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No. 151

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 19, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BEN CLINE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

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

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

RECOGNIZING NEBRASKA MANUFACTURING MONTH

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor manufacturers across the First District of Nebraska.

Manufacturing is Nebraska's largest industry. According to the National Association of Manufacturers, manufacturing accounts for 11.81 percent of the total output in Nebraska, employing 9.8 percent of our workforce.

Across the First District, these manufacturers are creating jobs. Nucor in

Norfolk, Nebraska, produced 33.6 million tons of steel over the last 50 years. Plattsmouth is home to the first creative manufacturer in the United States. Blazer Athletic fabricates sports equipment in Columbus. Kawasaki makes train cars in Lincoln that ship to Washington, D.C., and New York City. You should also know that Fremont is producing rotisserie chickens and other products for Costco stores across North America.

On behalf of the people of Nebraska's First Congressional District, I extend our sincere thanks to all the manufacturers that are helping make our communities a great place to live, work, and raise a family. Keep up the great work.

CONGRATULATING NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Northeast Community College as they celebrate their 50th anniversary.

Our community college system plays a critical role in educating the next generation of Nebraska's workforce, and Northeast Community College is leading the way.

The college started with six buildings on its main campus on the edge of Norfolk in 1973. Today, it boasts campuses in South Sioux City, West Point, Norfolk, and O'Neill.

Under the leadership of President Leah Barrett, the college has been making moves. A \$22 million investment at the Acklie Family College Farm is setting the college up to become a leader in veterinary technology.

In the spring, Northeast announced the launch of a new agriculture-diesel mechanic apprenticeship program. This fall, the college broke ground on a new facility in South Sioux City to add welding booths and a CDL training building.

On behalf of the people of Nebraska's First Congressional District, I extend

our sincere congratulations to Northeast Community College on five great decades.

MARKING 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF COLUMBUS SALES PAVILION

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Columbus Sales Pavilion as they celebrate their 90th anniversary.

Founded by M.H. Vanburg in 1933, it is now owned by a fourth-generation family. In a day and age when people switch jobs frequently, the sales pavilion has a local and loyal workforce with some employees boasting over 30 years with their team.

Nebraska is the beef State, and sale barns like the Columbus Sales Pavilion are not only critical to our community, but they are also at the heart of our ag community.

I recently visited the Columbus Sales Pavilion during an auction. I can tell you that the sales pavilion is more than a market. It is a place of connection and community for producers across the area.

This doesn't happen by accident. It happens because the owners have made it their stated mission to make Columbus a better place.

On behalf of the people of Nebraska's First Congressional District, I extend our sincere congratulations to the Columbus Sales Pavilion on 90 great years.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF MEMORIAL STADIUM

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the most iconic places in Nebraska: Memorial Stadium.

This fall, the Huskers are celebrating 100 years of the stadium. Through these gates pass the greatest fans in college football. That has been proven for the last century.

On game days, Memorial Stadium becomes the third largest city in Nebraska, with more than 90,000 fans gathering at every home game. Since 1962, we have sold out every single game. That is 390 consecutive sellouts.

□ 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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The love for Husker athletics was shown once again at Memorial Stadium just weeks ago when 92,003 fans attended a Husker volleyball match on Osborne Field, setting a world record for the most attended women's sporting event.

Some of the greatest college football coaches of all time have called plays at Memorial Stadium, like former Congressman Tom Osborne and Bob Devaney. This season begins with the Matt Rhule era, and he got his first win in the stadium last week.

Congratulations to the university. Go Big Red.

RECOGNIZING BELLEVUE WOMEN'S CLUB

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish the Bellevue Women's Club a happy anniversary as they approach 100 years in service.

In 1924, the Bellevue Women's Club began serving their community. By 1929, they were already taking on big projects like helping start the first Bellevue library and the city's first swimming pool.

Through their 100 years, this non-profit has contributed their time and money to some of Sarpy County's most significant organizations and events, like the Arrows to Aerospace Parade, Habitat for Humanity, and the Ronald McDonald House.

Their club members' support for a wide array of organizations in Sarpy County is unmatched as they give back through the senior community center, Books for Babies, and the Bellevue Food Pantry. The scope of their work through the years is very impressive.

On behalf of Nebraska's First Congressional District, congratulations to the Bellevue Women's Club on their first century, and here is to the next.

ENCOURAGING MEXICO'S COMPLIANCE WITH WATER TREATY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to address a critical issue that is affecting the livelihoods of countless Americans across south Texas. The drought conditions and water scarcity we are witnessing in the Rio Grande Valley are causing untold hardships for our farmers and our residents.

As stipulated in the Mexican Water Treaty of 1944, Mexico is obligated to provide the United States with an average of 350,000 acre-feet of water annually over a 5-year cycle. Unfortunately, Mexico has consistently delayed fulfilling this commitment, leaving American farmers in dire straits.

This year, south Texas farmers are poised to plant their crops, but they need water now. Without it, they face the prospect of harvesting only half of what they would yield in a typical year.

This has far-reaching consequences, impacting our national food supply, increasing food costs for families, and

heightening our dependency on foreign agriculture.

Moreover, communities in south Texas are now facing water restrictions, exacerbating the strain on families and businesses alike.

The Mexican Government bears a responsibility to honor the terms of this treaty. American farmers and ranchers should not bear the burden of Mexico's failure to uphold its end of the bargain.

I implore the Biden administration to take immediate action and hold Mexico accountable. Failure to convene official meetings addressing this issue will result in catastrophic consequences for south Texas farmers.

Just last week, I had the privilege of introducing a bipartisan House resolution aimed at bolstering diplomatic relations to encourage Mexico's compliance with the Mexican Water Treaty of 1944. This historic resolution underscores our support for negotiations that ensure more predictable water deliveries to the United States, and it urges new commitments to guarantee at least 350,000 acre-feet of water are delivered annually.

I extend my deepest gratitude to my colleagues from both sides of the aisle who have cosponsored this crucial resolution.

I also thank all the local officials from my community who have been working closely with me on this matter.

Together, we are sending a powerful message: Clean water is not a partisan issue. This is an American issue.

Through collaboration and diplomatic engagement, we can forge a framework for responsible water management that benefits both of our great Nations.

Let us stand united in ensuring that the promises of the Mexican Water Treaty of 1944 are not just ink on paper but a lifeline for the American farmers who feed our Nation.

CELEBRATING 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF BENNETT COLLEGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Bennett College, which I have the privilege of representing in Congress.

In 1873, Bennett got its start as a school for elementary and secondary students in the basement of Warnersville Methodist Episcopal Church.

Now, Bennett College, located in Greensboro, North Carolina, stands as one of only two all-women's HBCUs in the Nation.

In the 150 years since its founding, Bennett College and its alumni have made history. Bennett played a pivotal role in the civil rights movement in North Carolina. Before Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., gave his famous March

on Washington speech, he traveled to Greensboro, North Carolina, in February 1958. There, he was met with an overflowing crowd of young women, the Bennett Belles, at the Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel on Bennett's campus.

This speech, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s first speech ever given in Greensboro, had a lasting impact on the entire Triad community.

Mr. Speaker, 2 years after his speech on Bennett's campus, Bennett Belles participated in the famous Woolworth counter sit-in, the demonstration that ignited a movement of sit-ins for racial equality across the South and across the country and changed the entire course of American history.

In the years since then, Bennett's alumni have continued to make history.

Bennett had the first Black woman president of a 4-year college in the United States, Dr. Willa B. Player.

Former Bennett College President Johnnetta Cole went on to lead the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African Art.

Maidie Ruth Gamble Norman was an early Hollywood film star in the 1930s.

Dr. Dorothy Brown was the first woman to practice general surgery in the South in the 1940s.

Carolyn Robertson Payton led the Peace Corps under President Jimmy Carter.

Marian Tasco was Pennsylvania's first Black county commissioner.

Many more Bennett Belles have broken down barriers and have been the first to accomplish amazing feats. Today, Bennett continues to educate young minds and produce changemakers.

Bennett has been an influential institution in our Nation's history, as well as a pillar of outstanding education in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Congratulations to the Bennett Belles on 150 years of excellence.

HONORING BASIS ORO VALLEY SCHOOL

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of BASIS Oro Valley, a school in my district that has been included in U.S. News & World Report's 2023 Best Public High Schools, securing the 21st position.

This accomplishment is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, educators, and the entire school community.

BASIS Oro Valley prides themselves on their award-winning STEM curriculum and liberal arts program to help children pursue their dreams.

From advanced AP courses to high-level music classes, this school has something for everyone.

□ 1015

The average ACT score for BASIS Oro Valley students is a 32 and the average SAT score is 1368. This is one of

the best high schools in the country and it is located right in Arizona-06, my district.

This school, which has only been around since 2010, has made a huge impact on our community. I am so proud of the teachers who make this a great experience for the kids and the kids that push themselves to be better every single day.

I am proud to represent this outstanding school in Congress and to recognize the BASIS Oro Valley school here today.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT CHRIS BAILEY ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to thank president Chris Bailey, who is retiring after dedicating 12 years to Lower Columbia College. Throughout his tenure, he diligently served students, staff, and the community, transforming Lower Columbia College into a vital educational hub in the region.

As a testament to Chris' leadership, Lower Columbia College developed the Lower Columbia Regional Center, enabling folks to work and access higher education pathways. Chris was pivotal in introducing the college's first two bachelor of applied science degrees, as well as a vocational skills center, reflecting his commitment to expanding career opportunities for those at the college.

We have been lucky to have a leader like Chris at Lower Columbia College. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chris for his dedication and wish him all the best in a well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING MALLONEE FARMS

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mallonee Farms, a family-owned dairy farm in my district. A few weeks ago, I was able to visit the farm in Curtis, Washington, where I met the farm's owner, Maynard Mallonee. Maynard is a third-generation dairy farmer and a member of the Organic Valley coop.

During my visit, I toured their farm, saw their new robotic milkers, and heard how Congress can support small, organic farms. Maynard is passionate about working for something bigger than himself. He works to be a good steward of his land, and he is already taking steps with his son, Jack, to ensure that the family farm continues for generations to come.

Everyone at Mallonee Farms is fighting hard for their farm, and I am grateful to be in this fight with them. My focus is to ensure that Federal policy supports small, family farms like theirs.

COWLITZ COMPLEX FIRES IN GIFFORD PINCHOT NATIONAL FOREST

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the Cowlitz Complex fires in

the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Thirty fires might sound like a bad movie plot, but with 695 acres in flames and 342 hardworking folks trying to keep it all under control, it is the reality of our community.

To the diligent task forces—the California Incident Management Team 13 and Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team 2—patrolling and monitoring the fires, especially around Pothole, Jackpot, and the Adams Fork regions—your steadfastness does not go unnoticed.

We are thankful that potential threats, like the heat near Pothole, turned out to be benign. The task forces' preemptive actions are the backbone of our community's safety.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the folks working these fires. Their tireless efforts protect our homes, our forests, and our future. Their commitment to contain these forests showcases the resilience of our community.

HONORING A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT, SERGEANT RICHARD KELLY

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant and cherished member of our community, Sergeant Richard Kelly.

On August 10, we lost Sergeant Kelly unexpectedly due to a medical emergency while in the line of duty. He was only 54.

Sergeant Kelly's commitment to safeguarding our community was unwavering. He served the Battle Ground Police Department since 2005, where he ultimately rose to the rank of sergeant in 2019.

Not only was he an officer of the law, he was a husband, father, brother, and a pillar of our community. He was respected and loved by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

I personally recall his attentive presence at my Battle Ground townhall, a testament to his deep sense of duty and connection to the people that he served. His loss leaves a void in our community and in the hearts of all who knew him.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of Sergeant Richard Kelly. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, his colleagues, and the entire Battle Ground community during this time. May his dedication serve as a lasting inspiration to us all.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING CORPORAL ZACHARY "ZAC" CLAYTON MERRILL

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Corporal Zachary "Zac" Clayton Merrill, who passed away on August 20.

After graduating from college, Zac joined the Army, distinguishing himself as captain of the 82nd Airborne and leading an explosive ordnance team in Afghanistan.

His commitment and valor earned him the Bronze Star, among other commendations. After the Army, Zac's call to service led him to the Vancouver Police Department, where he became an integral member of the cri-

sis negotiation team and was eventually named unit leader. However, beyond the badges and commendations, Zac was a loving husband, son, brother, and uncle.

He also had a profound bond with his grandfather, Stanley Merrill, also a Korean war veteran, which speaks volumes about his deep roots in service and sacrifice.

Corporal Merrill's legacy of service, both on the battlefield and on our streets, will forever inspire and remind us of the sacrifices made by those who choose to serve.

Mr. Speaker, I send my deepest condolences to his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

RECOGNIZING DR. THOMAS J. WALTERS

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the director of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers, Dr. Thomas J. Walters, for his 44 years of service to the United States.

Director Walters oversaw the training and management program for new law enforcement officers across the country, including those at the Glynco, Georgia, campus in my district.

Mr. Walters dedicated his entire four-decade career to defending our national security, serving as a Border Patrol agent, and in various leadership positions. He embodies both patriotism and leadership, and the next generation of officers is undoubtedly grateful for his expertise and the example he set. Director Walters emphasized that serving as the FLETC director was an honor and a career highlight.

I know I speak for the whole First District when I say we appreciate his dedication to law enforcement and his service to others. I welcome the new FLETC director, Benjamine "Carry" Huffman, and I wish him the best of luck.

REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT COLONEL DAVID LEONARD SHARPE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Lieutenant Colonel David Leonard Sharpe. At the age of 81, he leaves behind a legacy of bravery, leadership, and selflessness. In 1966, he graduated from the U.S. Army Ranger School and became the first Army Ranger in the Georgia National Guard. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves in the Georgia National Guard for 41 years, from 1960 to 2001.

We remember him not only for his military accomplishments, but also for his dedication to his community. He excelled as a mechanical drawing teacher at Glynn Academy high school in Brunswick. In the summers, he worked on commercial and residential planning.

I know Mr. Sharpe's legacy will live on in the positive impact he had on his

community, and I extend my deepest condolences to his family.

CONGRATULATING DALE GREENE ON HIS
RETIREMENT

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the University of Georgia's Forestry and Natural Resources dean, Dale Greene, for his decades of accomplishments before he retires at the end of the year.

Greene has consistently displayed his passion for his students and teaching throughout his time working at UGA, and he has been a key factor in the success of many young leaders. Greene joined the University of Georgia in 1986, and since then has won several awards, including but not limited to, the Herrick Award for Superior Teaching, the Wise Owl Award, the Silver Beaver Award from the Georgia Boy Scouts of America, and the Billy Hudson Distinguished Citizen Award.

Greene was also inducted into the Georgia Foresters Hall of Fame in 2007 for his efforts in expanding research and funding to his university. I am proud to commemorate such a hard-working individual that has aided in so many Georgians' postgraduate successes in agriculture.

CONGRATULATING THE CRAB SHACK

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The Crab Shack for being named one of the best seafood restaurants in the United States by the Food Network.

On the charming Tybee Island of Georgia sits The Crab Shack, known for its outstanding fresh seafood, river views on the marsh of Chimney Creek, and extensive choice of in-house events.

This unique restaurant is a perfect spot for vacationing families with a wide range of food options, activities, and incredible southern hospitality service. Savannah locals, Jack and Belinda Flanigan, developed The Crab Shack from nothing more than a few tables and some friends, and since then it has developed into an iconic river spot for all to enjoy.

An alligator enclosure on the property's outer boundaries attracts numerous people who come to feed the young gators.

I am proud to celebrate the accomplishments of this local restaurant, which brings many visitors to the beautiful islands of Georgia.

COMMEMORATING 50 YEARS SINCE
THE COUP IN CHILE

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

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, this month we observe the 50th anniversary of the coup in Chile. It is important to note the role that the House played in declassifying documents relating to the United States' role in the coup of Allende and the Presidency of Pinochet.

I rise to pay tribute to our former colleague, Maurice Hinchey, who in

1999 introduced legislation to declassify documents related to the coup in Chile. Following his leadership, I took his legislation to the House Intelligence Committee conference.

In our markup of the conference report of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2000, I was successful in getting an amendment passed in committee that mirrored the Hinchey legislation. This language was sustained on the floor and when the FY 2000 Intelligence bill was signed by President Clinton, it became law.

The legislation stated that no longer than 270 days following enactment—we wanted a shorter period of time, they wanted a longer period of time. This was the compromise—270 days following the enactment, the CIA had to submit a report on all of its activities in various events in Chile in three categories: the assassination of President Salvador Allende; the ascension of Pinochet to the Presidency; and the violation of human rights committed by the henchman of President Pinochet.

In 2001, therefore, the CIA prepared 16,000 documents for declassification. Since then, thousands more documents—maybe up around 23,000 documents—have been declassified.

During the debate on the FY 2000 legislation, it was argued that the search for documents related to human rights violations in Chile—now, we are talking about murder, disappearances, imprisonment, torture; that is what we are talking about—directed by the National Security Council was sufficient. They said we did that. It is sufficient. They said nothing further was needed and raised the question of how much money will this cost and how much time will it take for the Director of Central Intelligence to produce an adequate report.

However, Maurice Hinchey argued, in these words: “It is time that the Central Intelligence Agency accounted for its role in the military coup that toppled the democratically elected government of Salvador Allende and led to his death. The American people need to know how our government supported the rise of Augusto Pinochet, a ruthless dictator who systematically murdered and tortured his enemies.”

In May 2016, I had the privilege of leading a strongly bipartisan congressional delegation to Chile. When we visited the Museum of Memory and Human Rights—and I would recommend that if you get to Chile you certainly see that—it was emotional and gratifying for some of us to see the documents that we had declassified under Maurice Hinchey's leadership helping bring the truth to light.

To this day in Chile there is still great sadness about the loss of life and other crimes against humanity perpetrated by Pinochet's henchman. Last week was the 50th anniversary, and at the observance—an event marking 50 years since the coup—President Gabriel Boric spoke eloquently about the

importance of reconciliation and democracy. Democracy—he said it again and again. Thankfully, the President had also called for a plan to find the nearly 1,500 people who are still missing or unaccounted for, for their families.

It is my hope that this spirit will lead to more revelations and accountability.

As we mark 50 years since the coup, I salute the leadership of Maurice Hinchey. He was a champion of justice; not only in Chile but in Argentina and in other countries suffering under similar despotic regimes, including those affected by Operation Condor.

Operation Condor was how all these vicious dictators coordinated their activities. Maurice Hinchey saw the connection and coordination among the dictatorships in the death and violence in their countries, and in relentlessly speaking out against it, he made a difference.

His family is still active in the civic life of New York State. He passed away on November 22, 2017, but his leadership in the fight for truth and justice continues to be an inspiration to us all.

□ 1030

RURAL HEALTHCARE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, before I was elected to serve in the House of Representatives, I spent nearly 30 years in the nonprofit healthcare field assisting those facing life-changing diseases and disabilities with therapists, rehabilitation service managers, and a licensed nursing home administrator.

I am acutely aware of the challenges many face when it comes to obtaining reasonably priced healthcare. It is especially critical for rural America, like much of the 15th Congressional District of Pennsylvania that I am honored to serve.

As the Member of Congress representing nearly one-third of the land mass of Pennsylvania, one of the most rural districts east of the Mississippi, I am keenly aware of the problems that my constituents face when accessing medical services.

We are facing a healthcare crisis in our Nation's rural areas. These often disadvantaged populations are still struggling to access affordable, quality care. Many remain uninsured. Most are underinsured. However, access to quality care remains the largest challenge.

Even when people gain access to health insurance, it doesn't mean equal access to care. Rural hospitals across the country are closing, leaving patients without access to emergency rooms and long-term care facilities.

In addition to hospital closures, a workforce shortage plagues rural America. The patient-to-primary care

physician ratio in rural areas is only 39.8 physicians per 100,000 people compared to 53.3 physicians per 100,000 in urban areas. Recruitment and retention of experienced professionals, including primary care physicians, is an ongoing challenge.

Furthermore, the opioid epidemic that is sweeping the Nation has ravaged our rural communities, leaving even more of the population in need of crucial health services.

Adolescents and young adults living in rural areas are more vulnerable to opioid abuse than their urban counterparts. The prevalence of fatal drug overdoses has skyrocketed in rural areas. High unemployment and a greater rate of types of injuries that result in prescriptions for opioid medications have contributed to this.

On March 5, 2010, Congress passed sweeping legislation—the Affordable Care Act—which fundamentally realigned our Nation's healthcare system. Since passage of this bill, my worst nightmares have become a reality, as the law's interpretation continues to drive up costs, saddle small businesses with burdensome regulations, and impose unfunded mandates on people throughout the Commonwealth by shifting costs from the Federal Government to the States.

Unfortunately, what we have also seen since the passage of this law is the consolidation of providers in the healthcare industry. Small and independent providers were unable to bear the burden of the ACA's various mandates, and many of them were forced to merge with larger health systems that have dramatically consolidated care over the last decade.

Luckily, Congress has been able to repeal key components of this bill since it was first enacted, including the individual mandate. Additionally, as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic that uniquely strained rural healthcare systems in Pennsylvania and across the country, we must always look for ways to stabilize and recover from what has been a turbulent few years. Moving forward, we must provide commonsense reforms that improve our Nation's healthcare system and access across the country, including those in rural America.

One of the best ways to do this is by promoting access to telehealth. As part of the National Telehealth Awareness Week, this week I plan to reintroduce the HEALTH Act, which allows community health centers and rural health clinics to continue to provide telehealth services and receive fair reimbursement for doing so. It is these types of policies that promote access to care for all Americans, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to fix our flawed healthcare system.

Currently, healthcare costs have gone up, premiums have increased by double digits, but choices have decreased. That is not right. It is not fair, and it is not feasible. There must be a better way, and I know that together

we will work to find a stable transition to a 21st century healthcare system that works for everyone in America, particularly those who live in rural regions where the need is great and services are scarce.

HONORING LISA ECK

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

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I am taking a moment to recognize a cheerful, spirited, and vibrant community member residing in my district, Ms. Lisa Eck, for her 40 years of public service at the downtown Roseville library.

Ms. Eck embarked on her journey as a young teen, starting at the library as a quotidian shelver in 1983. In her tenure, she has become one of the most beloved librarians in our region.

She is well known for her ability to captivate the magic of childhood through her lively readings. Dressing in full costume and performing books theatrically are just some of the ways that she captures the attention and adoration of Roseville children and residents.

Ms. Eck's determination and dedication to bringing these stories to life knows no bounds, and her unique approach makes her storytime sessions a cherished tradition. Her special touch reaches all generations, as she has marked the lives of tens of thousands of people over the years.

Ms. Eck has an unfaltering commitment to promoting literacy and educational opportunities for our local youth, and her efforts have made an indelible impact in our communities.

As a former English teacher, I understand the importance of developing a love for reading in students and value the efforts of those like Ms. Eck to foster that passion through her creative and innovative storytelling abilities.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am pleased to join the Roseville community in celebrating and recognizing Ms. Lisa Eck for her four decades of leadership as a librarian and her continued commitment to inspiring children and adults alike with a desire for knowledge and learning.

CELEBRATING VIRGINIA LAKES RESORT 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I am taking a moment to recognize the centennial anniversary of a special business in my district, the Virginia Lakes Resort in the heart of the High Sierra, located in Mono County, California.

In 1923, Walter Foster and Charles Foster signed an agreement with the Forestry Department to build a fish camp at Virginia Lakes. After the first year of operation, Walter Foster and his wife, Anita, became the sole owners and operated the business for 30 years.

They quickly found success, as within the first 5 years of the business they built several cabins that housed guests

such as Hollywood stars Fred MacMurray, Betty White, and Lon Cheney. They are also known for hosting the 1938 USC football team for training before the team went on to win a national championship.

The resort had a few different owners, such as the Coopers and Bill Newman, before the current owners, John and Carolyn Webb, began their journey in 1974. The Webbs will celebrate their 50-year anniversary as owners next year and are well known by others for their commitment to community engagement and dedication to providing an exceptional experience for their visitors.

Today, the Virginia Lakes Resort offers key amenities such as rental cabins, boat rentals, tackle shop, and a cafe. Visitors enjoy the stunning scenery of the Sierra Nevada while participating in a variety of recreational activities at the resort, such as camping, fishing, and hiking.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to recognize the Virginia Lakes Resort for their 100-year anniversary and commend them for their significant contributions throughout the years to their community and the local economy.

THANKING JAIME ROBLES

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I recognize an exemplary individual who interned in my district office this summer.

Jaime Robles ensured that people's voices were heard, by taking down their concerns and sharing them with me. He even helped people renew their passport and access the services and benefits they are entitled to receive from the Federal Government.

Jaime is a recent graduate of Sierra College in Rocklin and will be attending UC Berkeley in the spring to major in economics. He served as vice president and student senator of the Sierra College Student Senate, vice president of student engagement for the social science club, and is a Phi Theta Kappa honor society member. Jaime is also bilingual, and I have repeatedly been impressed with his ability to utilize that skill and serve our Spanish-speaking constituents.

Mr. Speaker, Jaime has been a pleasure to have in my office and, like all our interns, has been a tremendous help to me and my team in serving the people of the Third Congressional District of California. I am incredibly grateful that he chose to invest his time and talents with us.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I thank Jaime for his commitment to public service.

CONDEMNING THE ACTIONS OF NEW MEXICO GOVERNOR MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, once again, the members of the far left are disregarding this document, the United

States Constitution, in order to undermine Americans' right to keep and bear arms.

Just a few weeks ago, New Mexico Governor Lujan Grisham issued an executive order suspending the right to carry firearms in public across Albuquerque and Bernalillo Counties for at least 30 days and fining those who don't comply.

This political power grab is a blatant attack on the Second Amendment and should infuriate every American. It sets a dangerous precedent for the rights of law-abiding Americans and threatens the very freedoms we hold so dear. We cannot allow it to go ignored.

That is why I urge my colleagues to join me in support of the resolution condemning the actions of Governor Lujan Grisham for attempting to deprive the citizens of New Mexico of their right to bear arms.

The people of this great country understand that the House Republican majority will always fight for their Second Amendment rights and uphold the Constitution.

CONGRATULATING THE CLARKE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Clarke County High School women's soccer team for winning the Class 2 State title, the program's second State championship in 3 years.

After working hard all season, the Eagles left it all on the field and defeated the Central of Wise County Warriors by a score of 7-0.

These talented student athletes include Avery and Sidney Shinabery, Danyelle Franz, Makenna Jarvis, Kelsey Elrod, Ivana Betancourth, Heather Cartagena, Bailey Mayo, Olivia Morise, Summer and Madison Toone, Audrey Price, Campbell Neiman, Morgan Walker, Ella O'Donnell, Lilly Suling, Tatiana Garcia, Kyleigh Goforth, Leah Mitchell, Krysna Miranda, and Noelle Whalen.

Throughout the final game, the team overcame challenges, displayed superior skill, and dominated possession of the ball.

This was Coach Ray Hawkins' first year as head coach; and under his leadership, the coaches, players, and staff built up their confidence to achieve their goals, and they did just that.

Congratulations, again, to the Clarke County High School women's soccer team on this incredible achievement.

RECOGNIZING MARTHA'S MEALS ON WHEELS

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Martha's Meals on Wheels in Staunton, Virginia, for 50 years of service to our local community.

In 1973, Minister Jo Lotz of the Emmanuel Episcopal Church and Martha Wilkerson began preparing meals in the church for those in need for Staunton residents, and their efforts eventually became Martha's Meals on Wheels.

Five decades later, Martha's Meals on Wheels has gone from serving 20 people 5 days a week to now 30 to 35 people per day within the city limits

with the help of Armstrong's Restaurant in Verona, which has been preparing the meals for 20 years.

In 2019, the program fed 4,900 people, and last year fed 7,700 people. With 60 to 80 dedicated volunteers today, the program is expected to feed 7,800 people this year.

Martha's Meals on Wheels' longevity stands as a testament to the civic spirit of the town and an example we should all follow: to always lend a helping hand to others.

I thank Martha's Meals on Wheels and the volunteers for their selfless service and wish them many years of success to come.

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 43 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

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

Lord, on this day, grant us Your wisdom, for who is wise and understanding among us? But Your wisdom is pure, peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, and full of mercy.

Enable us to show that in living a good life, free of envy and ambition, boastfulness or falsehood, all that we do in the course of our day is born of Your wisdom.

And in our discourse with one another, teach us to show love. May we harbor no hate in our hearts. May we not reprove our neighbor, lest we ourselves be found wanting. May we not take vengeance or bear a grudge, but instead, love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

In fact, may the love we first received from You abound more and more. Remind us that You call us to offer this love to one another in knowledge and discernment so that we may perceive what is best in our service to You and to this country.

May You be glorified as we offer this day and our prayers to You.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. MCGOVERN 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.

Dictators or Democracies

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, sadly, the world is in a conflict we did not choose, between dictators with rule of gun opposing democracies with rule of law.

War criminal Putin began the current murderous conflict invading Ukraine in February 2022, shocked to find that the Ukrainians courageously resisted. President Donald Trump provided Javelin missiles and tried to deter Putin with troops in Poland.

Today, the West is united, with Sweden and Finland joining NATO, as the European Union surpasses American aid for Ukraine. Simultaneously, the Chinese Communist Party denies Taiwan's existence and the regime in Tehran continues nuclear missile development to achieve death to Israel, death to America.

Fellow dictators clearly see the conflict as dictator or democracy as North Korean Kim Jong-un joins Putin. Supporters of democracy must remain united as there is no third side to achieve peace through strength. The choice is clear: Dictators or democracy.

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

ELEVEN DAYS AWAY FROM A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, we are 11 days—11 days—away from a government shutdown and the rightwing of the Republican Party is busy fighting with the far rightwing. The sham plan Republicans have cobbled together this week gets us nowhere closer to funding the government. It goes back on the bipartisan deal struck earlier this year and is dead on arrival in the Senate,

and it shows where Republican priorities are.

By imposing draconian cuts on domestic programs, their sham CR means massive cuts to programs for people living in poverty and everything from housing support to heating assistance to WIC benefits.

Make no mistake: If we don't reject these cuts and if we don't fully fund the Biden administration's \$1.4 billion supplemental WIC request, eligible low-income people, primarily toddlers, preschoolers, and postpartum moms could be turned away from food. I can't for the life of me think of a more rotten thing to do.

Pregnant moms and their young families are counting on you, so let's drop the theatrics, come together, fully fund WIC, and work toward ending hunger now.

RECOGNIZING KAREN L. KRISCH

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Karen L. Krisch of Centre County for being named the 2023 National Distinguished Principal of the Year.

An educator for 29 years, Principal Krisch has served in her current role as principal at Marion-Walker Elementary School in the Bellefonte Area School District since 2017. Previously, she was principal at Bellefonte Area Elementary School, principal and vice principal at the Bellefonte Area Middle School, and an assistant administrator for the Bald Eagle Area School District. She also taught vocational education at the secondary level for 6 years, specifically to high-poverty students.

Principal Krisch encourages the staff and teachers at her school to expand opportunities for students resulting in excellent representation at the annual reading competition, participation in Bellefonte READS, and raising nearly \$10,000 per year for the Four Diamond Fund through the school's minithon.

Outside of the classroom, Karen participates in a polar plunge each year to raise funds for the YMCA antihunger program and she is a Pennsylvania Master Naturalist volunteering frequently for conservation and State park programs.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Principal Krisch on this tremendous achievement.

FIGHTING FOR OUR VETERANS' HEALTHCARE

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

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today beyond frustrated by the crisis in veterans' healthcare in my community. Right

now, we have just four physicians and only two mental health clinicians trying to provide care for over 27,000 veterans in San Joaquin County.

Veterans are waiting up to 90 days to even speak to a doctor or get something as simple as a prescription refilled. That is the longest wait time in the State of California and, frankly, it is a disgrace. One of our veterans recently had to have his leg amputated because he couldn't see a doctor to get his diabetes medication refilled. That is unacceptable.

I know our local VA staff are doing everything they can, but right now we need Secretary McDonough to step in and help. We need more doctors, and we need them now. I have petitions right here in my hand from veterans across our community begging for a response and an action plan from the Secretary and the VA. We need answers.

These brave men and women fought and sacrificed for our country, the last thing they need to do is fight for their healthcare right now. It is time to fix this.

STILLBIRTH PREVENTION

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

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bipartisan bill to recognize today as National Stillbirth Prevention Day. There are 21,000 babies stillborn in the U.S. each year, and the way I see it, that is 21,000 too many.

One in four stillbirths are preventable. Every baby lost to stillbirth is a heartbreak that we can prevent, but amidst this grief, there is hope. I am humbled to be joined today by women who have endured stillbirths. These women are some of the strongest people I have ever met. Out of their pain, they have found a purpose: preventing stillbirth and ensuring expecting moms have healthy pregnancies and healthy babies.

The stillbirth rate in the U.S. is unacceptably high. By leveraging Federal resources for evidence-based care, research, and education, we will save lives and save babies. We can and we must do more for moms and their babies, and together we can end the tragedy of stillbirth.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, as a proud Latina and the daughter of a Mexican immigrant, I rise in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

September 15 kicked off a month of recognition, celebration, and reflection. We recognize the struggles and contributions of our community. We celebrate our ancestry and rich cul-

tures, and we reflect on the sacrifices Latinos have made throughout history.

Oregon's Sixth District is home to a thriving Latino community. Each year, more Latinos are starting businesses, raising families, and putting down roots in our State, however, as our community grows, so does our need for representation. I am honored to be one of the first Latinas to represent Oregon in Congress, but that is just the start.

We must break down barriers and hold the doors of opportunity open for future generations of Latino leaders because we deserve to have our voices heard wherever decisions are made—not just today, not just this month, but every single day of the year.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS). The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House, and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings or other audible conversation is in violation of the rules of the House.

WE MUST END THE DISASTROUS BORDER POLICIES

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

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, last weekend more than 20,000 illegal immigrants crossed the U.S. southern border. President Biden's only solution to historically massive border numbers is to warn migrants not to come and to claim our border is secure.

Meanwhile, the cities that migrants end up in are forced to figure out where to house them and how to care for them, and the American taxpayer is footing that bill.

So far this year, over \$200 million of Chicago's \$500 million budget deficit has gone to migrant care costs.

New York City Mayor Eric Adams, recently warned citizens that the cost of migrant care could mean cuts to city services due to a financial tsunami.

The Governor of Massachusetts has declared a state of emergency due to the onslaught.

Leaders in sanctuary cities might have asked for this crisis by offering themselves up, but the American people did not. The United States is nearly \$33 trillion in debt. Bidenomics has caused a 17 percent inflation on the American people, and 70 percent of them are now saying they are feeling financially stressed, but Biden still seems to think that taxpayers have millions to spend.

Let me say this to the administration: You can either close our border or we will close the government.

HONORING DR. NICHOLAS F.
ROBERTS, SR.

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor an extraordinary individual whose legacy has left an unforgettable mark on eastern North Carolina and the Nation—Dr. Nicholas F. Roberts, Sr.

Recently, we unveiled a historical marker, a testament to the remarkable life of Dr. Roberts, a man of significant influence. Dr. Roberts, a Shaw University alumnus, pastor, editor, and public servant, hailed from the town of Seaboard in Northampton County, North Carolina.

His dedication to education, faith, and community service set a standard that still inspires us today. I am glad to add that Dr. Roberts is also the great-grandfather of my esteemed colleague, the gentleman from Virginia, Representative BOBBY SCOTT.

As we commemorate Dr. Roberts, let us reflect on the tremendous impact one individual can have on the community and a nation. His contributions are a guiding light, reminding us that our community is only as strong as its people and our future is shaped by those who came before us.

ILLINOIS HISTORY MADE AS IT ELIMINATES CASH BAIL

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

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the proud Representative of a congressional district in Illinois, a State committed to progress, justice, safety, and human rights.

Yesterday, Illinois made history as the first State in the Nation to eliminate cash bail, a standard used to punish poverty instead of upholding justice. A standard that kept those without means, especially Black and Brown Illinoisans, in jail for months as they awaited trial, while letting slip those who could afford bail independent of the crime that they were accused of.

Some may say we are reforming our criminal justice system, but we are doing more than that. I especially thank Senator Robert Peters, who led the effort in the Illinois General Assembly. We, unlike other States, are creating a justice system that protects the victims, ensures equal due process for everyone independent of their means. The Pretrial Fairness Act is a historic win for civil rights advocates across our Nation, and it is time Congress followed Illinois' lead toward progress.

□ 1215

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE PRAMILA JAYAPAL, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable PRAMILA JAYAPAL, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 19, 2023.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MISTER SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, the Honorable Pramila Jayapal, U.S. Representative for the 7th Congressional District of Washington, have been served with a third-party subpoena to produce documents in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that only partial compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

PRAMILA JAYAPAL,
Member of Congress.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1435, PRESERVING CHOICE IN VEHICLE PURCHASES ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4365, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 680 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 680

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 1435) to amend the Clean Air Act to prevent the elimination of the sale of internal combustion engines. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

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. 4365) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as

read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived.

SEC. 3. (a) No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, amendments en bloc described in section 4 of this resolution, and pro forma amendments described in section 5 of this resolution.

(b) Each amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 5 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

(c) All points of order against amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules or against amendments en bloc described in section 4 of this resolution are waived.

SEC. 4. It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 5 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

SEC. 5. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate.

SEC. 6. 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. 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.

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

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ), my very good friend, 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. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 680.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, last week the Rules Committee met and reported out a

rule, House Resolution 680, consideration of H.R. 4365, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2024, under a structured rule.

It provides 1 hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees. It also makes in order 184 amendments; more than 75 percent of those eligible for consideration. Finally, it provides for a motion to recommit.

I rise today in support of the rule and the underlying legislation.

Mr. Speaker, our democracy remains a beacon of hope to the entire world. Billions of people across the globe look to the United States as a leader in freedom and liberty and as a protector of peace. From the very moment our Nation was conceived, a strong national defense has been a differentiator of democracy. Essential to protecting the homeland, international order, and the American people from those who would seek to do us harm, we must never lose sight of the need to maintain a strong defense.

Although our men and women in uniform give of themselves every day, they cannot do their jobs unless Congress does its job. Only Congress can provide the funding our military needs to fulfill its duties. That is our responsibility. Today we move forward with that commitment as we take up H.R. 4365, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2024. We must do our duty and make sure that our brave military members can move forward with theirs.

With evolving threats, we continue to face a struggle seen throughout time. The contest between freedom and tyranny is not far from us. From Vladimir Putin's unjust and illegal invasion of Ukraine, to China's posturing in the South China Sea, to continued threats posed by extremists and terrorists, hostile actors are looking for weakness. Yet, America's Armed Forces remain ready to meet any challenge wherever it may arise. Continuing to meet those threats requires an appropriate investment of national resources. With today's measure, we fulfill that commitment and ensure that our Armed Forces will have the resources they need to meet any foe anywhere in the world at any time.

The bill before us provides full funding for the national defense. It appropriates \$826 billion in new discretionary spending, which is a modest increase of \$300 million over the President's budget request and nearly \$29 billion, or 3.6 percent, over the fiscal year 2023 enacted level.

H.R. 4365 makes targeted investments that support critical priorities. Perhaps the most important of these priorities is to reinvest in our servicemen and -women. The bill provides a 5.2 percent pay raise for our servicemembers. For junior enlisted servicemembers, we provide an historic pay increase of an average of 30 percent, en-

suring that we not only offset the effects of President Biden's inflationary crisis for these younger and most junior servicemembers, but also ensuring that we can retain servicemembers who are at the beginning of their military careers.

I would be remiss, Mr. Speaker, not to give credit to the gentleman from California (Mr. MIKE GARCIA), my good friend and fellow defense appropriator, for this particular measure, both in the appropriations bill and, frankly, in the NDAA, as well. His work on behalf of younger servicepeople has been exemplary, relentless, and effective.

The bill also makes continued and necessary investments to ensure that we will continue to have the best equipped and best-trained fighting force now and into the future. We fund continued expansion of the Navy, making sure that we will be able to continue to protect freedom of the seas around the globe and fund development and acquisition of next-generation weapons systems.

However, it doesn't stop there, Mr. Speaker. H.R. 4365 also ensures that the Biden administration cannot continue to put politics ahead of national security. It preserves existing and longstanding bipartisan bans on taxpayer funding for abortions. It also ensures that Federal dollars cannot be used to indoctrinate our troops with progressive ideology like critical race theory training, and instead ensures that the Pentagon's focus is where it should be: on military readiness and preparedness so that our warfighters can defeat aggression and defend freedom anywhere in the world.

All in all, there is much to like in today's bill, Mr. Speaker. I look forward to advancing this measure through a robust amendment process on the floor and onward to final passage. I urge Members to support both the rule and the underlying legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chair COLE for the dignity and respect that he shows each of his colleagues on the Rules Committee. It is a great honor to be debating this rule with him this afternoon.

I must, however, rise in opposition to the rule because we only have six legislative days left to fund the government, and we are considering only one of the eleven bills that we must pass to fully fund our Federal Government.

I completely agree with our chair that our country is a beacon of hope and that we must, indeed, fund our military in the way that they need in order to continue to provide that beacon of hope and that strength that we must communicate both to our allies and those who would do us harm.

Indeed, America is facing significant security threats from a rampaging Russia, the Chinese Communist Party, and a soon-to-be nuclear North Korea. Instead of uniting us, however, against those very real threats, extreme MAGA Republicans are putting Americans at

war with each other with this divisive Defense appropriations bill.

Extreme MAGA Republicans are weakening our military readiness. In the Senate, Republicans are refusing to allow votes on flag officers, so we don't have the generals, admirals, and top military officers we need to lead our troops. Here in the House, instead of passing what should be and has historically been a bipartisan Defense appropriations bill, extreme Republicans are inserting the kitchen sink of culture war issues that we have seen too often.

Indeed, when we talk about women, this bill is another step in their march toward a national abortion ban. If this bill is enacted, a servicewoman in a State with a total abortion ban that doesn't have exceptions for rape would not be able to take leave and get help to travel to a place like New Mexico where a woman's right to receive the full access to reproductive healthcare is honored. Fourteen States have a total ban on abortion. In each of those 14 States, we will find servicewomen who are honorably serving our Nation.

In addition, this bill sets up minorities and our servicemembers who are gay, lesbian, and all individuals of the LGBTQ community to harassment.

At a moment when we know that some of our bases are under threat from climate change, this bill cuts \$714 million from climate resiliency programs. I have been to our bases in the Pacific islands, and I recognize that we must have climate resilience if we don't want our bases to be under water. By giving up on preparing for climate resiliency, we are giving up a strategic military advantage that we should take advantage of.

□ 1230

Instead of focusing on how we can improve recruitment from our diverse communities in America when we are failing to meet our recruitment goals, this appropriation prohibits funding for diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.

We know that people of color answer the call to service at disproportionately higher rates, and those numbers are not reflected in military leadership. This bill tells my Latino and Native American communities they are not valued.

Congressman NEGUSE asked the Defense Subcommittee chair why he would cut funding for the chief diversity officer, a position that he had voted to create. The chair responded that it was the best way to get attention.

That is how we legislate now, to get attention?

Last week, in the Rules Committee, we tried to remedy some of these awful and unnecessary riders. Republicans voted our amendments down.

All of these divisive riders harm our military readiness and hurt our servicemembers, servicemembers who put their lives on the line to protect us. It is never enough to just thank our servicemembers for their service. We need

to provide them with the benefits, quality of life, and respect that all of them deserve.

These extreme provisions are a trend this year, however. Perhaps that is the reason we have passed only one appropriations bill under Republican leadership in the House this year.

This Defense appropriations bill is the only one that we appear to be considering today. We are not considering a short-term funding package to ensure our government doesn't shut down. We are not considering something to cover all the appropriations bills.

Today, we are considering the Defense appropriations bill, and it should be focused solely on national security. It should be about making sure our Nation has the best and brightest force. It should be about serving all the individuals who protect us.

We should be unified in making sure our servicemembers have the resources they need and the respect they deserve. Instead, this bill attacks access to reproductive healthcare for our servicewomen and their families. It devalues the minorities, the Latinos, Black Americans, Native Americans, who serve and are looking for us to help them address the racism that still exists, unfortunately.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I begin by returning my deep respect, my deep regards, to my good friend from New Mexico. It has been a delight to have her on the Rules Committee, and we have found a lot of common ground working on Native American issues, where, frankly, she is an acknowledged national expert. I look forward to a long and good relationship with my friend.

When it comes to this rule and bill, obviously, we have disagreements. Let me talk first about the point my friend makes about timing and how many bills have gotten done and where we are in the process. There is actually a great deal that I agree with her on.

Sadly, we ought to also remember the Democratic Congress of last year didn't finish the appropriations process until December. If you looked at it the year before, it didn't finish until March the next year, after the end of the fiscal year. Being late around here is not new for either party, but our friends set the standard last time, I think. We will see how we end up.

My friend made a comment that we had only done one bill. I will say that is one more than the Democratic United States Senators managed to do.

The reality is the Senate didn't produce, under Democratic control, any bills for the last 2 years—none out of subcommittee, none out of full committee, none across the floor.

We are dealing with a very difficult body on the other side of the rotunda. These timing issues, hopefully, we can all get better at this and work to-

gether. I actually think we have something this year in the debt ceiling agreement that will be helpful in that regard.

The reality is if we don't get our work done by January 1, which is about the time Democrats got their work done last year, we will have a yearlong CR with a 1 percent across-the-board cut.

I don't know any appropriator on either side of the aisle who wants to see that happen. I don't think most people who care deeply about the defense of the United States do. We have some forcing mechanisms in place. Hopefully, we will continue to make some better progress there.

In terms of my friend's point about divisive social policy, I will point out where this started. It is the executive branch that made decisions to do things much differently than we have done before, and usually with no consultation with the Congress of the United States.

Most of the things my friend disagrees with we consider corrective of executive overreach, including violation of the Hyde amendment, which is essentially, in my view, what the Department of Defense has decided on its own to do without discussion or consultation with the Congress of the United States. That is unfortunate. That is something, hopefully, we can work through and resolve in the months ahead.

I will also say that we are just very different in terms of where we think the focus ought to be. This bill focuses on weapons acquisition, training, and readiness. We live in a very dangerous world. We think there is a big difference, for instance, between climate resilience and actively pushing climate change legislation, which we believe the original administration budget does.

We want to refocus on the things that we think matter. We are not going to beat our adversaries if, God forbid, we find ourselves in a contest with any of them and our forces aren't well trained, aren't well armed, and aren't well prepared for the challenges they are going to face. That should be the main focus of the Department of Defense. We think the administration has lost its focus. We see this bill as a useful corrective.

Finally, I point out to my friends on both sides of the aisle that, quite frankly, whatever we pass, we are going to sit down and negotiate with the United States Senate and with the President of the United States. As my friends know, the Democrats control the United States Senate, and we have a Democrat as the President of the United States. Wherever we end up, it is going to be a process of give-and-take and discussion, but it is important that the House have an opening position.

The last point to make on this is if we get this bill across the floor—and I do say "if" because there is some con-

troversy about whether or not we will make it, even on our own side. Even though nobody disagrees with the rule or disagrees with the bill, they have other points sometimes they want to make. Sadly, it shouldn't be with this bill. However, my friends never got the Defense bill across the floor by themselves when they were in the majority. There were too many divisions and splits within their Caucus to even bring it to the floor.

If we manage to get this bill across the floor, we will actually, in that single action, have moved across the floor a larger percentage of the discretionary budget of the United States than my friends were ever able to do when they were in the majority.

It is a complex bill, over half of the discretionary spending of the United States. There are lots of barriers and flash points where we disagree, but it is important that we continue the dialogue and the motion forward.

I think we have the opportunity, in passing the rule and the underlying legislation, to do that today, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote accordingly.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am also thinking about last week's committee hearing and this discussion about the history of where we were with regard to the appropriations process. I think there is a very different mood this year than we had in the last cycle, and that is the fact that Democrats have never called to shut it down. That is exactly what we are hearing from Republicans on the other side of the aisle.

We never took that position. We were always trying to work it out, not shut it down. Even though we might not have passed all the bills by September 30, we were working across the aisle with our colleagues, working with the Senate on the other side, so we never had a shutdown. What we had was constant movement toward an agreement.

Indeed, the passed appropriations bills passed with overwhelming bipartisan support, both in the Senate and the House. We had hundreds of Republicans voting with the Democrats to pass the last appropriations bills.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), the ranking member of the Committee on Rules and my good friend, who I hold in high regard.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of a bipartisan amendment that is made in order and will be offered by Representatives GAETZ and JACOBS to prohibit the transfer of cluster munitions.

Since 2009, the United States has refused to use, produce, transfer, or sell cluster munitions. As a Nation, we could take pride in this decision.

Cluster munitions are indiscriminate weapons. They explode when touched

by a soldier, a farmer, or a child. They contaminate an entire field of combat, and they remain a deadly threat long past the end of a conflict. Rain and other events can move them from where they first landed to who knows where.

Yet, the Biden administration recently chose to send cluster munitions to Ukraine. I condemn Russia's use of cluster munitions on Ukraine, but two evils do not add up to a greater good. The United States should not have provided cluster munitions to Ukraine, and this amendment is necessary to ensure such a transfer does not happen again.

I also support this amendment because it is not specific to Ukraine. Now that the United States has opened the door to using cluster munitions, we have no idea where else the U.S. might decide to send them.

An international treaty exists to ban cluster munitions. Mr. Speaker, 112 countries have ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions since May 2008, and 12 more have signed. Nigeria ratified the convention on February 28, and South Sudan did so on August 3.

The United States and Russia are not parties to the treaty, and now each of us has brought these terrible weapons into play inside Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, the only thing that can undermine the ban on cluster munitions is the willingness of governments to use or transfer these terrible, indiscriminate weapons.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Gaetz-Jacobs amendment and prohibit the United States from any further transfers of cluster munitions.

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

Mr. Speaker, I both agree and disagree with my friend from New Mexico about shutting down the government. I personally could not agree more with her. I think it is a dumb thing to do. I think it is a dangerous thing to do.

I have never favored shutting down the government, and I have argued against it. The tactic doesn't work. I think it won't work this time. The American people expect us to keep the essential services of government going while we negotiate and get to a final solution.

I will correct my friend on one thing. The Democrats have shut down the government. Frankly, they shut it down over DACA in 2017.

Now, I always hand the Democrats this: When they shut it down or do something stupid, they are pretty quick to realize it, and they back off. I think they shut it down on a Friday and reopened it on a Monday, but they did indeed shut it down.

It is simply an inappropriate tool in the toolbox, in my opinion. I have seen both sides use it. My side, sadly, has used it more. I hope we don't do it this time.

Certainly, the great majority of our Members and the Speaker do not want

to see a shutdown, and I think they have made that apparent over and over again.

I hadn't particularly intended to comment on the ranking member's amendment because I know how passionately my good friend feels about this. I respect those feelings. Honestly, I respect the feelings of all those who hold that view.

I find myself in the unusual position of agreeing with President Biden when my good friend, the ranking member, is disagreeing with him. It shows it is not really a partisan issue. I think it is an issue of judgment.

I have no doubt the President of the United States agonized before making this decision. It was clearly a decision he did not want to make, but I think he was compelled by two factors that probably decided the case for him, although I don't presume to speak for the President.

Number one, we ought to always remember the enemies of Ukraine, Russia, introduced these weapons on the other side first and was using those weapons indiscriminately.

Second, Ukraine is using these weapons in defense of its own territory and its own people in its own territory. That is not what the Russians are doing. They are aggressively, on the other side, using these in another country.

Finally, again, just to be fair about the President's dilemma, we have used an extraordinary amount of ammunition trying to support Ukraine. I think we have some strains on our own stockpiles, and I suspect that was part of the decisionmaking. When you are in a war, you are in it to win it.

Frankly, it was not the Ukrainians or the Americans that introduced this first. It was not the Ukrainians or the Americans or the European allies, who were there in vast numbers, that started this conflict. It is to the advantage of all that it ends as quickly as it can. The level of casualties on both sides is horrific, but the person who bears responsibility is Vladimir Putin. Frankly, the country that is the aggressor is Russia, and I am not going to begrudge the Ukrainians for getting what they need.

As critical as I can sometimes be of President Biden, I will certainly not criticize him in this case because I think, in this case, he reluctantly made a tough decision, a decision he probably didn't want to make, but I think he made it for the right reasons. Therefore, I won't be supporting my friend's amendment later on today.

□ 1245

Although, again, I am glad we were able to make it in order. I think it is an important issue for us to discuss, and I look forward to a very vigorous debate on that later this afternoon.

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

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

As we just noted, the chair of the committee has once again showed both his dignity and respect to his colleagues.

I do want to point out that you are right, I did forget about that 72-hour shutdown because it was very brief, and I agree with you, it is a stupid thing to do. No, I am sorry, I think you said it is a dumb thing to do, and it is because it causes so much pain for the people back home. They expect us to do our job, and the primary thing we are supposed to do is fund our government because it is not just the really hard-working employees who keep our airplanes flying in the air, who make sure that our food is inspected so we don't get sick, it is also the teachers in our schools who receive Title I funding in New Mexico.

So many of my schools receive Title I funding. Those are the schools that have the fewest resources, so the Federal Government helps them out to make sure all our children, wherever they live, can get a good education. Those are the things that will be lost if we shut down the Federal Government.

I point out that in contrast to the 72 hours, in 1995 under Republican leadership, 21 days the government was shut down; in 2013 the government was shut down for 16 days; and then in 2018 they shut it down for 35 days. This is a refrain we hear over and over again. It happens under House Republican leadership so often as we just saw.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. SALINAS), a wonderful Member of our freshman class this year.

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good colleague from New Mexico for her leadership and for yielding me some time.

Mr. Speaker, each year, hundreds of Oregonians die after overdosing on fentanyl. This drug has torn communities apart, from Salem to Sheridan and everywhere in between. It is not just our State. It is all across the U.S.

Fentanyl and other synthetic opioids account for more than 85 percent of all opioid-involved deaths in the U.S. This is an issue that harms all of us, and I think Members of both parties can agree that stemming the flow of these drugs into our communities is a bipartisan imperative.

The appropriations process is one of our best opportunities to deliver critical funding to the organizations and agencies on the front lines of this fentanyl fight.

Yet sadly, this process has been needlessly politicized by far-right politicians who would rather notch political victories than policy ones—and this shameful Defense appropriations bill is a prime example of that.

By attaching anti-LGBTQ2SIA+ and anti-choice riders to this bill, extremists in this body have turned what should be a straightforward funding package into a political wedge issue.

That needless politicization is especially concerning, given that this piece

of legislation contains critical funding to stop the flow of fentanyl into our country.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot afford to let politics stand in the way of our fight against the fentanyl epidemic. As a new Member of this esteemed body, I did not come here for political gamesmanship. We should all be prioritizing people over partisanship.

This is an all-hands-on-deck emergency, and I urge my colleagues to dispense with their partisan antics and focus on passing government funding legislation that meets the moment and delivers for all of our communities.

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

Again, there are some areas where I agree with my good friends and some areas where I disagree. Nobody disagrees on the importance of the fentanyl crisis and the importance of dealing in any way we can through whatever means we have with those who engage in trafficking that illegal drug that has killed tens of thousands of Americans.

Quite frankly, I suspect later this week or next week we will give our friends the opportunity to work with us on homeland security measures that will deal with just that.

I would point to, frankly, the abject failure of the Biden administration to defend the southern border. The green light that has been put out there is a huge cost for this massive influx of drugs into our own country.

We passed H.R. 2 on this floor, Mr. Speaker, to try and deal with that, and we are going to provide our friends with some opportunities where maybe we can find some common ground. You can be pro-immigration and pro-border security at the same time. I think this administration has had a hard time doing that, and quite frankly, most of the policies that it reversed—whether it was building the wall or remain in Mexico—from the last administration were effective. You can tell by the record numbers of illegal entries we have, the record amount of trafficking we have in drugs, and sadly, in human beings across the border to know that the Biden border policy, which my friends have supported, has been a disaster. It is one that, again, we hope they not only recognize that disaster, but will work with us to correct some of those measures.

Again, I am going to agree with my friend from New Mexico. I don't believe in shutting down the government. I know we occasionally have some people who believe that, although it is a very small number, it can be a very influential number in a House that is very narrowly divided.

We are going to provide some opportunities both to our own Members and to our colleagues on the other side to avoid that and to negotiate in good faith, but again, I just reiterate a point where I know my friend and I agree: It is not an appropriate tool. It does not work. I would hope that we can avoid that.

We also need to sit down and work together where we can, and there are a lot of areas in this bill that we can work on.

The last point I will make—my friends talk about the conflicts that we have in the Defense bill—remember, we had a conflict in the last Congress when my friends in the House tried to unilaterally overturn the Hyde language, a bipartisan agreement that goes all the way back to 1975 or 1976, as I recall, Mr. Speaker, and when that was struck, there were less than 150 Republicans in the House, so it was genuinely bipartisan. It wasn't just something we crammed down.

My friends have changed their mind over the issue of using Federal dollars for abortion over the years. We have not changed our position, and we were able to beat that back even when we were in the minority because, at the end of the day, they couldn't pass the bills without Republican support.

I think the administration has tried to go around Congress in this case and use Federal dollars without congressional consent to facilitate abortion, other than in cases where we are talking about rape, incest, or the life of the mother. We have no debate over the appropriate use of Federal dollars in those cases. We do in others. It doesn't mean people can't travel; we just shouldn't be using Federal dollars in this area. That is a longstanding principle that I would argue the Biden administration is trying to subvert.

By the way, it is a principle that President Biden, until 2019 when he was running for President, accepted throughout his entire career. He was a champion of that until 2019 when his own party moved so far left he had to change his longstanding position in pursuit of the nomination.

Again, this is politics, people are allowed to do what they want, but please don't chastise us for being consistent with a position we assumed in 1975 and have not changed. It is our friends who have changed their mind on this issue, and frankly, it is the administration that tried to subvert the will and the authority of Congress by moving around it.

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

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

The concern that we have with the bill with regards to a woman's right to be able to determine for herself in conversation with her own faith, her own family, and her own doctors what kind of reproductive healthcare she wants access to is the fact that this bill would prevent servicewomen and their families from taking paid leave or traveling to obtain an abortion or related services if those services are not provided where she is assigned.

Remember, servicewomen don't get to choose where they live and where they work. There have already been multiple legal opinions that using paid

leave and traveling and getting assistance to get to a State where you can get medical care does not violate the Hyde amendment.

Indeed, the Hyde amendment would allow you to get that kind of care if you were raped. Well, guess what? In 14 States if you were raped, you cannot get that care. That would violate the Hyde amendment in a sense when you cannot get access to it.

Last week in the Rules Committee, Representative MCCOLLUM told the story of a woman in Texas who was told by her doctor that she would not perform a surgical procedure to remove a dead fetus because of the State's abortion ban. That servicewoman did not have the options she was entitled to.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to enter into the RECORD the 2023 New York Times article: "As Abortion Laws Drive Obstetricians From Red States, Maternity Care Suffers."

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

There was no objection.

[From the New York Times, Sept. 6, 2023]

AS ABORTION LAWS DRIVE OBSTETRICIANS FROM RED STATES, MATERNITY CARE SUFFERS

(By Sheryl Gay Stolberg)

One by one, doctors who handle high-risk pregnancies are disappearing from Idaho—part of a wave of obstetricians fleeing restrictive abortion laws and a hostile state legislature. Dr. Caitlin Gustafson, a family doctor who also delivers babies in the tiny mountain town of McCall, is among those left behind, facing a lonely and uncertain future.

When caring for patients with pregnancy complications, Dr. Gustafson seeks counsel from maternal-fetal medicine specialists in Boise, the state capital two hours away. But two of the experts she relied on as backup have packed up their young families and moved away, one to Minnesota and the other to Colorado.

All told, more than a dozen labor and delivery doctors—including five of Idaho's nine longtime maternal-fetal experts—will have either left or retired by the end of this year. Dr. Gustafson says the departures have made a bad situation worse, depriving both patients and doctors of moral support and medical advice.

"I wanted to work in a small family town and deliver babies," she said. "I was living my dream—until all of this."

Idaho's obstetrics exodus is not happening in isolation. Across the country, in red states like Texas, Oklahoma and Tennessee, obstetricians—including highly skilled doctors who specialize in handling complex and risky pregnancies—are leaving their practices. Some newly minted doctors are avoiding states like Idaho.

The departures may result in new maternity care deserts, or areas that lack any maternity care, and they are placing strains on physicians like Dr. Gustafson who are left behind. The effects are particularly pronounced in rural areas, where many hospitals are shuttering obstetrics units for economic reasons. Restrictive abortion laws, experts say, are making that problem much worse.

"This isn't an issue about abortion," said Dr. Stella Dantas, the president-elect of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. "This is an issue about access to

comprehensive obstetric and gynecologic care. When you restrict access to care that is based in science, that everybody should have access to—that has a ripple effect.”

Idaho doctors operate under a web of abortion laws, including a 2020 “trigger law” that went into effect after the Supreme Court eliminated the constitutional right to abortion by overturning *Roe v. Wade* last year. Together, they create one of the strictest abortion bans in the nation. Doctors who primarily provide abortion care are not the only medical professionals affected; the laws are also impinging on doctors whose primary work is to care for expectant mothers and babies, and who may be called upon to terminate a pregnancy for complications or other reasons.

Idaho bars abortion at any point in a pregnancy with just two exceptions: when it is necessary to save the life of the mother and in certain cases of rape or incest, though the victim must provide a police report. A temporary order issued by a federal judge also permits abortion in some circumstances when a woman’s health is at risk. Doctors convicted of violating the ban face two to five years in prison.

Dr. Gustafson, 51, has so far decided to stick it out in Idaho. She has been practicing in the state for 20 years, 17 of them in McCall, a stunning lakeside town of about 3,700 people.

She sees patients at the Payette Lakes Medical Clinic, a low-slung building that evokes the feeling of a mountain lodge, tucked into a grove of tall spruces and pines. It is affiliated with St. Luke’s Health System, the largest health system in the state.

On a recent morning, she was awakened at 5 a.m. by a call from a hospital nurse. A pregnant woman, two months shy of her due date, had a ruptured membrane. In common parlance, the patient’s water had broken, putting the mother and baby at risk for preterm delivery and other complications.

Dr. Gustafson threw on her light blue scrubs and her pink Crocs and rushed to the hospital to arrange for a helicopter to take the woman to Boise. She called the maternal-fetal specialty practice at St. Luke’s Boise Medical Center, the group she has worked with for years. She did not know the doctor who was to receive the patient. He had been in Idaho for only one week.

“Welcome to Idaho,” she told him.

In rural states, strong medical networks are critical to patients’ well-being. Doctors are not interchangeable widgets; they build up experience and a comfort level in working with one another and within their health care systems. Ordinarily, Dr. Gustafson might have found herself talking to Dr. Kylie Cooper or Dr. Lauren Miller on that day.

But Dr. Cooper left St. Luke’s in April for Minnesota. After “many agonizing months of discussion,” she said, she concluded that “the risk was too big for me and my family.”

Dr. Miller, who had founded the Idaho Coalition for Safe Reproductive Health Care, an advocacy group, moved to Colorado. It is one thing to pay for medical malpractice insurance, she said, but quite another to worry about criminal prosecution.

“I was always one of those people who had been super calm in emergencies,” Dr. Miller said. “But I was finding that I felt very anxious being on the labor unit, just not knowing if somebody else was going to second-guess my decision. That’s not how you want to go to work every day.”

The vacancies have been tough to fill. Dr. James Souza, the chief physician executive for St. Luke’s Health System, said the state’s laws had “had a profound chilling effect on recruitment and retention.” He is relying in part on temporary, roving doctors

known as locums—short for the Latin phrase *locum tenens*, which means to stand in place of.

He likens labor and delivery care to a pyramid, supported by nurses, midwives and doctors, with maternal-fetal specialists at its apex. He worries the system will collapse.

“The loss of the top of a clinical pyramid means the pyramid falls apart,” Dr. Souza said.

Some smaller hospitals in Idaho have been unable to withstand the strain. Two closed their labor and delivery units this year; one of them, Bonner General Health, a 25-bed hospital in Sandpoint, in northern Idaho, cited the state’s “legal and political climate” and the departure of “highly respected, talented physicians” as factors that contributed to its decision.

Other states are also seeing obstetricians leave. In Oklahoma, where more than half of the state’s counties are considered maternity care deserts, three-quarters of obstetrician-gynecologists who responded to a recent survey said they were either planning to leave, considering leaving or would leave if they could, said Dr. Angela Hawkins, the chair of the Oklahoma section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

The previous chair, Dr. Kate Arnold, and her wife, also an obstetrician, moved to Washington, D.C., after the Supreme Court overturned *Roe* in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*. “Before the change in political climate, we had no plans on leaving,” Dr. Arnold said.

In Tennessee, where one-third of counties are considered maternity care deserts, Dr. Leilah Zahedi-Sprung, a maternal-fetal specialist, decided to move to Colorado not long after the *Dobbs* ruling. She grew up in the South and felt guilty about leaving, she said.

Tennessee’s abortion ban, which was softened slightly this year, initially required an “affirmative defense,” meaning that doctors faced the burden of proving that an abortion they had performed was medically necessary—akin to the way a defendant in a homicide case might have to prove he or she acted in self-defense. Dr. Zahedi-Sprung felt as if she had “quite the target on my back,” she said—so much so that she hired her own criminal defense lawyer.

“The majority of patients who came to me had highly wanted, highly desired pregnancies,” she said. “They had names, they had baby showers, they had nurseries. And I told them something awful about their pregnancy that made sure they were never going to take home that child—or that they would be sacrificing their lives to do that. I sent everybody out of state. I was unwilling to put myself at risk.”

Perhaps nowhere has the departure of obstetricians been as pronounced as in Idaho, where Dr. Gustafson has been helping to lead an organized—but only minimally successful—effort to change the state’s abortion laws, which have convinced her that state legislators do not care what doctors think. “Many of us feel like our opinion is being discounted,” she said.

Dr. Gustafson worked one day a month at a Planned Parenthood clinic in a Boise suburb until Idaho imposed its near-total abortion ban; she now has a similar arrangement with Planned Parenthood in Oregon, where some Idahoans travel for abortion care. She has been a plaintiff in several lawsuits challenging Idaho’s abortion policies. Earlier this year, she spoke at an abortion rights rally in front of the State Capitol.

In interviews, two Republican state lawmakers—Representatives Meqan Blanksma, the House majority leader, and John Vander Woude, the chair of the House Health and Welfare Committee—said they were trying

to address doctors’ concerns. Mr. Vander Woude acknowledged that Idaho’s trigger law, written before *Roe* fell, had affected everyday medical practice in a way that lawmakers had not anticipated.

“We never looked that close, and what exactly that bill said and how it was written and language that was in it,” he said. “We did that thinking *Roe v. Wade* was never going to get overturned. And then when it got overturned, we said, ‘OK, now we have to take a really close look at the definitions.’”

Mr. Vander Woude also dismissed doctors’ fears that they would be prosecuted, and he expressed doubt that obstetricians were really leaving the state. “I don’t see any doctor ever getting prosecuted,” he said, adding, “Show me the doctors that have left.”

During its 2023 session, the Legislature clarified that terminating an ectopic pregnancy or a molar pregnancy, a rare complication, would not be defined as abortion—a move that codified an Idaho Supreme Court ruling. Lawmakers also eliminated an affirmative defense provision.

But lawmakers refused to extend the tenure of the state’s Maternal Mortality Review Committee, an expert panel on which Dr. Gustafson served that investigated pregnancy-related deaths. The Idaho Freedom Foundation, a conservative group, testified against it and later called it an “unnecessary waste of tax dollars”—even though the annual cost, about \$15,000, was picked up by the federal government.

That was a bridge too far for Dr. Amelia Huntsberger, the Idaho obstetrician who helped lead a push to create the panel in 2019. She recently moved to Oregon. “Idaho calls itself a quote ‘pro-life state,’ but the Idaho Legislature doesn’t care about the death of moms,” she said.

Most significantly, the Legislature rejected a top priority of Dr. Gustafson and others in her field: amending state law so that doctors would be able to perform abortions when the health—not just the life—of the mother is at risk. It was almost too much for Dr. Gustafson. She loves living in Idaho, she said. But when asked if she had thought about leaving, her answer was quick: “Every day.”

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Because what has changed is that now we have 14 States that have total bans on abortion, so we must do more to honor our commitment to our servicewomen.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. This is a question, Mr. Speaker, of readiness. That is what we believe in. That is what a Defense appropriations bill is. It is grounded in the readiness of the most powerful Armed Forces in the world. It is to ensure that they are ready.

Unfortunately for the Defense appropriations, we are being forced to put this bill on the floor today by the majority. It is unbelievable that they would cut vital civilian positions when the department is struggling to meet its readiness goals.

Civilians are a crucial part of ensuring that our men and women, our combat soldiers, are ready to serve around the world.

These are hateful policies. They want to undermine and attack the LGBTQ+ community, who have served in valor. We know them well. They have served without question. They have worn the uniform without question.

It is to stop a logistical provision that has nothing to do with abortion. It is to allow for that military person to receive reproductive medical services, which may come to be in many different facets; to ensure that someone is able to ensure the reproductive life that they may desire to have.

How ludicrous is it in this emerging, wonderful, diverse Nation that many look to as a place and a bastion of freedom, that we would eliminate funding for diversity, equity, and inclusion; that we eliminate climate change to ensure that our vehicles are well equipped for the new generation; that we would not ensure, again, that our personnel, our families get the medical care that they desire?

Mr. Speaker, what have we done in years past? We have provided Defense appropriations to be able to support our military. We now have a bill on the floor that is undermining our military. I am saddened by this. I am grateful for the Triple-Negative amendment that has been allowed to be in providing for breast cancer, and I look forward to that amendment.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the rule governing House consideration of H.R. 4365, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2024.

I oppose the rule, and the underlying legislation, for the following reasons:

1. The bill, which should be earnestly attempting to best support the Department of Defense, is being used by Republicans to sneak partisan and damaging policies under our noses.

2. The underlying bill does not reflect the input of nearly half the Members of this body and is strongly opposed by the ranking members who sit on the very committee this bill originated from.

Mr. Speaker, in order to further promote a culture war, the Members who oversaw this bill are going to put many Americans at risk.

First, they are targeting the many brave servicewomen currently employed by the Department of Defense by directly going against the Secretary of Defense's promises for them to have access to reproductive healthcare regardless of their station.

Women currently make up one in five members of our military.

Denying them their previously promised ability to check their reproductive health is not only dangerous, but also grossly irresponsible.

The loss of these rights also increases the risk for low retention amongst female servicemembers who need these benefits this bill would strip away.

Second, the bill targets the LGBTQ+ community, who are increasingly victimized by Republican agendas around the country.

Regardless of your beliefs, it is important to treat everyone with respect and equality, which this bill does not do.

This bill would prohibit hormone therapy or surgical treatment for gender affirming care, directly affecting those who experience gender dysphoria.

Individuals who feel they do not belong in their own body is a serious issue and has led to one in five transgender and nonbinary young people attempting suicide in the past year.

Our priority as the legislative body of this country is to protect the wellbeing of all citi-

zens, regardless of personal beliefs and ideologies.

The language in this legislation would further embolden those who wish to commit harm and violence against a minority group already facing so much hardship, both socially and legally.

This is unacceptable.

The lives and wellbeing of those who live across the country should not be put at risk simply to push a regressive agenda that does not promote the diversity of our Nation but rather seeks to suppress it.

This brings me to my third point, which is the underhanded way the sponsors of the bill sought to eliminate Critical Race Theory.

Let me be clear: Republicans have a warped understanding of what this term means, and they are using it as a means to remove any diversity in education.

Critical Race Theory is a collegiate field of study that examines the complex ways in which race fits into the structures of our society.

Critical Race Theory is not an attack on white people for their history, just as it does not victimize Black people based on ours.

Based on an incorrect definition, Republican leaders at all levels of government have worked to eliminate all diverse viewpoints providing a complete framework of the history of this country, and instead wash over the negative to present a false narrative.

At the same time, legislation aimed at elementary schools against Critical Race Theory—which again, is only offered at the collegiate level—deprives diverse students of hearing their voice reflected accurately in the history of this multicultural Nation.

Another issue with this bill is the cut of \$714 million to adapt military equipment to be more climate friendly.

Climate change is a crisis that requires global attention and efforts.

The refusal to even allow for updating our military alternative source of energy is regressive and promoted under a false message.

It was not Biden who indicated that he wanted an "all electric" fleet of tanks as is commonly stated, but rather the United States Army.

This part of the bill stands directly in the way of innovation as well as keeping us from doing our part in the world to strive towards a net zero future.

In 2020 alone, the United States military was responsible for 51 million tons of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere; more than most countries.

But now, when the U.S. Army decides for themselves that they want to scale back on their emissions, certain Members in Congress want to limit their choice.

One bright spot of this bill—though it is short-lived—is the Jackson Lee amendment #233 that was made in order by the committee.

The Jackson Lee amendment #233 seeks to allocate \$10 million to fund triple negative breast cancer research.

This issue is extremely important, especially for the brave men and women in the military, who are up to 20–40% more likely to develop breast cancer.

I must offer my appreciation to both the military and the Biden administration for making research into breast cancer a priority, but there is still work to be done.

This amendment would allow for more research so we can one day hopefully learn a

way to reduce the number of military personnel affected by breast cancer.

Several initiatives I have designed in the past have aided active-duty service-men and -women along with veterans, such as enforcing accurate reporting of maternity mortality rates among the Armed Forces, addressing physical and mental health concerns, and securing authorization for triple negative breast cancer as well as post-traumatic stress disorder.

I am very proud of the work that Congress and I have done to address the health concerns of active-duty and veteran service-men and -women, but there are still improvements to be made.

The men and women who are on the front lines or have already completed their valiant service to this country have many pressing issues and challenges they already must face; breast cancer should not be one of them.

While this amendment is important, the negatives of this bill vastly outweigh the positives.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

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

Nobody is arguing against diversity in the military. The American military has actually usually been the leader in this area, whether it was desegregation or certainly addressing the inequities between men and women, and we haven't gotten it right, but I think broadly it has worked in the right direction and quite often ahead of the rest of society.

The real problem here is we want to focus on training and weapons, not on culture wars. We think the administration has gone around Congress in some cases—the Hyde amendment being one of them. My friends have their lawyers, we have our lawyers. I guess they will go to court and sort that out.

□ 1300

There wasn't any consultation with the Congress, any discussion on this. That was a decision made unilaterally by the administration. I think Congress has every right to be consulted. They don't have money by their own right in the executive branch. They have what we give them for the purposes that are specified by the Congress of the United States. They don't get to just make it up on their own.

I know there was at least some discussion back and forth where people warned: Don't open this door without a discussion and without a green light from Congress. That didn't occur, and so we are in this discussion.

Now, over the course of reaching a bill, I suspect we will find some sort of solution or work it through one way or the other. I hope we do, because I don't think anything is more important, in what I think is a very dangerous world, than equipping, training, and preparing the men and women who protect us all.

On that, we have a lot more common ground than division. Again, I think this was a choice by the administration. It provoked a response by Congress. We will try to work it through

by normal legislative means and see where we end up.

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

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. MCCLELLAN).

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to follow up on the negative impact that the restrictions on funding for travel to receive abortion services will have on our servicemembers and their families, women of childbearing years.

Unfortunately, in the South, between New Mexico and Virginia, you have a ban on abortion. In some cases total, and in some cases there are exceptions for rape or the life of the mother, but the mother's life has to be on the verge of death. Unfortunately, in these States, they make no distinction between miscarriage management, and they apply to cases, like you heard, where there has been fetal demise and a miscarriage. If you do not remove the fetal tissue, then the mother can go septic and die. If she loses her amniotic fluid and you do not terminate that pregnancy, she can go septic and die.

I represent a State that has over 170,000 Federal employees and 130,000 Active-Duty military personnel. With the Hyde amendment in place, we are already telling pregnant people in that situation: You have to pay for that service yourself. Their insurance won't pay for it. Many hospitals will consider them uninsured and won't let them have those procedures in the hospital, so they have to go find a clinic which, in many cases, is getting harder.

Now, if they are in a State that has banned abortion in that situation, they have got to, on top of that, pay to travel somewhere where they can get, in some cases, lifesaving care. In addition, we have seen that these abortion bans have led to fewer OB/GYNs in those States.

How are we going to recruit women of childbearing years when we say to them: If you get the worst news ever in your life, that you have suffered a miscarriage or you have to choose between your life or continuing a pregnancy, when you are already willing to make the ultimate sacrifice to keep this country safe, you are on your own. That is what this bill with that amendment will do.

Our servicemen and -women deserve better. In a country that already has an atrocious maternal mortality rate, this will lead to even more maternal deaths. I don't know how we are going to recruit the women that we need.

I don't have enough time to talk about how the anti-DEI amendments will make it harder to recruit a service force that is as fully diverse as the country they serve, but this amendment, in particular, will be dangerous for our military servicewomen or families of our servicemen. That is why I ask that we vote against the rule.

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

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), our ranking member on the Rules Committee.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding so I can vent a little bit.

Mr. Speaker, I just saw a Roll Call story that is reporting that Republicans are pulling their continuing resolution today to weigh more cuts. I mean, are you kidding me? Their crummy CR contained an 8 percent across-the-board cut in almost every program that helps people, everything from medical research, WIC, Head Start, housing. Even border security is cut by 8 percent. The only thing that is exempt is the military budget, the biggest bureaucracy in our government.

They are okay with cutting fuel assistance for poor people by 65 percent. Money to help people be able to heat their homes in the winter, they are okay with cutting that, but they believe you can't find one penny of savings in a missile system in the Pentagon with huge cost overruns. I mean, it is pathetic. As the Republican whip said: The patients are running the hospital around here.

The gentleman from Oklahoma said this is about a negotiation. My Republican friends can't even negotiate with themselves, and we have 11 days to go before there is a shutdown, and they are going in the wrong direction. It has become more and more difficult to get to an agreement.

Enough, I mean, enough. The Republican leadership of this House is incompetent. They are so incompetent; it takes my breath away. They are letting the clowns run the circus. It is time the Speaker of the House develop a spine and stand up to the most extreme elements on the Republican side and actually sit down and negotiate an agreement that deals with the reality of our government.

The Republicans only control barely just one branch of our government, the House. The Senate is under Democratic control. The White House is run by a Democrat. You are going to have to negotiate, and you are moving in the wrong direction. Time is running out. Stop this nonsense. Get serious. Get to the negotiating table. Enough of this.

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

I have great affection and respect for my friend, the ranking member and formerly the chairman of the full Rules Committee.

I will start where I began this debate. Remember, my friends, Democrats didn't finish the appropriations process on their side until December of last year, and Democrats controlled all three parts of government. They had the Senate, the House, and the Presidency, and they didn't get done until December. The year before that, they didn't get done until March of the year after.

I wish the process went easier and smoother as well, but I don't think it

goes much differently, regardless of who happens to be in control. I do think that we are trying to make some progress here.

Now, my friends are worried about what is cut. They ought to be worried about what was spent. We are running a \$1.7 trillion deficit. That deficit is bigger than the entire discretionary budget of the United States of America. It is not just bigger than the defense budget; it is bigger than everything.

It got a lot worse when my friends controlled the executive branch and both houses of Congress. You did over \$3 trillion worth of spending outside the normal appropriations process; \$1.9 trillion for an unneeded American Rescue Plan when we were coming out of COVID, roughly \$700 billion from the much-misnamed Inflation Reduction Act, which even the President now says was misnamed because it really had to do more with climate change. That was money we didn't have, money that fueled inflation that made life worse for every single American.

I don't even get to the knockoffs, like transportation bills that don't pay for themselves. I had voted for every other major transportation agreement in my time here, two of them under President Obama, but they paid for themselves either through gasoline taxes or ticket fees, what have you. Now, we have got a trillion dollars here, but it is not enough. We will just throw another several hundred billion dollars on in debt. We are paying for that now.

I am not going to be critical of my party for trying to push down some of the spending; \$1.7 trillion this year. You guys can't find anywhere to cut.

Now you want to talk about defense? I am happy to talk about defense. My dad was a career noncommissioned officer at the height of the Cold War. You know what we spent on defense then? Fifty percent of the Federal budget, 9 percent of the GDP. You know what we spent during the great Reagan buildup? Six percent of the GDP, about a third of the Federal budget. You know what we spend today? About 3 percent of the GDP and about 15 percent of the budget.

Believe me, there has been an explosion of domestic spending over the decades, largely driven by my friends, and it is unsustainable. We cannot stay on the path we are on.

We can argue about this or that. I have a bill I would invite my friend to look at, try and go back and do with Social Security what we did in 1983 on a bipartisan basis. We need to start getting the spending under control. The spending that is driving us out of balance is largely not in the Pentagon. It is largely in entitlement spending, which I would be the first to say that both sides have been reluctant to deal with. Neither of the last two Presidents have been willing. This President actually voted for a Social Security commission that reformed and stabilized it when he was a Senator. Now,

the White House rules these things out. No, we can't talk about it, can't do it. By the way, his predecessor was exactly the same, so Republican and Democrat alike.

I would love to be more restrained in the spending, and I think that is what my colleagues are trying to do, even when I don't always agree with the tactics they use. They are motivated in the right direction, which is to deal with a \$1.7 trillion deficit.

We are trying to make some appropriate decisions. Again, we work in the legislative process. I remind my friends, they control two-thirds of it. By the way, the Defense bill last year, which was passed almost exclusively with Democratic votes, the omni, to be fair, actually had a larger increase in the defense budget than my friends pushed, \$45 billion—I actually agree with that, by the way—than this year, where we are basically at the President's number.

We can all play this game with numbers and what have you. Let's try to work toward a deal. I think we can get there, but I don't have any illusions it will be easy along the way. I certainly have seen both sides make missteps, in my view, in handling these situations over the years. I hope we don't do that again.

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

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

I think what Americans know is that for too long, Republicans have been protecting the rich and the corporations who do not pay their taxes. When we start talking about spending, we need to talk about what we are spending that money for.

Democrats are investing in rural America. They are investing in our children. They are investing in our infrastructure. What are Republicans doing? Yes, they are adding to that deficit. Republicans put \$2 trillion on that credit card in tax cuts for the rich.

The leader they worship, Donald Trump, put \$7.5 trillion onto that deficit. The very first bill they brought to the floor of this Congress, what did it add? \$114 billion to that cut.

That is what we need to talk about, not just how they want to cut investments and important things like heating for our families who need it, our seniors, and our veterans. What are they doing? They are trying to make sure that they don't have to tax the rich and wealthy corporations. Many, as we heard last night, don't pay anything in taxes.

Yes, we do want to talk about Social Security. I am so glad the chair brought this up because, Mr. Speaker, Republicans often swear that they are not going to cut Social Security and Medicare. Last night, when we met on the continuing resolution, there is an 8 percent cut across the board for everything but defense and veterans. Their continuing resolution has a 66 percent

cut to heating assistance. They have said border security is their top priority, but the very CR we are scheduled to consider cuts funding for DHS by over 8 percent.

While they claim they won't cut Social Security and Medicare, their own continuing resolution, the language in the bill itself, demonstrates that nothing is sacred to them.

I am going to offer my friends, my dear friends, a chance to show the American people that they are serious about preserving Social Security and Medicare.

I urge you all to join us in defeating the previous question. If we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to provide for consideration of a resolution which plainly states that the people's House won't cut a single cent from these crucial programs that so many of my constituents, so many of your constituents, rely on.

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

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

There was no objection.

□ 1315

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. MULLIN) to discuss our proposal.

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the majority's manufactured shutdown threat. For this reason, I ask my colleagues to defeat the previous question so we can bring up legislation that commits to protecting vital programs, like Social Security.

Our most vulnerable communities will suffer as a result of this short-sighted attempt to hold our most important Federal programs hostage. For example, my California bay area district is home to over 127,000 senior citizens, many of whom rely on Social Security.

Under a Republican shutdown, new applicants to the Social Security program wouldn't be able to enroll in this bedrock American program. While Social Security payments would continue during a shutdown, seniors would experience even more delays and lengthy phone queues when contacting the Social Security Administration. Many seniors already struggle to find help, and a Republican shutdown would only exacerbate this problem.

Modern Republicans are playing roulette with essential constituent services and creating yet another manufactured crisis.

I urge the majority to bring a serious bipartisan proposal to the table to prevent this avoidable crisis.

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

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

I think what we need to do is look at this appropriations bill, look at where we are in our discussions about funding the government and recognize that nothing exists in a vacuum.

Last night, as we were talking about the Committee on Appropriations, we were talking about the extreme cuts that are being made, and we know that our military, when they sort of show up at our bases, they are not showing up at a base that is not connected to the rest of the places they live in.

In Clovis, New Mexico, where we have Cannon Air Force Base, and in Alamogordo, where we have an Air Force base, those communities are connected, and we need to recognize that the other bills that they are looking at are going to cut funding in a way that is going to hurt our readiness.

The Agriculture appropriations bill is a good opportunity to talk about this. The bill that they have brought forward would fund world development programs, right? Nope. That is going to get cut. It would also cut nutrition to women, infants, and children. It would cut the funding we need for our ranchers and farmers.

Indeed, the cuts that they are proposing would be \$8 billion in cuts, in the Agriculture appropriations bill. This would bring the funding level for the Agriculture appropriations bill to a level not seen since 2007.

The bill would cut broadband programs by 23 percent. It would hurt something that is incredibly important to my district, which are rural electric co-ops that serve 268,403 residents. Well, those rural electric co-ops, they serve people throughout our districts, and they serve our military bases. We must fight these kinds of threats.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, we cannot talk about readiness; we cannot talk about what we need to do in this country to support our military if we don't talk about our servicemembers and what we must do to protect them and to respect them, because they are protecting us.

So when we are talking about our servicewomen, we must remember the number of servicewomen who are serving. It is about 20 percent right now, and the number of women who are serving in those 14 States which have a total ban on abortion is significant. It is 80,000 women—80,000 women, who, if something happens to them like what Representative MCCOLLUM discussed, they could die of sepsis.

For those of us who have given birth, for those of us who have had to make really difficult decisions about our health and how we are going to deal with the complications of pregnancy, we feel it viscerally, because we know that it is such a wonderful thing to give birth, but it is such a dangerous thing to be pregnant.

And what they would do to our servicewomen is deny them the ability to

go to a State like New Mexico when they want reproductive healthcare services.

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

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

I urge all my colleagues to support the resolution.

Today's rule will make in order the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2024. It will provide full and complete funding for our national defense needs, ensuring that our servicemembers are fairly paid, and supporting the well-being of military families.

It also makes certain that our troops will never face a fair fight by giving them every advantage possible. We make appropriate investments in the development and acquisition of weapons systems needed to preserve and defend freedom around the globe and restrict the Biden administration from forcing progressive ideology on the Armed Forces and circumventing the authority of Congress when it does so.

Bottom line, the bill targets resources to its new core mission, protecting our homeland and security interests and making sure that our forces are the best trained, the best equipped, and the best prepared in the world.

To my friends, it has been an interesting debate, as always. I enjoy exchanging observations with my good friend from New Mexico, and we strayed sometimes off this bill and off this rule.

I do want to mention a couple of things. The rule, I think even my friends would agree, is a pretty robust rule. We are going to have 184 amendments, a very thorough debate, so I look forward to that.

Second, it is lost sometimes, but we actually basically fund the military at the level that the President requested, so those people who think it is over the top probably should have their argument with the White House as opposed to us. Personally, I would have liked to have done more, but we are going to go with the President's number, essentially.

Finally, we do disagree about the manner in which the administration is using the military. We think they are advancing progressive ideology when they ought to be focused on weapons acquisition, training, and warfighting, and we think that ultimately weakens the country.

We live in a very dangerous world right now. I would actually argue we are not spending enough on defense when we look at what is happening in the Western Pacific with China; when we look at what the Russians are doing, the acts they are engaged in, in Ukraine. I want a robust budget, and I want one that we come together on.

In the end, I think we will be able to achieve that, and I look forward to working with my friends to accomplish that objective.

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

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 680 OFFERED BY
MS. LEGER FERNANDEZ OF NEW MEXICO

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 7. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the resolution (H. Res. 178) affirming the House of Representatives' commitment to protect and strengthen Social Security and Medicare. The resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and preamble to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective designees.

SEC. 8. Clause 1 (c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H. Res. 178.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROUZER). The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1425

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ROUZER) at 2 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.

MOTION TO GO TO CONFERENCE ON H.R. 2670, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FIS- CAL YEAR 2024

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1 of rule XXII, and by direction of the Committee on Armed Services, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Rogers of Alabama moves to take from the Speaker's table the bill H.R. 2670, with the Senate amendment thereto, disagree with the Senate amendment, and request a conference with the Senate thereon.

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

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

and I move the previous question on the motion.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alabama.

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

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion will be followed by 5-minute votes on:

A motion to close portions of the conference pursuant to clause 12 of rule XXII, if offered;

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 680; and

Adoption of House Resolution 680, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 393, nays 27, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 395]

YEAS—393

Adams	Cherfilus-	Foster
Aderholt	McCormick	Foushee
Aguilar	Chu	Foxx
Alford	Ciscomani	Frankel, Lois
Allen	Clark (MA)	Franklin, C.
Allred	Cleaver	Scott
Amodei	Cline	Fry
Armstrong	Cloud	Fulcher
Arrington	Clyburn	Gaetz
Auchincloss	Clyde	Gallagher
Babin	Cohen	Gallego
Bacon	Cole	Garamendi
Baird	Collins	Garbarino
Balderson	Comer	Garcia (TX)
Banks	Connolly	Garcia, Mike
Barr	Correa	Gimenez
Barragán	Costa	Golden (ME)
Bean (FL)	Courtney	Goldman (NY)
Beatty	Craig	Gomez
Bentz	Crane	Gonzales, Tony
Bera	Crawford	Gonzalez,
Bergman	Crockett	Vicente
Beyer	Crow	Good (VA)
Bice	Cuellar	Gooden (TX)
Biggs	Curtis	Gosar
Billirakis	D'Esposito	Gottheimer
Bishop (GA)	Dauids (KS)	Granger
Bishop (NC)	Davidson	Graves (LA)
Blumenauer	Davis (IL)	Graves (MO)
Blunt Rochester	Davis (NC)	Green (TN)
Boebert	De La Cruz	Green, Al (TX)
Bonamici	Dean (PA)	Greene (GA)
Bost	DeGette	Griffith
Boyle (PA)	DeLauro	Grothman
Brecheen	DelBene	Guest
Brown	Deluzio	Guthrie
Brownley	DesJarlais	Hageman
Buchanan	Diaz-Balart	Harder (CA)
Buck	Dingell	Harris
Bucshon	Doggett	Harshbarger
Budzinski	Donalds	Hayes
Burchett	Duarte	Hern
Burgess	Duncan	Higgins (LA)
Burlison	Dunn (FL)	Higgins (NY)
Calvert	Edwards	Hill
Cammack	Ellzey	Himes
Caraveo	Emmer	Hinson
Carbajal	Escobar	Horsford
Cárdenas	Eshoo	Houchin
Carey	Estes	Houlahan
Carl	Ezell	Hoyer
Carson	Fallon	Hoyle (OR)
Carter (GA)	Feenstra	Hudson
Carter (LA)	Ferguson	Huffman
Carter (TX)	Finstad	Huizenga
Cartwright	Fischbach	Hunt
Case	Fitzgerald	Issa
Casten	Fitzpatrick	Ivey
Castor (FL)	Fleischmann	Jackson (IL)
Castro (TX)	Fletcher	Jackson (NC)
Chavez-DeRemer	Flood	Jackson (TX)

Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jeffries
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McCormick
McGarvey
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills

Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Pence
Perez
Perry
Peters
Pettersen
Pluger
Phillips
Pingree
Porter
Posey
Quigley
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rogers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salinas
Sánchez
Santos
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self

Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Titus
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dуйne
Van Orden
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barragán
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Bentz
Crane
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burchett
Doggett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:
Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 395.

MOTION TO PERMIT CLOSED CONFERENCE MEETINGS

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 12 of rule XXII, I move that meetings of the conference between the House and Senate on H.R. 2670 may be closed to the public at such times as classified national security information may be discussed, provided that any sitting Member of Congress shall be entitled to attend any meeting of the conference.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule XXII, the motion is not debatable, and the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.
The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 401, nays 19, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 396]
YEAS—401

Adams
Aderholt
Aguiar
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barragán
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Bentz
Crane
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burchett
Doggett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer

Hunt
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jeffries
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McCormick
McGarvey
McGovern
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser

Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Pence
Perez
Perry
Peters
Pettersen
Pluger
Phillips
Pingree
Porter
Posey
Quigley
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rogers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Santos
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier

NAYS—19

Balint
Bowman
Bush
Casar
Clarke (NY)
Frost
Garcia (IL)

Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pocan
Pressley
Ramirez
Schakowsky
Tlaib
Vargas
Watson Coleman

NOT VOTING—13

Crenshaw
Kaptur
Kuster
LaMalfa
Lucas

□ 1452

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. FROST, Mses. CLARKE of New York and KAMLAGER-DOVE changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the motion was agreed to.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1459

So the motion was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 396.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1435, PRESERVING CHOICE IN VEHICLE PURCHASES ACT AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4365, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 680) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1435) to amend the Clean Air Act to prevent the elimination of the sale of internal combustion engines, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4365) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 217, nays 209, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 397]

YEAS—217

Aderholt	Collins	Gooden (TX)
Alford	Comer	Gosar
Allen	Crane	Granger
Amodei	Crawford	Graves (LA)
Armstrong	Curtis	Graves (MO)
Arrington	D’Esposito	Green (TN)
Babin	Davidson	Greene (GA)
Bacon	De La Cruz	Griffith
Baird	DesJarlais	Grothman
Balderson	Diaz-Balart	Guest
Banks	Donalds	Guthrie
Barr	Duarte	Hageman
Bean (FL)	Duncan	Harris
Bentz	Dunn (FL)	Harshbarger
Bergman	Edwards	Hern
Bice	Ellzey	Higgins (LA)
Biggs	Emmer	Hill
Bilirakis	Estes	Hinson
Bishop (NC)	Ezell	Houchin
Boebert	Fallon	Hudson
Bost	Feenstra	Huizenga
Brecheen	Ferguson	Hunt
Buchanan	Finstad	Issa
Buck	Fischbach	Jackson (TX)
Buchson	Fitzgerald	James
Burchett	Fitzpatrick	Johnson (LA)
Burgess	Fleischmann	Johnson (OH)
Burlison	Flood	Johnson (SD)
Calvert	Fox	Jordan
Cammack	Franklin, C.	Joyce (OH)
Carey	Scott	Joyce (PA)
Carl	Fry	Kean (NJ)
Carter (GA)	Fulcher	Kelly (MS)
Carter (TX)	Gaetz	Kelly (PA)
Chavez-DeRemer	Gallagher	Kiggans (VA)
Ciscomani	Garbarino	Kiley
Cline	Garcia, Mike	Kim (CA)
Cloud	Gimenez	Kustoff
Clyde	Gonzales, Tony	LaHood
Cole	Good (VA)	LaLota

LaMalfa	Moore (UT)	Smith (NJ)
Lamborn	Moran	Smucker
Langworthy	Murphy	Spartz
Latta	Nehls	Staubert
LaTurner	Newhouse	Steel
Lawler	Norman	Stefanik
Lee (FL)	Nunn (IA)	Steil
Lesko	Obernolte	Steube
Letlow	Ogles	Strong
Loudermilk	Owens	Tenney
Luetkemeyer	Palmer	Thompson (PA)
Luttrell	Pence	Tiffany
Mace	Perry	Timmons
Malliatakis	Pfluger	Turner
Mann	Posey	Valadao
Massie	Reschenthaler	Van Drew
Mast	Rodgers (WA)	Van Dуйne
McCarthy	Rogers (AL)	Van Orden
McCaul	Rogers (KY)	Wagner
McClain	Rose	Walberg
McClintock	Rosendale	Waltz
McCormick	Rouzer	Weber (TX)
McHenry	Roy	Webster (FL)
Meuser	Rutherford	Wenstrup
Miller (IL)	Salazar	Westerman
Miller (OH)	Santos	Williams (NY)
Miller (WV)	Schweikert	Williams (TX)
Miller-Meeks	Scott, Austin	Wilson (SC)
Mills	Self	Wittman
Molinaro	Sessions	Womack
Moolenaar	Simpson	Yakym
Mooney	Smith (MO)	Zinke
Moore (AL)	Smith (NE)	

NAYS—209

Adams	Frankel, Lois	Morelle
Aguilar	Frost	Moskowitz
Alred	Gallego	Moulton
Auchincloss	Garamendi	Mrvan
Balint	Garcia (IL)	Mullin
Barragan	Garcia (TX)	Nadler
Beatty	Garcia, Robert	Napolitano
Bera	Golden (ME)	Neal
Beyer	Goldman (NY)	Neguse
Bishop (GA)	Gomez	Nickel
Blumenauer	Gonzalez,	Norcross
Blunt Rochester	Vicente	Ocasio-Cortez
Bonamici	Gottheimer	Omar
Bowman	Green, Al (TX)	Pallone
Boyle (PA)	Grijalva	Panetta
Brown	Harder (CA)	Pappas
Brownley	Hayes	Pascrell
Budzinski	Higgins (NY)	Payne
Bush	Himes	Pelosi
Caraveo	Horsford	Perez
Carbajal	Houlahan	Peters
Cardenas	Hoyer	Pettersen
Carson	Hoyle (OR)	Phillips
Carter (LA)	Huffman	Pingree
Cartwright	Ivey	Pocan
Casar	Jackson (IL)	Porter
Case	Jackson (NC)	Pressley
Casten	Jackson Lee	Quigley
Castor (FL)	Jacobs	Ramirez
Castro (TX)	Jayapal	Raskin
Chavrus	Jeffries	Ross
McCormick	Johnson (GA)	Ruiz
Chu	Kamllager-Dove	Ruppersberger
Clark (MA)	Keating	Ryan
Clarke (NY)	Kelly (IL)	Salinas
Cleaver	Khanna	Sanchez
Clyburn	Kildee	Sarbanes
Cohen	Kilmer	Scanlon
Connolly	Kim (NJ)	Schakowsky
Correa	Krishnamoorthi	Schiff
Costa	Kuster	Schneider
Courtney	Landsman	Scholten
Craig	Larsen (WA)	Schrier
Crockett	Larsen (CT)	Scott (VA)
Crow	Lee (CA)	Scott, David
Cuellar	Lee (NV)	Sewell
Davids (KS)	Lee (PA)	Sherman
Leger Fernandez	Davis (IL)	Sherrill
Davis (NC)	Levin	Slotkin
Dean (PA)	Lieu	Smith (WA)
DeGette	Lofgren	Sorensen
DeLauro	Lynch	Soto
DelBene	Manning	Spanberger
Deluzio	Matsui	Stansbury
DeSaulnier	McBath	Stanton
Dingell	McClellan	Stevens
Doggett	McCollum	Strickland
Escobar	McGarvey	Swalwell
Eshoo	McGovern	Sykes
Espallat	Meeks	Takano
Evans	Menendez	Thanedar
Fletcher	Meng	Thompson (CA)
Foster	Mfume	Thompson (MS)
Foushee	Moore (WI)	Titus

Tlaib	Underwood	Waters
Tokuda	Vargas	Watson Coleman
Tonko	Vasquez	Wexton
Torres (CA)	Veasey	Wild
Torres (NY)	Velazquez	Williams (GA)
Trahan	Wasserman	Wilson (FL)
Trone	Schultz	

NOT VOTING—7

Crenshaw	Luna	Scalise
Kaptur	Magaziner	
Lucas	Peltola	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1506

Ms. WATERS changed her 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. The question is on the resolution.

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

RECORDED VOTE

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

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 212, noes 214, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 398]

AYES—212

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

Nehls
Newhouse
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rodgers (AL)
Rodgers (KY)
Rose
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar

Santos
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steff
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany

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

Crenshaw
Kaptur
Lucas
Luna
Magaziner
Peltola
NOT VOTING—7
Scalise

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1526

So the resolution was not agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Evans
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Foxy
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C.
Scott
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamllager-Dove
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna

Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McCormick
McGarvey
McGovern
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Pallone
Pence
Perez

NOES—214

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragan
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Biggs
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buck
Budzinski
Bush
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleave
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)

Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Rosendale
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman
Neal
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN CHILDREN OF VIETNAM VETERANS AND CERTAIN OTHER VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (S. 112) to amend title 38, United States Code, to strengthen benefits for children of Vietnam veterans born with spina bifida, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

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. BOST. 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 422, nays 0, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 399]
YEAS—422

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Banks
Barr
Barragan
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brecheen
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Bush
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleave
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen

Cole
Collins
Comer
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crane
Crawford
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar

Watson Coleman

Weber (TX)	Wild	Wilson (SC)
Webster (FL)	Williams (GA)	Wittman
Wenstrup	Williams (NY)	Womack
Westerman	Williams (TX)	Yakym
Wexton	Wilson (FL)	Zinke

NOT VOTING—11

Bentz	Luna	Scalise
Crenshaw	Magaziner	Smith (NE)
Kaptur	Peltola	Waters
Lucas	Pfluger	

□ 1538

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2670, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. FISCHBACH). Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees on H.R. 2670:

From the Committee on Armed Services, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. Rogers of Alabama, Wilson of South Carolina, Lamborn, Wittman, Austin Scott of Georgia, Ms. Stefanik, Messrs. DesJarlais, Kelly of Mississippi, Gallagher, Gaetz, Bacon, Banks, Bergman, Waltz, Johnson of Louisiana, Mrs. McClain, Mr. Jackson of Texas, Fallon, Gimenez, Mses. Mace and Greene of Georgia, Messrs. Smith of Washington, Courtney, Garamendi, Norcross, Gallego, Moulton, Carbajal, Khanna, Keating, Kim of New Jersey, Mses. Houlahan, Slotkin, Sherrill, and Escobar.

From the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, for consideration of matters within the jurisdiction of that committee under clause 11 of rule X: Messrs. Turner, Wenstrup, and Himes.

From the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for consideration of secs. 636, 651-55, 658-61, 1041, and 1042 of the House bill and secs. 303, 563, 592, 593, 1079, 1090K, 1099JJ, 1726, and 3142 of the Senate amendment and modifications committed to conference: Ms. Foxx, Messrs. Owens and Scott of Virginia.

From the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for consideration of secs. 224, 749, and 3121 of the House bill, and secs. 314, 712 of division A, 1087, 1088, 1090A, 1090G, 1099II, 3122-24, 3143, 3144, 6074, 8141, and sec. 11009 of division J of the Senate amendment and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. Carter of Georgia, Pfluger, and Pallone.

From the Committee on Financial Services, for consideration of subtitle J of title X of division A, sec. 1086, title LXVIII of division F, division I, and division J of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. McHenry and Luetkemeyer, and Ms. Waters.

From the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for consideration of secs. 217, 1009, 1080K, 1210, 1211, 1213, 1214, 1216, 1220, 1220A, 1220C, 1220G, 1220K, 1220L, 1221-24, 1234, 1245, 1250, 1310L, 1505, and 1883 of the House bill, and secs. 212, 1085, 1302, 1397, 1399B, 1399D, 1399E, 1399F, 1399I, 1399J, 1399K, 1399L, subtitles H-K of title XIII of division A, secs. 1634, 6031, 6242, 6293, division F, and secs. 11104 and 11105 of the Senate amendment and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. McCaul, McCormick, and Meeks.

From the Committee on the Judiciary, for consideration of secs. 542, 822, 1049, 1689, and

3116 of the House bill, and secs. 1041, 1090H, subtitles I and K of title X of division A, subtitle I of title XIII of division A, secs. 6031, 6075, 6082, 6084, subtitle H of title LX of division E, secs. 6813, 6816, 6821, 6831 of division E, secs. 9007, 9011, 9012, 9014, and title LXXI of the Senate amendment and modifications committed to conference: Mr. Issa, Ms. Lee of Florida, and Mr. Nadler.

From the Committee on Natural Resources, for consideration of secs. 261, 510, 1853, 1865, 2843, 2844, 2847, and 3515 of the House bill, and secs. 312, 1041, 1090G, 2805, 6711, 11002 of division J, division K, and sec. 11341 of the Senate amendment and modifications committed to conference: Mr. Carl, Ms. Hageman, and Mr. Grijalva.

From the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for consideration of secs. 364, 834, 891, 899C, 921, 922, 1047, 1101-10, 1116-18, 1122, 1221, 1222, 1521, 1523, 1805, and 1880 of the House bill, and secs. 537, 867, subtitle H of title X of division A, secs. 1201-03, 1206-09, 1211-13, 1215, 1512, 11133, 6101, 6202, 6203, 6607, sec. 6831 of division E, 8141, 9005, 11331-33, and secs. 601, 603, 605, 703, 704, 715-18, 802, and 1001 of division M, and secs. 11001 and 11002 of division L of the Senate amendment and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. Grothman, Perry, and Raskin.

From the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for consideration of secs. 886, 1608, 1875, and 1879 of the House bill, and secs. 308, 845, 1090E, 1090G, 3144, 5204, and title X of division M of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. Mike Garcia of California and Collins, and Ms. Lofgren.

From the Committee on Small Business, for consideration of secs. 223, 853, 881, 882, 884, and 886 of the House bill, and secs. 141, 823, 831, 841-45, 849-52, and 5841 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. Molinaro and Alford, and Ms. Velazquez.

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of secs. 315, 707, 723, 866, 1602, 1608, 1804, 1854, 3501, 3511-13, 3515, 3531, and 3533 of the House bill, and secs. 314, 1083, 1090D, 1399N, 1606, 1644, 2814, title XXXV of division C, secs. 6079, 6226, 8141, and division H of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. Graves of Missouri, Webster of Florida, and Larsen of Washington.

From the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for consideration of secs. 571, 572, 579, 1118, 1413, 1733, and 1885 of the House bill, and secs. 1084, 1090B, 1521, 1833, 1852, 6071, 6077, and 11020 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. Bost, Luttrell, and Takano.

There was no objection.

□ 1545

PAID SICK LEAVE FOR RAILROAD WORKERS

(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 rise today to discuss the need for the Freight Rail Workforce Health and Safety Act.

I introduced this bill to give our critical railroad workers 7 days of paid sick leave. It would allow them to care for their health and the health of family members without using their vacation time. It is a benefit enjoyed by millions of American workers every single day. Yet, for some reason, rail-

road companies have refused to provide it to railroad workers, but they do provide it to railroad management.

Our railroad workers should have the right to paid sick leave. They risked their health and safety to keep food and medicine on store shelves during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This bill would allow them to take care of their health without worrying about their income, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support it.

We have it here in the Congress, our staff has it here in the Congress. The railroad workers need it as well.

REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM FOR SERVICEWOMEN

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

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, my, my, my.

The Republican attacks on reproductive freedom never end. The latest target: our servicewomen in the military. Many of our over 500 military bases are located in States that now ban or severely restrict abortion. That is why the Department of Defense established a travel allowance for servicemembers and dependents who need to go to another State to access an abortion.

Now, shamelessly, the Republicans are seeking to block that effort. These military women leave their homes, families, and friends. They train hard. They have dreams and goals.

We trust them with Black Hawks and Special Ops. We should trust them with the very personal decision of whether or when to start a family. They stand for our freedom. It is time for us to stand for theirs.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. RESCIENTHALER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 699. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1130) to repeal restrictions on the export and import of natural gas; providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 684) condemning the actions of Governor of New Mexico, Michelle Lujan Grisham, for subverting the Second Amendment to the Constitution and depriving the citizens of New Mexico of their right to bear arms; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5525)

making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2024, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-201). Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 3511. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to require training on increasing contract awards to small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-202). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. SEWELL (for herself, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. CHU, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. ADAMS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. WATERS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LIEU, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. TONKO, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. BALINT, Mr. BERA, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BROWN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. BUSH, Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CASE, Mr. CASTEN, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CROW, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DELUZZIO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. HOYER, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. IVEY, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LANDSMAN, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Ms. LEBER FERNANDEZ, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr.

MAGAZINER, Ms. MANNING, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MENG, Mr. MFUME, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NEAL, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PANNETTA, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. PELOSI, Mrs. PELTOLA, Ms. PEREZ, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. PORTER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. ROSS, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. STANTON, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SWALWELL, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. TRONE, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. VASQUEZ, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. WILD, Mr. HIMES, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. THANEDAR, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ):

H.R. 14. A bill to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to revise the criteria for determining which States and political subdivisions are subject to section 4 of the Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself, Mr. TONKO, and Mrs. HINSON):

H.R. 5555. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide for certain adjustments to Medicare payment for items of durable medical equipment that were formerly included in round 2021 of the DMEPOS competitive bidding program; 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. CURTIS:

H.R. 5556. A bill to make exclusive the authority of the Federal Government to regulate the labeling of products made in the United States and introduced in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HIMES:

H.R. 5557. A bill to impose sanctions against certain persons engaged in the proliferation or use of foreign commercial spyware, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Financial 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:

H.R. 5558. A bill to establish the Prairie du Rocher French Colonial National Historical Park in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 5559. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish certain rules of evidence in certain claims under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. MENG, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. LIEU, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. OMAR, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. FROST, Mr. NADLER, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BALINT, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CASAR, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. ESPAILLAT):

H.R. 5560. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to promote family unity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CLOUD (for himself, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. WALBERG, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. OGLES, Mrs. BOBBERT, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. MOONEY, and Mr. STEIL):

H.R. 5561. A bill to prohibit the President and the Secretary of Health and Human Services from declaring certain emergencies or disasters for the purpose of imposing gun control; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY):

H.R. 5562. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide formula grants to States to improve higher education opportunities for foster youth and homeless youth, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. LYNCH):

H.R. 5563. A bill to permit employees to request changes to their work schedules without fear of retaliation and to ensure that employers consider these requests, and to require employers to provide more predictable and stable schedules for employees in certain occupations with evidence of unpredictable and unstable scheduling practices that negatively affect employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, Oversight and Accountability, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LIEU, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PINGREE, Mr.

QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 5564. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish an excise tax on plastics; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Natural Resources, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. HERN, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa):

H.R. 5565. A bill to require a report regarding the scope of efforts by the People's Republic of China and Chinese Communist Party to utilize the Belt and Road Initiative to undermine the United States-led international world order and a detailed strategy regarding how the United States Government intends to counter such Initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York):

H.R. 5566. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for the duration of active service of justices of the Supreme Court, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio (for himself, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. CASE, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. CAREY, Mrs. HINSON, and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN):

H.R. 5567. A bill to prohibit elementary and secondary schools from accepting funds from or entering into contracts with the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. TRONE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. COHEN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. MENG, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 5568. A bill to improve Federal efforts with respect to the prevention of maternal mortality, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, 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. LANDSMAN (for himself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. JACOBS, and Mr. NEGUSE):

H.R. 5569. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act with respect to reimbursements under the child and adult care food program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MILLS (for himself and Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE):

H.R. 5570. A bill to establish and implement a multi-year Legal Gold and Mining

Partnership Strategy to reduce the negative environmental and social impacts of illicit gold mining in the Western Hemisphere, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Financial 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. NORMAN (for himself and Mr. GROTHMAN):

H.R. 5571. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for fair-value credit estimates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, 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. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself, Mr. CASAR, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. TOKUDA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mrs. RAMÍREZ, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. FROST, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. LIEU, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. POCAN, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. TRONE, Ms. MENG, Ms. OMAR, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. BUSH, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 5572. A bill to amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to establish a Civilian Climate Corps to help communities respond to climate change and transition to a clean economy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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 Ms. OMAR (for herself, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. BEATTY, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. RAMÍREZ, Mr. CARSON, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. BUSH, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. BROWN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. FROST, Ms. WATERS, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. MFUME, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. IVEY, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. CLYBURN):

H.R. 5573. A bill to establish within the Department of Justice an Office for Missing and

Murdered Black Women and Girls; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. PETERSEN (for herself and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 5574. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the dollar threshold applicable to information reporting with respect to payments for qualified natural disaster expenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 5575. A bill to direct the Secretaries of Health and Human Services, Defense, and Veterans Affairs to end American over-dependence on Chinese pharmaceuticals by encouraging the growth of a robust domestic medicine supply chain for generic drugs, to empower the Food and Drug Administration to issue boxed warnings in the case of critical contamination, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Veterans' Affairs, 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 Ms. ROSS:

H.R. 5576. A bill to empower independent music creator owners to collectively negotiate with dominant online platforms regarding the terms on which their music may be distributed; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROY (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. BANKS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. LESKO, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. BABIN, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. BUCK, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. SELF, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, and Mr. TIMMONS):

H.R. 5577. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to repeal prohibitions relating to freedom of access to clinic entrances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 5578. A bill to extend protections to part-time workers in the areas of family and medical leave and to ensure equitable treatment in the workplace; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, Oversight and Accountability, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 5579. A bill to provide that certain changes to the Manual of Military Decorations and Awards shall have no force or effect; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. TENNEY (for herself, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. RYAN):

H.R. 5580. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain discharges of indebtedness secured by real property from income; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PAYNE (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. BACON, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. CLARKE of New

York, Mr. CARSON, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HUNT, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. LIEU, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. WESTERMAN, Ms. CARAVEO, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia):

H. Res. 700. A resolution expressing support for the designation of September 2023 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER (for himself, Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Mr. TRONE):

H. Res. 701. A resolution encouraging further deepening and broadening of the Abraham Accords on occasion of the third anniversary of their signing to continue building bridges towards a lasting peace; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. TLAIB (for herself, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. ESPALLAT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BUSH, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. CASAR, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. OMAR, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. JACKSON LEE):

H. Res. 702. A resolution recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to protect the rights of restaurant workers; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, the Judiciary, Financial Services, Energy and Commerce, Agriculture, Oversight and Accountability, Armed Services, Veterans’ Affairs, Natural Resources, Foreign Affairs, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. VEASEY (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. MENG, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. EVANS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. COSTA, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. TONKO, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. ESPALLAT, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. CARSON, Ms. BROWN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H. Res. 703. A resolution supporting the designation of September 2023 as “National Voting Rights Month”; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. SEWELL:

H.R. 14.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

Section 2 of the Fifteenth Amendment, and Article I, Section 4, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is: This bill advances the accessibility of voting rights for all Americans.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 5555.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is: Providing payment rate updates for durable medical equipment under Medicare.

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 5556.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is: Regulates and standardizes the labeling of “Made in America” and Made in the U.S.A.” products

By Mr. HIMES:

H.R. 5557.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is: This bill would authorize sanctions on individuals and entities who facilitate spyware that could enable the targeting of United States Government officials or personnel of the intelligence community.

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 5558.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

The single subject of this legislation is: Establishing Prairie du Rocher French Colonial National Park in Illinois

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 5559.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which states “[t]he Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States”

The single subject of this legislation is:

The rights of veterans and survivors to pursue claims for VA benefits and to submit evidence in support of their claims.

By Ms. CHU:

H.R. 5560.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to promote family unity by recapturing unused visas, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CLOUD:

H.R. 5561.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prevent gun control through public health emergencies.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 5562.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: To make all laws which shall be

necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the powers enumerated under section 8 and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Education

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 5563.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to “regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill will provide stability and predictability for working people and their families, remedying many of the problems facing workers by promoting employee input into work schedules.

By Mr. DOGGETT:

H.R. 5564.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reducing single-use plastics waste.

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

H.R. 5565.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill requires a report on the Chinese Communist Party’s use of the Belt and Road Initiative to undermine U.S.-led international order.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 5566.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 1.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill amends Title 28, United States Code, to provide for 18-year terms of active service for justices of the Supreme Court, to regularize the nomination of justices, and for other purposes.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio:

H.R. 5567.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit elementary and secondary schools from accepting funds from or entering into contracts with the Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 5568.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Maternal health legislation

By Mr. LANDSMAN:

H.R. 5569.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill increases reimbursements for meals under the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

By Mr. MILLS:

H.R. 5570.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish and implement a multi-year Legal Gold and Mining Partnership Strategy to reduce the negative environmental and social impacts of illicit gold mining in the Western Hemisphere, and for other purposes.

By Mr. NORMAN:

H.R. 5571.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for fair-value credit estimates, and for other purposes.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ:

H.R. 5572.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to establish a Civilian Climate Corps to help communities respond to climate change and transition to a clean economy, and for other purposes.

By Ms. OMAR:

H.R. 5573.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Judiciary

By Ms. PETTERSEN:

H.R. 5574.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1. To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Tax

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 5575.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

A bill to direct the Secretaries of Health and Human Services, Defense, and Veterans Affairs to end American over dependence on Chinese pharmaceuticals by encouraging the growth of a robust domestic medicine supply chain for generic drugs, to empower the Food and Drug Administration to issue boxed warnings in the case of critical contamination.

By Ms. ROSS:

H.R. 5576.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution; Article 1, Section 8, Clause 8 of the United States Constitution; and Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18 of

The single subject of this legislation is:

To empower independent music creator owners to collectively negotiate with dominant online platforms and generative artificial intelligence developers regarding the terms on which their music may be distributed.

By Mr. ROY:

H.R. 5577.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Criminal Code

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 5578.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This Part-Time Worker Bill of Rights Act modifies various employment and leave rules

with respect to part-time workers to ensure their fair treatment.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 5579.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide that certain changes to the Manual of Military Decorations and Awards shall have no force or effect.

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 5580.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

It would amend Section 108 of the Tax Code to provide tax relief for the cancellation of commercial and retail indebtedness.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 16: Mr. TRONE and Mr. NORCROSS.
 H.R. 38: Mr. MEUSER.
 H.R. 41: Mr. WENSTRUP.
 H.R. 82: Mr. EZELL.
 H.R. 303: Mr. PAPPAS.
 H.R. 374: Mr. MASSIE.
 H.R. 415: Mr. NADLER.
 H.R. 427: Mr. CRENSHAW.
 H.R. 530: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
 H.R. 539: Mr. FINSTAD.
 H.R. 584: Mr. LYNCH.
 H.R. 603: Mrs. FOUSHEE.
 H.R. 648: Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Ms. UNDERWOOD.
 H.R. 666: Ms. PRESSLEY.
 H.R. 709: Mr. CLYBURN.
 H.R. 748: Mr. PAPPAS.
 H.R. 760: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
 H.R. 802: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER.
 H.R. 809: Mr. LAHOOD and Mr. CLINE.
 H.R. 830: Ms. LEE of California.
 H.R. 882: Mr. TRONE.
 H.R. 911: Mr. MOYLAN.
 H.R. 1200: Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mr. ALFORD.
 H.R. 1213: Mr. PAYNE.
 H.R. 1222: Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. FOUSHEE, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
 H.R. 1273: Mr. KIM of New Jersey and Mr. LAWLER.
 H.R. 1428: Ms. PETTERSEN.
 H.R. 1453: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CARL, and Ms. BARRAGÁN.
 H.R. 1477: Mr. VAN DREW.
 H.R. 1490: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
 H.R. 1495: Mr. TRONE.
 H.R. 1526: Mr. MORELLE.
 H.R. 1570: Ms. KUSTER and Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
 H.R. 1610: Ms. LEE of Florida.
 H.R. 1754: Mr. POCAN.
 H.R. 1826: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. WILD, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Ms. LEE of California.
 H.R. 1832: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
 H.R. 2407: Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. STEIL, and Ms. CRAIG.
 H.R. 2412: Mr. COHEN.
 H.R. 2441: Mr. PAPPAS.
 H.R. 2583: Ms. LEE of California.
 H.R. 2584: Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. DUNN of Florida, and Mr. COHEN.
 H.R. 2601: Mr. POSEY.
 H.R. 2629: Mr. KEATING.
 H.R. 2708: Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. DELAURO, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
 H.R. 2723: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. SORENSEN.

H.R. 2756: Mr. LAHOOD.
 H.R. 2784: Ms. SCANLON.
 H.R. 2816: Mr. MFUNE.
 H.R. 2871: Mr. CASTEN.
 H.R. 2949: Mr. TRONE.
 H.R. 2987: Mr. NEGUSE.
 H.R. 3036: Mr. MANN, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. YAKYM, and Ms. LEE of Nevada.
 H.R. 3159: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
 H.R. 3183: Ms. BROWNLEY.
 H.R. 3199: Mr. VAN ORDEN.
 H.R. 3202: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.
 H.R. 3215: Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
 H.R. 3240: Ms. KUSTER.
 H.R. 3354: Mr. CLINE.
 H.R. 3378: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. BARR.
 H.R. 3470: Ms. MCCLELLAN.
 H.R. 3479: Mr. TRONE and Mr. BACON.
 H.R. 3494: Ms. LOFGREN and Ms. TLAIB.
 H.R. 3519: Ms. PRESSLEY.
 H.R. 3538: Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. WILD, and Mr. NICKEL.
 H.R. 3539: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
 H.R. 3548: Mr. DOGGETT.
 H.R. 3639: Ms. PETTERSEN.
 H.R. 3649: Mr. PAPPAS.
 H.R. 3653: Mr. LAHOOD.
 H.R. 3713: Mr. MULLIN and Mr. NORCROSS.
 H.R. 3781: Ms. PETTERSEN.
 H.R. 3852: Mr. CARTER of Texas.
 H.R. 3859: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 3875: Mr. HARDER of California.
 H.R. 3894: Mr. MCGOVERN and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 3907: Ms. SALAZAR and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
 H.R. 3916: Mr. COHEN and Ms. BROWN.
 H.R. 3949: Mrs. LESKO.
 H.R. 3955: Ms. PETTERSEN.
 H.R. 3962: Ms. SCHRIER.
 H.R. 3970: Mr. TAKANO.
 H.R. 3988: Mr. MASSIE.
 H.R. 4034: Mr. LYNCH, Ms. OMAR, and Mr. BACON.
 H.R. 4046: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
 H.R. 4110: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois and Mr. SABLAN.
 H.R. 4149: Mr. COHEN and Ms. TOKUDA.
 H.R. 4198: Mr. STEUBE.
 H.R. 4235: Mr. COSTA.
 H.R. 4278: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
 H.R. 4315: Mr. COHEN.
 H.R. 4329: Mr. MOULTON.
 H.R. 4334: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
 H.R. 4400: Mr. CROW.
 H.R. 4424: Mr. DELUZZIO.
 H.R. 4425: Ms. TOKUDA.
 H.R. 4448: Mr. BEAN of Florida.
 H.R. 4519: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
 H.R. 4534: Ms. CRAIG.
 H.R. 4561: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. TOKUDA, and Ms. SCHRIER.
 H.R. 4563: Mr. DUNN of Florida.
 H.R. 4564: Mrs. LESKO.
 H.R. 4567: Mr. CARSON.
 H.R. 4619: Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. COLE, and Mr. NORCROSS.
 H.R. 4660: Mr. LAWLER.
 H.R. 4736: Mr. NUNN of Iowa and Ms. SALINAS.
 H.R. 4744: Mr. BAIRD.
 H.R. 4750: Mr. KEATING.
 H.R. 4769: Mr. CASTEN.
 H.R. 4844: Ms. TOKUDA.
 H.R. 4933: Ms. TLAIB.
 H.R. 4943: Ms. PINGREE and Mr. LAWLER.
 H.R. 5008: Mr. CASAR and Mr. LIEU.
 H.R. 5012: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
 H.R. 5044: Ms. SCHRIER.
 H.R. 5048: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
 H.R. 5073: Mr. WENSTRUP and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
 H.R. 5082: Mr. POSEY.
 H.R. 5097: Mr. RASKIN and Mr. CARSON.
 H.R. 5100: Ms. PETTERSEN.

H.R. 5110: Mr. VAN ORDEN and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 5163: Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 5239: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 5249: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin and Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 5259: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 5260: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 5261: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 5262: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 5263: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 5292: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 5340: Mrs. HOUCHIN.
H.R. 5353: Mr. TRONE, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. DELUZIO, and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 5361: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 5399: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BERA, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. ROSS, and Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 5402: Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 5403: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, and Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 5406: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee and Mr. BARR.
H.R. 5409: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. BARR.
H.R. 5420: Ms. ADAMS and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 5433: Ms. DELBENE, Ms. MENG, and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 5434: Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 5448: Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 5486: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5524: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 5527: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 5530: Mr. ZINKE, Mr. TIFFANY, and Ms. MACE.
H.J. Res. 66: Mr. GUEST and Mr. YAKYM.
H.J. Res. 88: Mr. LOUDERMILK.

H.J. Res. 89: Mr. LANDSMAN.
H. Con. Res. 16: Mr. GREEN of Texas.
H. Con. Res. 59: Mr. KEATING and Mr. PHILLIPS.
H. Res. 149: Ms. PETTERSEN.
H. Res. 259: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H. Res. 651: Mr. HUDSON.
H. Res. 674: Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, and Mr. YAKYM.
H. Res. 675: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H. Res. 679: Ms. TOKUDA.
H. Res. 683: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. MEUSER, Mrs. HOUCHIN, and Mr. ALLRED.