfieri Club.

Daniel has been married to Michele Germain for 38 years. He is the proud father of two children, Cristina and Daniel III.

It is an honor to recognize Daniel as he is named the Italian American Man of the Year by the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County. May he continue to honorably represent and support the Italian American community for many years to come.

HONORING HUGH BINGHAM AS MOORE COUNTY MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hugh Bingham as the recipient of the Moore County Man of the Year Award.

The Man of the Year Award is a prestigious honor presented annually by the Moore County Community Foundation to individuals that have impacted Moore County through charitable works and community service. As Executive Vice President of First Bank, Mr. Bingham oversees 21 branches that cover 9 counties and has been a staple in many civic organizations over the years. He has served on the boards of The O'Neal School, Penick Village Foundation, Sandhills Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership at Sandhills Community College, and St. Joseph of the Pines.

In addition to this important work, Mr. Bingham served as the United Way Campaign Chair from 2018 to 2019 and is a former President of the Moore County Community Foundation. A proud father and grandfather, he attends Southern Pines United Methodist Church with his wife, Jill Ward Bingham.

Mr. Bingham has made an immeasurable impact on our community and is deserving of this distinction. I would like to offer my sincerest appreciation and wish him success as he continues to serve our community.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Hugh Bingham for his service to our community and being named the Moore County Man of the Year.

RECOGNIZING THE 2019 WEEK OF POSITIVE CHANGE, NON-VIOLENCE, AND OPPORTUNITIES

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Ms. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2019 Week of Positive Change, Nonviolence and Opportunities which runs from October 12 to October 19, 2019. This week was created to remind us of the toll that violence is taking in our communities but also to remind and reaffirm that we can all help to end the violence.

During this week, events will take place in communities throughout the nation to discuss solutions and partnerships that will help to protect our communities from violence. I urge my colleagues to learn more about the events in their communities.

As Congress considers ways to address the deadly gun violence that is plaguing too many of our communities, one of the central themes and solutions to consider are ways to increase resources and training available to community members themselves to help prevent or de-escalate conflict that can help break the deadly cycle that violence has in our communities.

There is no question that stronger gun laws are an important part of efforts to prevent gun violence. I again urge Senator MCCONNELL to take up the bills the House has already passed that would help strengthen background checks, a move which is broadly supported by the American public, and to close the Charleston loophole that allows gun sales to go through if not completed within three days.

But just as critical is the need to develop and strengthen community wide resources and tools that can help prevent violence, including gun violence, in the first place. One such way is to increase support so that a broader range of individuals in communities can learn conflict prevention and de-escalation and violence interruption strategies that can help prevent situations from turning violent while helping to connect individuals to community supports.

Now more than ever we need to explore all the ways to end this epidemic of violence. A study published in the October 2019 issue of Health Affairs shows that the rate at which Americans died from firearm injuries increased sharply starting in 2015. And while high profile mass shootings make up a small portion of these incidences, the vast majority are from the daily violence that too many of our communities continue to endure.

According to that study, the United States saw a 14 percent rise in the rate of gun-related deaths of all kinds from 2015 to 2017 compared with the rate from 1999 to 2014.

Like other cities around the country, the city of Milwaukee has experienced multiple forms of violence that have caused significant injury and trauma for individuals, families, and neighborhoods. From 2010 to 2016, there has been a 76 percent increase in firearm-related homicide victims, a 38 percent increase in nonfatal shooting victims, and a 43 percent increase in combined victims.

During this time of crisis with violence happening around the country, we need to focus on how all elements of our society, government and the communities themselves, can work to help end violence.

We need to invest in policies and programs that could literally save lives. Communities standing together can make a difference.

I applaud the organizations that have come together to sponsor this week and help make our communities safer including Black Women for Positive Change, the National Black Nurses Association, Moms Demand Action and others.

In addition, governors in Wisconsin, Colorado, Michigan, and Virginia have all issued proclamations recognizing this week.

HONORING ROCKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Rockland Community College as the in-

stitution begins a year-long celebration of its 60th anniversary this month.

Six decades ago, a group of community leaders boldly transformed an old almshouse and 27 acres of farm land into an institution of higher education. Since then, Rockland Community College has provided quality, affordable education to students of all ages and been an important resource to the residents of the Lower Hudson Valley.

The institution's motto—"to learn, to search, to serve"—has guided students in their academic journeys ensuring they are supported every step of the way. With more than 500 full and part-time faculty members, support and one-on-one help is readily available to all students.

Madam Speaker, I urge my fellow Members of Congress to join me in expressing congratulations and thanks to both former and current Rockland Community College administrators, Board members, faculty, staff and students for making and keeping the college such a vibrant part of our community for 60 years.

RECOGNIZING HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DELAWARE, OHIO FOR THEIR DESIGNATION OF "GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD" BY THE AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION

HON. TROY BALDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Delaware, Ohio as they are recognized by the American Planning Association as one of America's "Great Neighborhoods."

The American Planning Association introduced the first of its annual "Great Places" list in 2007 as a way to acknowledge the ingenuity and precision of city planners, city members, and local organizations around the country. The American Planning Association strives to expose the importance of city planners and their impact on communities.

Chosen from a pool of 200 nominees, Downtown Delaware became one of four neighborhoods around the country to receive this prestigious title. Throughout the nomination process, Downtown Delaware stood out for its outstanding revitalization and attention to the city's history. This impressive balance between historical preservation and innovative expansion can be credited to the city planners, business owners, workers, and community members of Historic Downtown Delaware that dedicated their time to improving their city.

The historic downtown area remains as one of Delaware's defining elements. Rooted in 200 years of history, Downtown Delaware's charm and antiquity have withstood the test of time. This achievement showcases both the beauty of this historic community as well as the thorough planning that went into the creation of Downtown Delaware. Downtown Delaware's revival has been decades in the making and Delaware's nomination as one of America's Great Neighborhoods is the honor this city and its dedicated citizens deserve.

Downtown Delaware's established history, set alongside up-and-coming innovations and improvements, creates for a one-of-a-kind city found in the heart of Ohio. The efforts of

Downtown Delaware's city planners and the community as a whole set high standards for cities all over America. As the city of Delaware celebrates its new title with the community on Thursday, October 17th, I cannot express how honored I am to serve the committed people of Delaware as their efforts resulted in this national recognition.

HONORING MR. LUIS LAURO LONGORIA

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Luis Lauro Longoria, a marine, a father, and a leader.

Mr. Longoria was born in La Grulla, Texas, on June 5, 1950, before he moved to Longview, Texas. In Longview, Luis attended Hart High School and graduated alongside a high school class of 32 students. After high school, Luis made the selfless and honorable decision to enlist in the military—at only 18 years old.

Mr. Luis Lauro Longoria chose to enlist in the United States Marine Corps in 1968, where he became a M60 Machine Gunner and a Recon Marine. Mr. Longoria honorably served in the Vietnam War and was stationed at Marine Quang Tri Province DMZ, Vietnam. While enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, Mr. Longoria served this country for four years of his early life, experiencing many aspects of military life.

Mr. Luis Lauro Longoria was decorated with two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star Medal for the injuries he sustained and courage he showed during his time in Vietnam. Everything we hold dear as a community, state, and country is owed to the brave sacrifice of service members like Mr. Longoria. I know that his legacy will inspire future generations to honorably serve our fellow man.

Mr. Longoria later returned to the United States where he met and married his wife, Olivia Longoria. Luis and Olivia have now been married for over 40 years and are the proud parents to their two sons, Luis Longoria II and Oly Longoria.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Luis Lauro Longoria fought to defend the values of the United States during the Vietnam War. He sacrificed his body, not once, but twice to accomplish the missions he was tasked with. He serves as both a light in our community and a leader. It is an honor to represent a dedicated and selfless individual who has greatly impacted the future of the United States and our beloved community. I wish Mr. Longoria the best in his future endeavors. I yield back the balance of my time.

RECOGNIZING STATESVILLE BRICK COMPANY FOR 128 YEARS OF BUSINESS

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Statesville Brick Company for 128 years of business.

Due to the Southeast's unique rivers that produce red clay deposits, North Carolina has long been at the center of the brick making economy. This includes companies like Statesville Brick Company which opened its doors in 1891. As times changed though and the post-World War II building boom began to slow, brick makers began closing shop, and small, local operations transitioned into large, interstate corporations. Statesville Brick Company, however, bucked that trend, and remains at heart the same family-run operation it was over a century ago.

For Statesville Brick Company Chief Executive Officer Michael Foster and President James E. "Sonny" Rankin, Jr. along with Executive Vice President Scott A. Rankin and Quality Control Manager Adam Foster, the brick business is a generational affair. Sonny's grandfather E.R. "Roy" Rankin joined the company in 1916 and oversaw the construction of an early iteration of the firm's plant while Michael's father, H.B. "Bob" Foster joined as a partner in 1969. Today, Statesville Brick Company currently employs over 90 people and their work can be found at some of our nation's most prestigious academic institutions such as Princeton University, Ohio State University, and Davidson College.

Statesville Brick Company's 128 years of business are a source of pride for our region, demonstrating how an operation dedicated to high craftsmanship with deep local roots can succeed and thrive in a changing landscape.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in celebrating Statesville Brick Company for 128 years of business.

PASSING OF MS. ELIZABETH J. WESLEY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor Ms. Elizabeth "Libby" Wesley, an extraordinary activist and dear friend from Palm Beach County, Florida.

Ms. Wesley was born in Defuniak Springs, Florida to William and Allie Mae Jackson. In 1958, she moved to Delray Beach, Florida where she began her 37-year career in the field of education as a classroom teacher, instructional television educator, and project manager of early childcare welfare and services with the Palm Beach County School District. Her steadfast commitment to quality education on the local, state, and national level and her expertise in the field of early childhood education and development was highly sought after by leading parent advocacy groups, businesses, and national and local legislators.

Ms. Wesley, affectionately known as Libby, gifted her talents, time, and voice to the community as a prolific speaker, soloist, community activist, organizer, and innovator. Throughout her 61 years as a member of St. Paul AME, she served as the church secretary, on the trustee board and finance committee, and lifted the spirits of the congregation with her signature rendition of Amazing Grace. Libby became a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. in 1954 at Florida A&M Uni-

versity. She continued the works of her beloved sisterhood first as a member of Delta Epsilon Zeta Chapter in West Palm Beach, and later a founding member of the Tri-City Chapter Omicron Delta Zeta.

Perhaps Ms. Wesley's most impactful community legacy was her role as a co-founder of the Roots Cultural Festival in Delray Beach. Her leadership of this festival grew a weekend celebrating Black American excellence and African culture into a year-round youth program that included music, culture, education, and athletic components.

Ms. Wesley was also the recipient of numerous prestigious awards for her contributions in the areas of volunteerism and leadership, including the Old School Square Life Achievement award, the Delray Beach Rotary Service Above Self award, the Sojourner Truth Living History award, the Jefferson Award, the JM Family Enterprises The Prestigious African-American Achiever's Award, the Publisher's Award from the Sun Sentinel, as well as the building and dedication of The Elizabeth "Libby" Jackson Wesley Plaza in Delray Beach.

Madam Speaker, my friend Libby dedicated her life to serving our community. She was admired, respected, and beloved by all. I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to her family and friends, during this time of great sadness. She will be dearly missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 556.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II, KOREAN WAR, AND VIETNAM WAR VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on October 16, 2019 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. These memorials were built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on October 16th answered our nation's call to service during several of its greatest times of need. Across the world, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to include in the RECORD the names of these

men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Steve K. Admonis, James V. Ambrosia, Joseph V. Ambrozich, Thomas J. Andersen, Robert L. Andrews, Joe Ayres, James R. Baillie, Gene M. Bednarz, Robert S. Bernas, Clarence Beuke, Rodney A. Bjerke, Robert L. Card, John Carlin, Dominick Castaldo, William Cathey.

Melvin S. Copeland, Frank J. Cudia, Richard H. Davis, Bert A. Davis, Louis Delgado, Charles B. Desmond Sr., David L. Dobbs, Jr., Leonard Dobrzynski, James W. Donahue, Tad Dymanus, John Edward Essex, Edward J. Fatla, Karl Ferstl, Lloyd D. Flanagan, William F. Flynn.

John R. Garland, Paul Goldman, Larry B. Grose, Daniel R. Heiden, John R. Hill, Kenneth W. Janowski, Earl Kent, Taylor J. Kent, Robert L. King, Walter Klemper, Carl M. Klindworth, Dennis J. Kranc, Aloysius Ksiazek, Gary Kulhan, Lawrence J. Kummerer.

Joseph La Salvia, Jr., Richard J. Lain, Clifford Lauderdale, Allen Thomas Laya, Julius Levine, Frank H. Liltz, James E. Matkovich, Eugene A. May, Richard C. May, Glenn McAtee, Larry E. McCann, Edward McCarthy, John J. McDonnell, Anthony R. Mehok, Robert W. Migdal.

Daniel A. Moffett, Gene Ray, Sr. Montalbano, Richard G. Moutvic, Gerald J. Mraz, Richard A. Nelson, Walter W. Nitsche, Frank Noonan, Donald D. Northup, Thomas J. O'Neill, Roy Oscarson, Robert Joseph Pac, John J. Piworski, William A. Porter, Donald R. Pratt, Mane Eii Pritza.

Daniel J. Quigley, Michael K. Rachowicz, Joseph A. Rende, Carmine Rende, Jr, Richard Rix, Arthur Rogers, Gilberto Romero, Jr., Donald P. Rung, William F. Scheidt, Ronald R. Schmidt, William R. Schomburg, Steven D. Schuler, James L. Shohet, Michael L. Sloan, Lawrence M. Soja.

Robert Sperlik, Phillip T. Thornton, Franklin Truesdale, Darrell W. Van Gameron, August Verschelden, Anthony Vinezeano, John R. Walker, Allan L. Walraven, Gary D. Wilke, Warzell Williamson, Kenneth W. Witowski, Richard A. Yndestad, William E. Zimmer, Marshall Zweig.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF LT. JOSEPH PETROSINO

HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Mr. SUOZZI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Giuseppe "Joe" Petrosino, NYPD Badge No. 285. 110 years ago, Lt. Petrosino was assassinated in Sicily while investigating organized crime and became the first NYPD officer killed overseas in the line of duty.

Born in Padula (Sa.), Italy on August 30th, 1860, Lt. Del. Petrosino rose to fame in New York for cracking down on organized crime throughout the city. "The Detective in the Derby", as he was known in Little Italy, was the architect of the Bomb Squad, the Canine Squad, and the Undercover Squad and his techniques are still used by law enforcement today.

Petrosino and his family immigrated to the United States from Padula (in the province of

Salerno, Campania) in the 1870s. In 1883, he joined the NYPD and became the first native Italian-language speaker in the department's history. During his service, Petrosino grew close to then-police commissioner Theodore Roosevelt and rose through the ranks of the service. In 1895, he was promoted to Detective Sergeant and was placed in charge of the department's Homicide Division, making him the first Italian-American to lead this department.

Petrosino's career reached its pinnacle in 1908 when he was promoted to Lieutenant and placed in charge of the Italian Squad, an elite corps of Italian-American detectives specifically assembled to deal with the activities of organized crime groups.

Unfortunately, Lt. Petrosino's life was cut short by an assassin in Piazza Marina, Palermo, Italy on March 12, 1909, while he was collecting evidence to be used against the mafia. Lt. Petrosino's body was returned to New York and a funeral was held on April 12, 1909; over 250,000 people were in attendance. New York City declared the day of his burial a holiday to allow its citizens to pay their respects.

A small plaza just north of the old NYPD Headquarters at 240 Center Street in Manhattan was renamed in his memory, but his true legacy lives on in the hearts and minds of his surviving family members: granddaughter Susan Burke, grandnephew Assistant District Attorney Joseph Petrosino, NYPD Officer Joseph Petrosino, and, in Italy, grandnephew and founder of the Joe Petrosino International Association Nino Melito-Petrosino.

Lt. Petrosino's mark extends far beyond New York City. Over 100 years after his death, The Lt Det. Joseph Petrosino Association in America continues the tribute to an NYPD and Italian icon by forming a trinity with the Joe Petrosino International Association in Padula (Sa.) Italy and the Joe Petrosino Association in Sicily, Italy; this trinity continues to perpetuate his memory, his values, and his fight against crime.

I would like to thank the board members of the Lt. Det. Joseph Petrosino Association in America for their tireless advocacy for New York police departments; Cav. Joseph Mattone, Dr. Joseph Scelsa, and James Lisa, Chairman of the Lt. Joseph Petrosino Association in America. I would also like to recognize

Robert (Bob) Fonti, President of the Lt. Joseph Petrosino Association in America, Vincenzo Lamanna, President of the Associazione Internazionale Joe Petrosino, Padula (Sa.) Italy, and Anna Maria Corradini, President of the Association "Joe Petrosino" Sicilia, Palermo, Italy.

Fighting crime, unfortunately, sometimes requires the sacrifice of an untold number of men and women in blue. We thank them and their families for putting themselves in harm's way on our behalf.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 22

10 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the status of the Consolidated Audit Trail.
SD-538
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine international efforts to increase energy effi-

ciency and opportunities to advance energy efficiency in the United States.

SD-366

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joshua A. Deahl, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, Deborah J. Israel and Andrea L. Hertzfeld, both to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and Robert Anthony Dixon, to be United States Marshal for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Department of Justice.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine sanctuary jurisdictions, focusing on the impact on public safety and victims.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine reform in Armenia.

CHOB-210

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Science, Oceans, Fisheries, and Weather

To hold hearings to examine research and innovation, focusing on ensuring America's economic and strategic leadership.

SD-562

OCTOBER 23

10 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on SeaPower

To receive a closed briefing on the Navy's "Spectrum of Conflict" strategic framework.

SVC-217

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the reauthorization of the Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act.

SH-216

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine improving American economic competitiveness through water resources infrastructure.

SD-406

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5805–S5854

Measures Introduced: Fifteen bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2602–2616, S.J. Res. 58, and S. Res. 358–359. **Pages S5840–41**

Measures Reported:

S. 2159, to repeal the Act entitled “An Act to confer jurisdiction on the State of North Dakota over offenses committed by or against Indians on the Devils Lake Indian Reservation”. (S. Rept. No. 116–130) **Page S5840**

Measures Passed:

National Character Counts Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 358, designating the week beginning October 20, 2019, as “National Character Counts Week”. **Page S5852**

National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 356, designating September 4, 2019, as “National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day”, and raising awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S5852–53**

National Urban Wildlife Refuge Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 324, designating September 29, 2019, as “National Urban Wildlife Refuge Day”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S5853**

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 359, authorizing the use of the atrium in the Philip A. Hart Senate Office Building for the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, a semiannual event for the Drug Enforcement Administration. **Page S5853**

Congressional Review Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, October 17, 2019, the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 53, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States

Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Repeal of the Clean Power Plan; Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From Existing Electric Utility Generating Units; Revisions to Emission Guidelines Implementing Regulations”; that if a motion to proceed is made and agreed to, the time until noon be equally divided between the two Leaders or their designees, on the joint resolution; and that upon the use or yielding back of that time, the joint resolution be read a third time, and Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution. **Page S5852**

National Emergency Veto Message—Agreement:

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the veto message on S.J. Res. 54, relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019, be considered as having been read, that it be printed in the Record, and spread in full upon the Journal. **Page S5852**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 1:45 p.m. on Thursday, October 17, 2019, Senate vote on passage of S.J. Res. 54, notwithstanding the objections of the President to the contrary. **Page S5852**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to the Constitution, the report of the veto of S.J. Res. 54, a Joint Resolution that would terminate the national emergency the President of the United States declared in Proclamation 9844 of February 15, 2019, pursuant to the National Emergencies Act, regarding the ongoing crisis on the southern border; ordered to be printed in the Record, spread in full upon the Journal, and held at the desk. (PM–32) **Page S5838**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 85 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. EX. 319), Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force. **Pages S5806–12, S5815–28, S5854**

By a unanimous vote of 92 yeas (Vote No. EX. 320), Frank William Volk, of West Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia. **Pages S5828, S5854**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By a unanimous vote of 90 yeas (Vote No. 315), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S5812–13**

By 61 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. EX. 321), Charles R. Eskridge III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas. **Pages S5828–29, S5854**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 61 yeas to 29 nays (Vote No. 316), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5813**

By 89 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. EX. 322), David John Novak, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. **Pages S5829, S5854**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 86 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. 317), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5813**

By 88 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. EX. 323), Rachel P. Kovner, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. **Pages S5829, S5854**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 85 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 318), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5814**

Messages from the House: Page S5838

Measures Referred: Page S5838

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Page S5838

Measures Read the First Time: Pages S5839, S5852

Executive Communications: Pages S5839–40

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S5841–43

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S5843–51

Additional Statements: Pages S5836–38

Amendments Submitted: Page S5851

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Pages S5851–52

Record Votes: Nine record votes were taken today. (Total—323) **Pages S5812–13, S5813, S5814, S5828, S5829**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:11 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, October 17, 2019. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S5853.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FEEDING AMERICA

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine feeding America, focusing on making sustainable offshore aquaculture a reality, after receiving testimony from Paul Doremus, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; Linda Cornish, Seafood Nutrition Partnership, Arlington, Virginia; Kathryn Unger, Cargill Aqua Nutrition North America, Wayzata, Minnesota, on behalf of Stronger America Through Seafood, Inc.; Benjamin S. Halpern, University of California National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis, Santa Barbara; and Jay Julius, Lummi Nation, Bellingham, Washington.

IMPACTS OF DISEASES ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the impacts of diseases on wildlife conservation and management, after receiving testimony from Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Policy, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; Holly Niederriter, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Division of Fish and Wildlife, Smyrna; and Walter E. Cook, Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, College Station.

U.S.-IRAN POLICY

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States-Iran policy, after receiving testimony from Brian H. Hook, Special Representative, Department of State.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing 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, who was introduced by Senator Young, 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, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

ARIA IN ACTION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy concluded a hearing to examine the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act in action, focusing on implementation and the Indo-Pacific strategy, after receiving testimony from David R. Stilwell, Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs; Randall Schriver, Assistant Secretary of Defense, Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, Department of Defense; and Gloria Steele, Acting Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Asia, United States Agency for International Development.

HOMEOWNERSHIP IN INDIAN COUNTRY

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine lending opportunities, focusing on homeownership in Indian country, after receiving testimony from R. Hunter Kurtz, Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for Public and Indian Housing; Darryl LaCounte, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Patrice H. Kunesh, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis Center for Indian Country Development, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Max Zuni, Pueblo of Isleta, Isleta, New Mexico; and Nathaniel Mount, Fort Belknap Indian Community Council, Harlem, Montana.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Barbara Lagoa and Robert J. Luck, both of Florida, both to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, who were introduced by Senator Rick Scott, Sylvia Carreno-Coll, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, John M. Gallagher, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, who was introduced by Senators Casey and Toomey, and Sherri A. Lydon, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, who was introduced by Senator Tim Scott, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

FALLS PREVENTION

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine falls prevention, focusing on national, state, and local solutions to better support seniors, after receiving testimony from Kathleen A. Cameron, National Council on Aging Center for Healthy Aging, and Elizabeth Thompson, National Osteoporosis Foundation, both of Arlington, Virginia; Peggy Haynes, MaineHealth, Portland; and Virginia Demby, accompanied by Ellen Williams, both of Chester, Pennsylvania.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 23 public bills, H.R. 4687–4709; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 632–634 were introduced. **Pages H8197–98**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H8199–H8201**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Phillips to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H8147**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:23 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H8150**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Father Brian K. Burgess, Christ Church Episcopal, Woodbury, New Jersey. **Page H8150**

Privileged Resolution—Intent to Offer: Representative Biggs announced his intent to offer a privileged resolution. **Pages H8153–54**

Securities and Exchange Commission Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act and Outsourcing Accountability Act of 2019—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to 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 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, by a yea-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 559, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 558. **Pages H8154–57, H8163–64**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Opposing the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria: H.J. Res. 77, opposing the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 354 yeas to 60 nays with 4 answering “present”, Roll No. 560; **Pages H8157–63, H8164–65**

Office of National Drug Control Policy Technical Corrections Act of 2019: H.R. 3889, amended, to amend the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 1998 to make technical corrections; **Pages H8165–67**

Presidential Allowance Modernization Act of 2019: H.R. 1496, amended, to amend the Act of August 25, 1958, commonly known as the “Former Presidents Act of 1958”, with respect to the monetary allowance payable to a former President; **Pages H8167–69**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6531 Van Nuys Boulevard in Van Nuys, California, as the “Marilyn Monroe Post Office”: H.R. 1252, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6531 Van Nuys Boulevard in Van Nuys, California, as the “Marilyn Monroe Post Office”; **Page H8169**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13507 Van Nuys Boulevard in Pacoima, California, as the “Ritchie Valens Post Office Building”: H.R. 1253, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13507 Van Nuys Boulevard in Pacoima, California, as the “Ritchie Valens Post Office Building”; **Pages H8169–70**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Tulip Avenue in Floral Park, New York, as the “Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson Post Office Building”: H.R. 1833, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Tulip Avenue in Floral Park, New York, as the “Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson Post Office Building”; **Pages H8170–71**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7722 South Main Street in Pine Plains, New York, as the “Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon M. Kent Post Office”: H.R. 2151, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7722 South Main Street in Pine Plains, New York, as the “Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon M. Kent Post Office”; **Page H8171**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 575 Dexter Street in Central Falls, Rhode Island, as the “Elizabeth Buffum

Chace Post Office”: H.R. 2451, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 575 Dexter Street in Central Falls, Rhode Island, as the “Elizabeth Buffum Chace Post Office”; **Pages H8171–72**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8520 Michigan Avenue in Whittier, California, as the “Jose Ramos Post Office Building”: H.R. 3144, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8520 Michigan Avenue in Whittier, California, as the “Jose Ramos Post Office Building”; **Pages H8172–73**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the “Richard G. Lugar Post Office”: H.R. 3152, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the “Richard G. Lugar Post Office”; **Pages H8173–74**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 114 Mill Street in Hookstown, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building”: H.R. 3207, amended, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 114 Mill Street in Hookstown, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building”; **Page H8174**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 114 Mill Street in Hookstown, Pennsylvania, as the Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building.”; **Page H8174**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1750 McCulloch Boulevard North in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, as the “Lake Havasu City Combat Veterans Memorial Post Office Building”: H.R. 3314, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1750 McCulloch Boulevard North in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, as the “Lake Havasu City Combat Veterans Memorial Post Office Building”; **Pages H8174–75**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5186 Benito Street in Montclair, California, as the “Paul Eaton Post Office Building”: H.R. 3329, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5186 Benito Street in Montclair, California, as the “Paul Eaton Post Office Building”; **Pages H8175–76**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 West Kent Avenue in Missoula, Montana, as the “Jeannette Rankin Post Office Building”: H.R. 1972, to designate the

facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 West Kent Avenue in Missoula, Montana, as the “Jeannette Rankin Post Office Building”;

Page H8176

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 877 East 1200 South in Orem, Utah, as the “Jerry C. Washburn Post Office Building”: H.R. 887, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 877 East 1200 South in Orem, Utah, as the “Jerry C. Washburn Post Office Building”; and Pages H8176–77

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1715 Linnerud Drive in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, as the “Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building”: S. 1196, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1715 Linnerud Drive in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, as the “Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building”.

Page H8177

Consensus Calendar: Representative Deutch presented to the clerk a motion to place on the Consensus Calendar the bill H.R. 724, to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, it having accumulated 290 cosponsors.

Page H8179

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8163–64, H8164 and H8164–65. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Committee Meetings

NASA’S PROPOSAL TO ADVANCE THE NEXT MOON LANDING BY FOUR YEARS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “NASA’s Proposal to Advance the Next Moon Landing by Four Years”. Testimony was heard from Kenneth D. Bowersox, Acting Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and James F. Bridenstine, Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE: POLICY AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Food and Nutrition Service: Policy and Program Overview”. Testimony was heard from Brandon Lipps, Deputy Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, Department of Agriculture.

E-CIGARETTES: AN EMERGING THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “E-cigarettes: An Emerging Threat to Public Health”. Testimony was heard from Anne Schuchat, M.D., Principal Deputy Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services; Renee D. Coleman-Mitchell, Commissioner, Department of Public Health, Connecticut; and public witnesses.

RESILIENCY OF MILITARY INSTALLATIONS TO EMERGING THREATS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Intelligence and Emerging Threats and Capabilities; and Subcommittee on Readiness held a joint hearing entitled “Resiliency of Military Installations to Emerging Threats”. Testimony was heard from Robert H. McMahon, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment, Office of the Secretary of Defense; John W. Henderson, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment, and Energy, U.S. Air Force; Alex A. Beehler, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy, and Environment, U.S. Army; and Lucian Niemeyer, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and Environment, U.S. Navy.

STRENGTHENING OUR FISCAL TOOLKIT: POLICY OPTIONS TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC RESILIENCY

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Strengthening Our Fiscal Toolkit: Policy Options to Improve Economic Resiliency”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE USDA’S PROPOSED CUTS TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services held a hearing entitled “Examining the USDA’s Proposed Cuts to Free School Meals”. Testimony was heard from Brandon Lipps, Deputy Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, Department of Agriculture.

FOSTERING A HEALTHIER INTERNET TO PROTECT CONSUMERS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology; and Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce held a joint hearing entitled “Fostering a Healthier Internet to Protect Consumers”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATION TO REVERSE THE YOUTH TOBACCO EPIDEMIC

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Legislation to Reverse the Youth Tobacco Epidemic”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

WHO IS STANDING UP FOR CONSUMERS? A SEMI-ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Who is Standing Up for Consumers? A Semi-Annual Review of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau”. Testimony was heard from Kathy Kraninger, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

PROTECTING AMERICA: THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE PROGRAM

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development, and Insurance; and Subcommittee on National Security, International Development and Monetary Policy held a hearing entitled “Protecting America: The Reauthorization of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program”. Testimony was heard from Baird Webel, Specialist in Financial Economics, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

SYRIA STUDY GROUP: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and International Terrorism held a hearing entitled “Syria Study Group: Recommendations for U.S. Policy”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE INITIATIVES TO SECURE THE SUPPLY CHAIN

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Public-Private Initiatives to Secure the Supply Chain”. Testimony was heard from Bob Kolasky, Assistant Director, National Risk Management Center, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 4617, the “Stopping Harmful Interference in Elections for a Lasting Democracy Act”. H.R. 4617 was ordered reported, as amended.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a 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”. H.R. 835 was ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 3942, H.R. 886, H.R. 4258, H.R. 3713, and H.R. 1123 were ordered reported, without amendment.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States held a hearing on H.R. 3160, the “Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act”; and S. 46, the “Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Repeal Act”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SBA MANAGEMENT REVIEW: SBA IG REPORT ON THE MOST SERIOUS MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE CHALLENGES FACING THE SBA

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “SBA Management Review: SBA IG Report on the Most Serious Management and Performance Challenges Facing the SBA”. Testimony was heard from Hannibal Ware, Inspector General, Small Business Administration.

EXAMINING THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit held a hearing entitled “Examining the Future of Transportation Network Companies: Challenges and Opportunities”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Smith of New Jersey and Suozzi; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a 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”. H.R. 4625, H.R. 3749,

H.R. 4613, H.R. 4477, and H.R. 4162 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 561 was ordered reported, without amendment.

BROKEN PROMISES: ASSESSING VA'S SYSTEMS FOR PROTECTING VETERANS FROM CLINICAL HARM

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "Broken Promises: Assessing VA's Systems for Protecting Veterans from Clinical Harm". Testimony was heard from Sharon Silas, Director, Health Care Team, Government Accountability Office; John Daigh, Assistant Inspector General for Healthcare Inspections, Office of Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs; and Steven Lieberman, Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

THE HOUSE CALENDAR AND SCHEDULE: EVALUATING PRACTICES AND CHALLENGES

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "The House Calendar and Schedule: Evaluating Practices and Challenges". Testimony was heard from Ida Brudnick, Specialist on Congress, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Susan Clarke Schaar, Clerk of the Senate, General Assembly, Virginia; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine measuring economic inequality in the United States, after receiving testimony from Gabriel Zucman, University of California, Berkeley; Heather Boushey, Washington Center for Equitable Growth, and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum, both of Washington, D.C.; and Eric Zwick, University of Chicago Booth School of Business, Chicago, Illinois.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine implementing the 2018 Farm Bill, 10 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Com-

mission, focusing on the spectrum auctions program, 10 a.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold closed hearings to examine the situation in Syria and the wider region, 9 a.m., SVC-217.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: 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: 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: 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: 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 the Judiciary: 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.

House

Committee on Agriculture, 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, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Oversight Hearing: Chronic Wasting Disease”, 10 a.m., 2008 Rayburn.

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, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3, the “Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3, the “Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019”; H.R. 4665, the “Medicare Vision Act of 2019”; H.R. 4671, the “Help Seniors Afford Health Care Act”; H.R. 4618, the “Medicare Hearing Act of 2019”; and H.R. 4650, the “Medicare Dental Act of 2019”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, 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.

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.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery, hearing entitled “Defending the Homeland from Bioterrorism: Are We Prepared?”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

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, Subcommittee on Elections, hearing entitled “Voting Rights and Election Administration in America”, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, hearing entitled “Legislative Proposals to Strengthen the Voting Rights Act”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

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.

Committee on Natural Resources, 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.

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.

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, 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, 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, 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, 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, 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, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Solving the Climate Crisis: Cleaner, Stronger Buildings”, 9 a.m., 2020 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Thursday, October 17

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Thursday, October 17

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will vote on passage of S.J. Res. 53, relating to the disapproval of the repeal of the Clean Power Plan, at 12 noon.

At 1:45 p.m., Senate will vote on passage of S.J. Res. 54, relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019, notwithstanding the objections of the President to the contrary.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 1815—Securities and Exchange Commission Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act.

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