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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 14, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAVID G. VALADAO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

God of grace and truth, dwell among us today in all Your glory. In Your gracious arms, receive all of us, sinners though we are, and show us Your compassion. Welcome us into Your steadfast loving-kindness, though we are all undeserving of such divine mercy.

But isn't that the truth You have been trying to tell us all along? You have created us to be the agents of Your love, the hands of Your compassion, the mouth of Your message of righteousness and justice. But too often we fall short of Your will in our service to You.

Yet with unmerited favor, in Your fullness we have received grace upon grace. You have forgiven our faithlessness, redeemed our waywardness, and offered us the promise of Your salvation.

In this holy season, may our lives reflect the light You have shone in our darkness, the blessings You have bestowed on us. And may we find countless opportunities to share the joy we have found in You, that all may know of the depth of Your love.

By Your grace in the truth of Your name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. COLLINS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

FINISHING APPROPRIATIONS LEGISLATION

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

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the importance of the House taking up the remaining appropriations legislation as soon as we get back in the new year.

The past 12 months have certainly been trying, but our Conference has shown that we can pass strong conservative policy that puts America first.

To my colleagues, enjoy your time with your family. Come January, let's

be prepared to finish what the American people expect us to do, and that is to get these remaining appropriations bills across the finish line.

COMBATING RISE IN BOOK BANS

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

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Books Save Lives Act, legislation to combat the rise in book bans.

This past school year had more than 3,000 instances of books banned across 33 States, and in my home State of Massachusetts, libraries saw challenges to books quadruple.

Let me make it plain: Book bans are discriminatory and harmful, and Congress must unite against them. As a child who endured sexual abuse, when I read Maya Angelou's "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," it was the first time in my life I knew I was not alone, and it helped me move forward. When I say that books save lives, I mean that.

My bill would recognize this by ensuring libraries offer diverse books and treat discriminatory bans as violations of Federal civil rights law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation for all the people who are saved by books each and every day.

BOLSTERING MILK CONSUMPTION

(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, last night, in a bipartisan manner, the House passed my legislation, Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act. This bill addresses the importance of providing whole milk in school cafeterias.

□ 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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It is proven that milk is the number one provider of 13 essential nutrients, as well as a great deal of long-term health benefits, including better bone health, lower blood pressure, and reduced risk of cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes. These benefits are crucial for the healthy development of our Nation's youth.

Over the years, milk has been unfairly demonized, leading to the loss of nearly an entire generation of milk drinkers. This bill will give children a wide variety of milk options and bolster milk consumption, a win-win for growing children and America's dairy farmers.

Mr. Speaker, farmers feed, nutrition matters, and whole milk heals. It is time to follow the science and allow whole milk back into school cafeterias. I call on my Senate colleagues to bring this bill to the floor and pass this critical legislation.

WATER IS LIFE

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, we know that oil and water don't mix. Right now, there is a dirty pipeline called Line 5 running through the most critical part of the Great Lakes. It is operated by a company called Enbridge, which has a disturbing history of faulty infrastructure and environmental destruction.

A Line 5 spill would be devastating for the Great Lakes region and the entire country. The Great Lakes hold 21 percent of the world's fresh surface water and are home to precious ecosystems and wildlife. Tens of millions of people rely on them for water, jobs, and recreation.

We cannot allow the water we rely on to live, the water that helps make Michigan such a special place for so many, to be sacrificed for corporate greed.

The good news is that President Biden could end this threat today by revoking Line 5's Presidential permit and committing to the truth that water is life.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon the Biden administration to stand with the people of the Great Lakes and shut down Line 5 once and for all.

CONGRATULATING LIBERTY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY FOOTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Liberty Christian Academy Bulldogs for their monumental victory in the VHSL 3A State championship football game.

On December 9, the Lynchburg-based LCA Bulldogs defeated the Lafayette Rams 28-14 to finish their season with a perfect 14-0 record and earn their first VHSL State football title.

This was a history-making moment, coming 9 years after LCA filed an anti-trust complaint against the VHSL, seeking to permit themselves and other private schools to join the league. The VHSL ultimately settled and agreed to allow any private school to apply for membership, providing a major victory for all student athletes in private schools across the Commonwealth.

Now, just 8 years after they began competing in the predominantly public school league, LCA reached the pinnacle with their State championship.

The LCA Bulldogs and Coach Frank Rocco have made their school, the Lynchburg community, and Virginia's Fifth District exceptionally proud.

I am honored to represent such a phenomenal group of student athletes in Congress, and I congratulate them on this incredible achievement.

EXECUTION OF AUKUS AGREEMENT

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, in a few minutes, the House is going to vote on the National Defense Authorization Act, which I strongly support.

It is the product of bipartisan, bicameral compromise, which is exactly what the American people crave, and I congratulate Chairman ROGERS and Ranking Member SMITH for their outstanding work.

Among its many positive provisions, this bill in particular will execute the new AUKUS agreement between the U.S., U.K., and Australia. For the first time since 1958, the U.S. will share nuclear propulsion technology with another nation, our great ally, Australia. It also allows for the first time ever the sale to Australia of U.S.-built nuclear submarines—three, to be exact.

This effort will rebalance the strategic environment in the Indo-Pacific in favor of free, democratic nations that today are being constantly pressurized by the aggressive actions of the world's largest navy, namely, the Chinese PLAN.

To be clear, the intent of AUKUS is to guarantee deterrence, peace, and freedom of navigation that has prevailed across the globe for the last 78 years.

Mr. Speaker, this year's NDAA will be long remembered for this effort, and I strongly urge all of my colleagues to vote "yes" for this bill.

CONGRATULATING CLEMSON MEN'S SOCCER TEAM

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I get to say once again from the House floor, "Go Tigers," as I rise to celebrate the 2023 NCAA men's soccer national champions, the Clemson Tigers.

On Monday night, the Clemson men's soccer team took to the pitch to beat Notre Dame and close out the season. This is Clemson's fourth national championship in soccer. They claimed victory in 1984, 1987, 2021, and 2023. With this victory, the soccer program has surpassed football with the most national championships. I am proud to say that Clemson is one of just seven schools with four or more men's soccer national championships.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Head Coach Mike Noonan and each of the players on the team for representing my alma mater and the State of South Carolina so well.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the 2023 NCAA men's soccer national champions, and I congratulate President Clements on the success of this team and the program there at Clemson.

Merry Christmas to all. May God bless America.

And once again, go Tigers.

AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO THE MILITARY

(Mr. KIM of New Jersey asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this effort to pass the National Defense Authorization Act. It is a strong bipartisan, bicameral compromise to address many of the quality-of-life needs of our servicemembers and their families.

The conference report that I signed reiterates America's commitment to supporting a diverse force that reflects our Nation and protects the reproductive rights of servicemembers by keeping DoD's travel policy for noncovered medical care intact.

The bill includes a well-deserved pay raise for our servicemembers and expands eligibility for the basic needs allowance program so our military families can have more money in their pockets. These and several other provisions, like improvements to barracks and housing facilities and other issues, will address recruitment and retention of our military, which is vital.

Our servicemembers and their families make incredible sacrifices for us. By passing this bill, we are reinforcing our commitment to them.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues in both parties to support and pass this important piece of legislation.

WHOLE MILK IS A GOOD THING

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration's proposal to federally limit milk options to the unpopular fat-free and low-fat types and prohibit students from drinking flavored milk only starts our children off on the wrong foot.

Whole milk contains 3.25 percent fat, making it 96.75 percent fat-free as compared to the common 2 percent or 1 percent or skim that we see. This is not an incredibly great amount of fat for what the perception would be out there.

Whole milk is nutritious and simple. Whole milk doesn't contain any more sugar or carbs than skim or low-fat milk, but it does contain essential nutrients that children need to grow.

Mr. Speaker, 8 ounces of whole milk provides 8 grams of protein. That is 16 percent of the daily recommended value. This high-quality protein builds and repairs muscle, keeps us fuller longer, provides energy and focus, and helps maintain bone health and a healthy weight while supporting a healthy immune system.

An 8-ounce serving of milk, flavored or not, gives children the same amount of calcium as 10 cups of spinach, the same amount of potassium as in one small banana, the same amount of vitamin A as in three-quarters of a cup of broccoli, and the same amount of vitamin D as in three-quarters of an ounce of cooked salmon. Parents of picky eaters know how hard it is to convince their kids to eat that every day.

Whole milk is a good thing.

□ 0915

STRENGTHENING CIVIL RIGHTS ACCOUNTABILITY AT USDA

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

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to discuss why this body needs to pass the JUST Act of 2023. This bill will strengthen civil rights accountability at the United States Department of Agriculture.

Some may question why this bill is necessary. The USDA has a long and checkered history of racial policies and discrimination against Black and other minority farmers.

In the 20th century, the USDA farm lending programs undermined African-American farmers' ability to continue their operations, and the numbers don't lie.

At the beginning of the 1900s, there were more than 925,000 Black farm operators who owned more than 16 million acres of land.

The most recent numbers from 2017 paint a bleak picture. There are only 48,000 Black family farm operators left. So let's strengthen civil rights accountability at the USDA by passing the JUST Act.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I note the next order of business is the conference

report on H.R. 2670, and I wish to ask several points of parliamentary inquiry and maybe points of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. PERRY. The rules of the House require that every bill must have a stated single purpose to be filed. Was such a statement filed, and if so, what is the single purpose of H.R. 2670?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will not respond to hypothetical questions on measures not pending at this time.

Mr. PERRY. The body can't ask a question as to what the stated single purpose of this conference report is?

It is not a hypothetical.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will respond to parliamentary inquiries relating to a pending measure.

Mr. PERRY. The pending measure is on the suspension of the rules for H.R. 2670.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There is no measure pending at this time.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, point of parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman cannot be recognized for H.R. 2670 at this point, how does one comply with the section in rule XXII that says a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner may raise a point of order against a nongermane matter as specified in subparagraph 2 before the commencement of debate?

We have to do it before the debate starts or we have waited too long; is that not correct, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. No Member has yet been recognized to even call up a measure.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2670, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2670) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House of December 6, 2023, at Book II, page H6213.)

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I would ask if now is the appropriate time to make points of parliamentary inquiry and motions related to the properness of H.R. 2670, the conference report, being before this House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may state an inquiry at this time, if he has one about the pending measure.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I would inquire as to whether or not when originally filed, H.R. 2670 complied with the requirements of the rules of the House to have a single purpose stated, and if so, what was that single purpose?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will not provide an advisory opinion. The Chair would advise the gentleman that consistent with prior clarifications by the Chair, including on December 19, 2007, a motion to suspend the rules waives all points of order that would have otherwise applied to this measure.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, that is why we tried to do it before the motion was made. I am questioning how can a Member exercise his rights under the rules to raise objections when the rule clearly says it must be done before the commencement of debate. Now we are told that once a measure has been called up and the motion has been made, we can't make the inquiries or challenge the properness of the conference report.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama has made a motion to suspend the rules. The effect of such motion is that all points of order are waived.

Mr. GRIFFITH. That is if the resolution passes. I am trying to establish whether or not this is even properly before the body.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The motion to suspend the rules was properly offered.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, is the Chair confirming that there was, in fact, a single purpose declaration made at the time of the filing of the bill, because otherwise it is not properly before the House at all.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is confirming that the gentleman has offered a motion to suspend the rules to adopt a conference report, and that is what is pending right now.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, is the Chair indicating that the mere motion to suspend the rules, therefore, suspends the rules until such time as that motion is defeated?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is correct.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Chair if that also applies to any germaneness that might apply that would otherwise be in violation of the conference reports stated in rule XXII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair just stated, that applies to any and all points of order.

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

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, with respect to the discussion about who is controlling the time, I would rise in true opposition to claim time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH) opposed to the conference report?

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, no, I am not.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I yield one half of my time to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH), and ask that the gentleman be allowed to control that time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on the con-

ference report to accompany H.R. 2670 and that I may include tabular material on the same.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of FY24 National Defense Authorization Act.

The NDAA is one of the most consequential bills Congress considers. Passage of this bill each year sends an important signal to the men and women defending our freedom that Congress can function and will prioritize their needs above all else.

Enacting the NDAA has never been more valid than today. America and our allies face unprecedented and rapidly evolving threats from China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, and terrorist organizations throughout the world.

These threats are real. We all just witnessed terrorist acts on their threats against one of our closest allies in the Middle East, and we all pray for Israel as it counters the most vile attack on Jewish people since the Holocaust.

To stay ahead of these threats, DOD came to Congress this year, as they do every year, to request critical new authorities as a part of the National Defense Authorization Act.

We took those requests seriously. We held dozens of hearings to examine them, then we worked to improve them and add our own priorities through the committee and floor processes.

We followed regular order and had a conference committee for the first time in 2 years. We fought the Senate for weeks over each other's priorities, and we came to a compromise. That is what is before us today.

I will be the first to admit, I am disappointed we didn't get all the priorities we wanted, but the Senate is pretty disappointed they didn't get the priorities they wanted either. It takes compromise to move legislation in a divided government, and this bill is a good compromise. It is laser-focused on deterring our adversaries, especially China.

The conference report includes critical new authorities to ensure our warfighters have what they need to deter our adversaries and to prevail in future battles. It goes a long way toward ending woke policies being forced on our servicemembers by leftwing bureaucrats.

It includes provisions that ban critical race theory and require promotion based on merit. It includes several provisions that require accountability from the administration, like a Special Inspector General for Ukraine aid and a deadline for the DOD to finally pass an audit.

It improves the security of Israel by extending weapons transfers and expanding joint military training.

Finally, the conference report carries important new quality-of-life improvements for our servicemembers and their military families, including the largest pay raise in over 20 years.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is a compromise, but it is a good compromise. It puts the need of our servicemembers and our national security before all else.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, below is a table representing \$37.6 billion in savings over the Future Years Defense Program included in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024.

SAVINGS TABLE, FY 2024 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

(In Thousands of Dollars)

SERVICE/COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION OF SAVINGS/PLATFORM DIVESTED	TOTAL FYDP SAVINGS
AIR FORCE	F-15EX, Other support costs unjustified growth	26,730
AIR FORCE	KC-46A MDAP, Commodities activation excess to need	41,000
AIR FORCE	Combat Rescue Helicopter, Obsolescence ahead of need	22,784
AIR FORCE	F-16, Comms suite upgrade kits previously funded	5,705
AIR FORCE	F-16, Comms suite upgrade installation delays	5,454
AIR FORCE	F-22A, Sensor enhancement delays	434,997
AIR FORCE	F-15 EPAW, SEPM unjustified growth	15,681
AIR FORCE	Other Production Charges, T-7A depot activation ahead of need	33,609
AIR FORCE	Cartridges, Small cal/ground munitions - (A143) 7.62MM ball linked unit cost adjustment	500
AIR FORCE	General Purpose Bombs, Previously funded items	14,855
AIR FORCE	Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP), Unjustified request	12,824
AIR FORCE	Joint Direct Attack Munition, PSC other government costs unjustified growth	3,877
AIR FORCE	Joint Light Tactical Vehicle, Utility unjustified unit cost growth	6,059
AIR FORCE	Fuels Support Equipment (FSE), Fuel storage bladder unjustified unit cost growth	3,239
AIR FORCE	General Information Technology, Insufficient justification	25,000
AIR FORCE	Afnet, Insufficient justification	2,293
AIR FORCE	F-35, Flyaway unit cost growth	103,740
AIR FORCE	Other Production Charges, Excess to need	229,400
AIR FORCE	KC-46A Mdap, Cost overestimation: Other government costs	6,571
AIR FORCE	B-2A, Excess to need: IFF transponder	3,600
AIR FORCE	B-52, Cost overestimation: Tactical data links program support	3,199

SAVINGS TABLE, FY 2024 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT—Continued

(In Thousands of Dollars)

SERVICE/COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION OF SAVINGS/PLATFORM DIVESTED	TOTAL FYDP SAVINGS
AIR FORCE	F-16, SLEP costs previously funded	25,440
AIR FORCE	Combat Training Ranges, Unit cost growth: P6CTS	3,050
AIR FORCE	Fuels Support Equipment (FSE), All Terrain Berm Storage System schedule discrepancies	7,215
AIR FORCE	HC/MC-130 Recap RDT&E, Program decrease	20,000
AIR FORCE	F-35 C2D2, Program decrease	1,993
AIR FORCE	HC/MC-130 Recap RDT&E, Excess to need	5,000
AIR FORCE	Hypersonics Prototyping, Air-Launched Rapid Response Weapon (ARRW)	150,340
AIR FORCE	B-52 Squadrons, Scheduling delays	20,639
AIR FORCE	VC-25B, Excess to Need	57,000
AIR FORCE	Advanced Weapons Technology, Excessive cost growth	10,000
AIR FORCE	Modular Advanced Missile, Program decrease	105,238
AIR FORCE	Advanced Pilot Training, Program delay	2,272
AIR FORCE	Future AF Integrated Technology Demos, Program reduction	42,200
AIR FORCE	Advanced Aerospace Sensors, Multi-Spectrum Sensing Demonstration excess to need	2,200
AIR FORCE	Advanced Technology and Sensors, Imaging and Targeting Support excess growth	2,470
AIR FORCE	Operational Energy and Installation Resilience, Excess growth	10,402
AIR FORCE	Stand In Attack Weapon, Aircraft integration delays	13,000
AIR FORCE	Airborne Sigint Enterprise, Underexecution	2,202
AIR FORCE	C-5 Airlift Squadrons (IF), SIL early to need	1,216
AIR FORCE	KC-135S, Comm 2 early to need	1,583
AIR FORCE	Air Force Studies and Analysis Agency, Modeling and Simulation Development excess growth	3,000
AIR FORCE	Classified Programs, Classified adjustment	212,081
AIR FORCE	Survivable Airborne Operations Center (SAOC), EMO excess to need	69,716
AIR FORCE	Survivable Airborne Operations Center (SAOC), Test and evaluation excess to need	12,657
AIR FORCE	Survivable Airborne Operations Center (SAOC), Management services overestimation	15,919
AIR FORCE	HH-60W, Support costs excess to need	892
AIR FORCE	KC-46A Tanker Squadrons, Direct mission support excess to need	7,168
AIR FORCE	KC-46A Tanker Squadrons, Aircrew training system previously funded	9,864
AIR FORCE	KC-46A Tanker Squadrons, Test and evaluation previously funded	20,175
AIR FORCE	Specialized Undergraduate Flight Training, T-6 avionics replacement program delay	1,182
AIR FORCE	High Frequency Radio Systems, Program support costs unjustified request	5,000
AIR FORCE	ISR Modernization & Automation Dvmt (IMAD), Unjustified growth	5,110
AIR FORCE	Contractor Logistics Support and System Support, Underexecution	40,000
AIR FORCE	Flying Hour Program, Underexecution	115,000
AIR FORCE	Base Support, Underexecution	115,000
AIR FORCE	Flight Training, Underexecution	12,241
AIR FORCE	Other Servicewide Activities, Underexecution	45,000
AIR FORCE	Primary Combat Forces, Unjustified growth	30,000
AIR FORCE	Contractor Logistics Support and System Support, Unjustified growth	18,000
AIR FORCE	US Centcom, Office of Security Cooperation-Iraq reduction	6,000
AIR FORCE	Undistributed, Unobligated balances	200,000
AIR FORCE	Undistributed, Unobligated balances	28,000
AIR FORCE	Undistributed, Unobligated balances	21,900
AIR FORCE	Primary Combat Forces, Unjustified growth	30,000
AIR FORCE	Combat Enhancement Forces, Unjustified growth	36,000
AIR FORCE	Global C3I and Early Warning, Unjustified request	18,400
AIR FORCE	Other Combat Ops Spt Programs, Unjustified growth	13,000
AIR FORCE	Administration, Program decrease - contract support	500
AIR FORCE	Air Operations Training (OJT, Maintain Skills), Unjustified growth	19,000
AIR FORCE	Aircraft Operations, Unjustified growth	20,000
AIR FORCE	Air Force end strength underexecution	564,000
AIR FORCE	Air National Guard AGR end strength underexecution	33,000
AIR FORCE	A-10 aircraft divestment	4,494,727
AIR FORCE	B-1B aircraft divestment	406,851
AIR FORCE	C-130H aircraft divestment	692,418
AIR FORCE	E-3/AWACS aircraft divestment	764,689
AIR FORCE	E-8 JSTARS aircraft divestment	1,464,417
AIR FORCE	EC-130H aircraft divestment	496,521
AIR FORCE	EC-130J aircraft divestment	186,030
AIR FORCE	F-15 C/D aircraft divestment	3,699,838
AIR FORCE	F-15E aircraft divestment	1,723,000
AIR FORCE	F-16 C/D aircraft divestment	1,239,576
AIR FORCE	HH-60G aircraft divestment	1,462,747
AIR FORCE	KC-10 aircraft divestment	2,054,206
AIR FORCE	KC-135 R/T aircraft divestment	1,533,002

SERVICE/COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION OF SAVINGS/PLATFORM DIVESTED	TOTAL FYDP SAVINGS
AIR FORCE	T-1A aircraft divestment	631,948
AIR FORCE	Classified Programs, Program justification review	14,737
ARMY	Aircraft Survivability Equipment, B-Kit unit cost adjustment	5,230
ARMY	Precision Strike Missile (PRSM), Unjustified growth: Software maintenance	6,250
ARMY	Bradley Program (Mod), Unjustified growth: modification 7 installation	6,204
ARMY	Signal Modernization Program, Program decrease	10,400
ARMY	COTS Communications Equipment, Program decrease	7,100
ARMY	Armored Multi Purpose Vehicle (AMPV), Program decrease	2,500
ARMY	M-SHORAD - Procurement, Excess fielding growth	10,500
ARMY	Handheld Manpack Small Form Fit (HMS), Excess to need	5,043
ARMY	Joint Battle Command - Platform (JBC-P), Unjustified Cost Growth - Fielding and Systems Engineering	5,224
ARMY	IAMD Battle Command System, Excess Interim Contractor Support	17,100
ARMY	Ground Soldier System, Excess to need	12,867
ARMY	Mobile Protected Firepower, Excessive growth - systems technical support	8,000
ARMY	Stryker Upgrade, Excessive growth - fleet modifications	4,600
ARMY	CTG, 25mm, All Types, Excess to need	7,257
ARMY	Joint Light Tactical Vehicle Family and Vehicl, Unit cost increases	2,095
ARMY	Tactical Network Technology Mod In Svc, SATCOM obsolescence previously funded	12,003
ARMY	Counter Small Unmanned Aerial System (C-SUAS), Execution delays	60,000
ARMY	Night Vision Devices, Restore acquisition accountability: Government program management costs	3,284
ARMY	Emerging Technology Initiatives, Program decrease	51,440
ARMY	Lethality Advanced Technology, Program decrease	2,827
ARMY	Aviation - Adv Dev, FARA - Excess to need	13,356
ARMY	Soldier Systems - Advanced Development, Slow expenditure rate - Advance Development	523
ARMY	Soldier Systems - Advanced Development, Excessive growth - Program management	1,333
ARMY	Maneuver - Short Range Air Defense (M-SHORAD), Delayed expenditure - Contract Award Delay	7,245
ARMY	Medium Tactical Vehicles, Incomplete development goals	25,000
ARMY	Light Tactical Wheeled Vehicles, Incomplete development goals	43,893
ARMY	Night Vision Systems - Eng Dev, Slow expenditure - Joint Effects Targetting System (JETS)	5,028
ARMY	Manned Ground Vehicle, OMFV slow expenditure	120,900
ARMY	Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV) Engineering and Manufacturing Development Ph, Slow expenditure	1,100
ARMY	Improved Turbine Engine Program, Excessive Growth - Government Planning	1,721
ARMY	Improved Turbine Engine Program, Slow expenditure rate	8,464
ARMY	Combat Vehicle Improvement Programs, Slow expenditure - Stryker Combat Vehicle Improvement Program	10,445
ARMY	155mm Self-Propelled Howitzer Improvements, Slow expenditure - Extended Range Cannon Artillery	6,200
ARMY	155mm Self-Propelled Howitzer Improvements, Excess growth - ERCA range prototype build	5,900
ARMY	Environmental Quality Technology - Dem/Val, Program decrease	2,500
ARMY	Suite and Survivability Enhancement Systems - Emd, Maintain program management level of effort	1,200
ARMY	Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (SUAV) (6.5), Unjustified growth	3,923
ARMY	Maneuver Units, Unjustified growth	100,000
ARMY	Force Readiness Operations Support, Unjustified growth	54,000
ARMY	Servicewide Communications, Insufficient justification	25,000
ARMY	Echelons Above Brigade, Unjustified growth	7,000
ARMY	Theater Level Assets, Unjustified growth	2,000
ARMY	Aviation Assets, Unjustified growth	11,000
ARMY	Force Readiness Operations Support, Unjustified growth	5,000
ARMY	Aviation Assets, Unjustified growth	40,000
ARMY	Base Operations Support, Unjustified growth	27,669
ARMY	Specialized Skill Training, Unjustified growth	15,000
ARMY	Central Supply Activities, Unjustified growth	25,000
ARMY	Manpower Management, Unjustified growth	3,000
ARMY	Other Service Support, Unjustified growth	5,000
ARMY	Echelons Above Brigade, Underexecution	14,000
ARMY	Theater Level Assets, Underexecution	10,000
ARMY	Land Forces Operations Support, Underexecution	14,000
ARMY	Base Operations Support, Unjustified growth	2,000
ARMY	Army, Underexecution of strength	787,901
ARMY	UH-60A aircraft divestment	3,400
ARMY	UH-60L aircraft divestment	15,300
CBDP	Chemical and Biological Defense Program - Advanced Development, Program decrease	35,419
CBDP	Chemical and Biological Defense Program - Dem/Val, Excess growth	24,847
CBDP	Chemical and Biological Defense Program - EMD, Execution risk	20,597
CYBER	Robust Infrastructure and Access, Unjustified growth	34,647
DARPA	Sensor Technology, Program decrease	5,250
DARPA	Advanced Aerospace Systems, Program decrease	10,000

SAVINGS TABLE, FY 2024 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT—Continued

(In Thousands of Dollars)

SERVICE/COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION OF SAVINGS/PLATFORM DIVESTED	TOTAL FYDP SAVINGS
DARPA	Biomedical Technology, Program decrease	10,000
DARPA	Tactical Technology, Program decrease	20,000
DARPA	Advanced Electronics Technologies, Reduce carryover: Next generation microelectronics manufacturing	10,000
DARPA	Space Programs and Technology, Excess growth	12,500
DCMA	Defense Contract Management Agency, Unobligated balances	3,000
DCSA	Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency, Unjustified growth	35,000
DEFENSE-WIDE	Other Items <\$5M, Program decrease	2,500
DEFENSE-WIDE	Undistributed, Historical unobligated balances	15,000
DEFENSE-WIDE	Savings from Foreign currency fluctuations	785,200
DEFENSE-WIDE	Classified Programs, Classified adjustment	70,968
DHA	Consolidated Health Support, Historical underexecution	6,018
DHA	Base Operations/Communications, Historical underexecution	2,500
DHA	In-House Care, Baseline adjustment	93,989
DHA	Private Sector Care, Unjustified growth	25,151
DHRA	Defense Human Resources Activity, Underexecution	45,000
DISA	Defense Information Systems Agency, Program decrease	25,000
DISA	Defense Information Systems Agency, Unobligated balances	9,900
DLSA	Defense Legal Services Agency, Historical unobligated balances	2,000
DODEA	Department and Defense Education Activity, Historical unobligated balances	7,000
DOE EM	Waste Treatment Immobilization Plant Commissioning	36,000
DOE EM	Program support - Defense Environmental Cleanup	20,956
DOE EM	Defense Uranium Enrichment D&D	2,228,000
DOE NNSA	Weapon technology and manufacturing maturation, Program decrease	20,000
DOE NNSA	Community Capacity Building Program, Insufficient justification; Academic Programs and Community Support, Underexecution	356,184
DOE NNSA	Maintenance and Repair of Facilities	18,000
DOE NNSA	Infrastructure and Safety	12,000
DOE NNSA	International nuclear security	48,535
DOE NNSA	Nonproliferation and Arms Control	100,000
DOE NNSA	Proliferation detection	50,000
DOE NNSA	NNSA Bioassurance Program	180,144
DOE NNSA	Federal Salaries and Expenses, Program direction	20,000
DOE NUCLEAR ENERGY	Nuclear Energy	17,733
DSCA	Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Program decrease - Border Security	120,000
DTRA	Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Program decrease	10,000
JCS	Joint Chiefs of Staff, Unobligated balances	3,600
JCS	Joint Chiefs of Staff - JTEEP, Unjustified growth	3,000
MDA	AEGIS BMD, Program decrease	4,000
MDA	BMD Enabling Programs, Poor justification	807
MDA	AEGIS BMD Test, Excess growth	5,049
MILITARY PERSONNEL	Unobligated balances	89,645
NAVY	Common Ground Equipment, Program decrease	5,000
NAVY	LCS In-Service Modernization, Excessive cost growth	17,030
NAVY	Shipboard IW Exploit, Excessive cost growth	16,925
NAVY	Afloat ATC Equipment, Excessive cost growth	2,118
NAVY	In-Service Radars and Sensors, Insufficient justification	15,000
NAVY	LCS MCM Mission Modules, Excess to need	14,291
NAVY	FFG-Frigate, Insufficient justification	10,000
NAVY	AS Submarine Tender, Late contract award	1,485,234
NAVY	MQ-25, Scheduling delays	199,000
NAVY	MQ-25 Ap, Scheduling delays	12,600
NAVY	Joint Strike Fighter CV, Flyaway unit cost growth	28,500
NAVY	JSF STOVL, Flyaway unit cost growth	42,666
NAVY	Special Support Equipment, Flyaway unit cost growth	19,328
NAVY	F-18 Series, F/A-18 C/D/E/F and EA-18G training equipment previously funded	5,812
NAVY	C-130 Series, Technical insertion (OSIP 019-14) Block 7 GFE unjustified growth	4,027
NAVY	MQ-4 Series, OSIP (003-23) previously funded	3,788
NAVY	Conventional Prompt Strike, Early to need	85,358
NAVY	Sidewinder, AUR Block II unit cost increase	2,859
NAVY	Small Diameter Bomb li, AUR unit cost growth	1,366
NAVY	Tomahawk Mods, Contract award delays	32,489
NAVY	CVN Refueling Overhauls Ap, Excess growth	14,658
NAVY	Outfitting, Outfitting early to need	17,684
NAVY	LPD Class Support Equipment, HWISW obsolescence installation cost growth	6,616
NAVY	Marine Group 5 Uas, Ancillary Equipment carryover	3,500
NAVY	Next Generation Jammer (NGJ), Contract savings	2,520

(In Thousands of Dollars)

SERVICE/COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION OF SAVINGS/PLATFORM DIVESTED	TOTAL FYDP SAVINGS
NAVY	Surface Combatant HM&E, DDG 51 ship control system cost growth	5,341
NAVY	Marine Corps Communications Systems, Marine Electromagnetic Warfare Ground Family of Systems	7,200
NAVY	Marine Corps Communications Systems, Tactical Communication Modernization	1,700
NAVY	Next Generation Jammer (NGJ) Increment II, Next Generation Jammer - Low Band	50,932
NAVY	F-35 C2D2, TR-3/B4 Unplanned cost growth	35,503
NAVY	F-35 C2D2, TR-3/B4 Unplanned cost growth	31,568
NAVY	CHALK CORAL, Program decrease	165,000
NAVY	Marine Corps Ground Combat/Support System, Slow expenditure	9,593
NAVY	Link Plumeria, Project 2937: Unjustified requirements	50,000
NAVY	Marine Corps Air Defense Weapons Systems, Slow expenditure	10,500
NAVY	Ground/Air Task Oriented Radar (G/ATOR), Slow expenditure	8,600
NAVY	Unmanned Aerial System, ILS support previously funded	3,172
NAVY	Frigate Development, Live fire test and evaluation early to need	2,800
NAVY	Small and Medium Unmanned Undersea Vehicles, Medusa unexecutable contract award date	16,515
NAVY	Advanced Undersea Prototyping, Program delays	21,725
NAVY	Medium Unmanned Surface Vehicles (MUSVs), Program delays	11,552
NAVY	Unmanned Surface Vehicle Enabling Capabilities, Prior year underexecution	4,281
NAVY	Other Helo Development, Project 3406 insufficient justification	17,595
NAVY	Electronic Warfare Development, Prior year underexecution	3,034
NAVY	Surface Combatant Combat System Engineering, Software SW factory insufficient justification	9,750
NAVY	Surface Combatant Combat System Engineering, Aegis capability package 2024 delays	5,500
NAVY	Standard Missile Improvements, Prior year underexecution	29,376
NAVY	Lightweight Torpedo Development, Project 3418 testing ahead of need	8,500
NAVY	DDG-1000, Prior year underexecution	8,334
NAVY	F/A-18 Squadrons, Next generation naval mission planning system Insufficient justification	12,000
NAVY	USMC Ground Combat/Supporting Arms Systems - Eng Dev, OPF-M termination	20,181
NAVY	SSN(X), Unjustified growth-shipbuilder studies	18,000
NAVY	SSN(X), Unjustified growth-NSWC studies	13,804
NAVY	SSN(X), Unjustified growth-management and support costs	7,950
NAVY	Unmanned Carrier Aviation (UCA), Test excess to need due to EDM delays	20,403
NAVY	Administration, Program decrease	12,000
NAVY	Mission and Other Ship Operations, Underexecution	10,000
NAVY	Weapons Maintenance, Underexecution	25,000
NAVY	Enterprise Information, Insufficient justification	18,000
NAVY	Undistributed, Unobligated balances	4,200
NAVY	Combat Support Forces, Unjustified growth	20,000
NAVY	Base Operating Support, Unjustified growth	20,200
NAVY	Specialized Skill Training, Unjustified growth	5,000
NAVY	Navy Reserve, Projected underexecution	10,000
NAVY	Navy end strength underexecution	600,000
NAVY	Terminate COBRA Block II Development	290,000
NAVY	Disestablishment of Amphibious Construction Battalion (ACB) 2	87,400
NAVY	Continuous Process Improvement/Underexecution Reviews	166,000
NAVY	AV-8B aircraft divestment	64,800
NAVY	C-2A aircraft divestment	29,400
NAVY	CH-53E aircraft divestment	36,700
NAVY	E-2C aircraft divestment	16,300
NAVY	F/A-18C aircraft divestment	126,400
NAVY	F/A-18D aircraft divestment	33,800
NAVY	F/A-18E aircraft divestment	60,000
NAVY	F/A-18F aircraft divestment	10,500
NAVY	MH-53E aircraft divestment	3,500
NAVY	MH-60R aircraft divestment	2,700
NAVY	MH-60S aircraft divestment	1,900
NAVY	P-3C aircraft divestment	2,100
NAVY	RQ-21A aircraft divestment	5,900
NAVY	TH-57B aircraft divestment	7,300
NAVY	TH-57C aircraft divestment	15,300
NAVY	UH-1Y aircraft divestment	6,900
NAVY	VH-3D aircraft divestment	1,200
NAVY	VH-60N aircraft divestment	800
NAVY	CG 69 - USS Vicksburg decommissioning	524,300
NAVY	LCS 6 - USS Jackson decommissioning	300,323
NAVY	LCS 8 - USS Montgomery decommissioning	306,429
NAVY/USMC	General Purpose Bombs, O2181 laser guided bombs contract award delay	4,626

SAVINGS TABLE, FY 2024 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT—Continued

(In Thousands of Dollars)

SERVICE/COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION OF SAVINGS/PLATFORM DIVESTED	TOTAL FYDP SAVINGS
NAVY/USMC	Airborne Rockets, All Types, MK 66 rocket motor unit cost growth	5,195
NAVY/USMC	Practice Bombs, 01050 BLU-109 contract award delay	6,156
NAVY/USMC	Infantry Weapons Ammunition, AB39, CTG. 7.62 millimeter MK 316 mod contract award delay	602
NAVY/USMC	5 Inch/54 Gun Ammunition, Insufficient justification	5,030
NAVY/USMC	Infantry Weapons Ammunition, Excess to need: Cartridge, caliber 50 4 API M8/1 API-T M20 linked	157
NAVY/USMC	Infantry Weapons Ammunition, Excess to need: Cartridge, Caliber 50 Linked MK322 Mod 1/Ball (1000m cap)	1,226
OSD	Environmental Security Technical Certification Program, Program decrease	30,600
OSD	Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer (CDAO) - Dem/Val Activities, Insufficient justification	32,900
OSD	Trusted & Assured Microelectronics, Program decrease	21,000
OSD	Information Systems Security Program, Program decrease	6,000
OSD	Operational Energy Capability Improvement, Prior year underexecution	5,635
OSD	Trusted & Assured Microelectronics, Unjustified growth	63,299
OSD	Net Centricity, Prior year underexecution	1,312
OSD	Advanced Innovative Technologies, Classified adjustment	28,600
OSD	Office of the Secretary and Defense, Program decrease	91,443
SPACE FORCE	Special Space Activities, Space Force realignment of funds	497,000
SPACE FORCE	GPSIII Follow On, Request for Equitable Adjustment	49,300
SPACE FORCE	GPS III Space Segment, Unjustified growth SV 03-10 production	18,100
SPACE FORCE	Space Force It, Data Analytics, Digital Solutions, Program decrease	10,000
SPACE FORCE	Global Positioning System III - Operational Control Segment, Excess to need	45,400
SPACE FORCE	Space Science and Technology Research and Development, Prior year carryover	21,980
SPACE FORCE	Space Technology Development and Prototyping, Inadequate justification - other activities	25,000
SPACE FORCE	Space Systems Prototype Transitions (SSPT), Underexecution	9,473
SPACE FORCE	Protected Tactical Service (PTS), Unjustified request - management services	4,300
SPACE FORCE	Weather System Follow-On, Unjustified increase - management services	1,600
SPACE FORCE	Wideband Global Satcom (Space), Underexecution	2,200
SPACE FORCE	Next-Gen OPIR - Ground, Underexecution	23,100
SPACE FORCE	Next Generation OPIR, Underexecution	5,000
SPACE FORCE	Next-Gen OPIR - Geo, Unjustified increase - management services	4,265
SPACE FORCE	Next-Gen OPIR - Polar, Unjustified increase - management services	3,265
SPACE FORCE	Narrowband Satellite Communications, Inadequate justification - management services	9,450
SPACE FORCE	Satellite Control Network (Space), Underexecution	2,100
SPACE FORCE	Undistributed, Unobligated balances	19,000
SPACE FORCE	Space Operations, Unjustified growth	2,500
SPACE FORCE	Education & Training, Unjustified growth	5,000
SPACE FORCE	Contractor Logistics and System Support, Unjustified growth	2,000
SPACE FORCE	Global C3I & Early Warning, Unjustified growth	25,000
TJS	COCOM Exercise Engagement and Training Transformation (CE2T2) - Non-MHA, No JLVC acquisition strategy	6,300
USMC	Amphibious Combat Vehicle Family and Vehicles, Unjustified growth - Program Management	3,500
USMC	Common Aviation Command and Control System, Unjustified fielding growth	2,474
USMC	Items Under \$5 Million (Comm & Elec), SBNVG unit cost growth	4,879
USMC	Marine Corps Enterprise Network (Mcen), Network transport excess growth	14,565
USMC	Unmanned Air Systems (Intel), Unit cost growth	3,364
USMC	Command Post Systems, Unit cost growth	1,958
USMC	Radio Systems, Unexecutable growth	39,732
USMC	Undistributed, Unobligated balances	32,000
USMC	Undistributed, Unobligated balances	1,000
USMC	Field Logistics, Unjustified growth	25,000
USMC	Base Operating Support, Unjustified growth	42,750
USMC	Operational Forces, Unjustified growth	14,000
USMC	USMC Reserve, Underexecution of strength	24,315
USSOCOM	Rotary Wing Upgrades and Sustainment, Underexecution	5,000
USSOCOM	Joint Service Provider, Insufficient justification	10,000
USSOCOM	Non-Standard Aviation, Theater Basing Initiatives excess to need	4,000
USSOCOM	Special Operations Command Theater Forces, Program decrease	8,726
USSOCOM	Special Operations Command Maintenance, Program decrease	24,300
USSOCOM	Special Operations Command Management/Operational Headquarters, Program decrease	2,606
USSOCOM	Special Operations Command Intelligence, Program decrease	6,000
USSOCOM	Special Operations Command Operational Support, Program decrease	18,992
USSOCOM	Special Operations Command Maintenance, MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle unjustified increase	4,000
USSOCOM	EC-130J aircraft divestment	2,500
USSOCOM	MC-12W aircraft divestment	29,700
USSOCOM	A/MH-6M aircraft divestment	3,900
WHS	Washington Headquarters Services, Program decrease	10,000

SAVINGS TABLE, FY 2024 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT—Continued

(In Thousands of Dollars)

SERVICE/COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION OF SAVINGS/PLATFORM DIVESTED	TOTAL FYDP SAVINGS
TOTAL FYDP SAVINGS		643,455
<p>Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 minutes.</p>	<p>No, we didn't. Five people didn't even sign the conference report.</p>	<p>blow through that cap and waste taxpayer money on something else that doesn't enhance our lethality or capability or survivability.</p>
<p>Mr. Speaker, I concur with the Chairman's conclusions. We worked this process as bipartisan and as open as any process in Congress. We had the markup in committee, we had the floor vote, and we had a bunch of amendments. The Senate did the same. We went to a conference committee, and we had a very robust discussion.</p>	<p>What happened was a deal was cut by leadership, by the four corners, to shove down a predetermined bill into the conference, and said: Take it.</p>	<p>We have legislation to eliminate the chief diversity officer at DOD because that was the fountainhead of so many of these woke, bad ideas, and yet the House receded on that position.</p>
<p>We had disagreements. There are a lot of things in this bill that I do not like, but we have bipartisan control here. We have the Senate controlled by the Democrats, the White House controlled by the Democrats—they have to sign the bill—and the House controlled by the Republicans. So we worked a good compromise.</p>	<p>Five people didn't sign it. They sent that conference report back to us, and they said: Take it, pass this before Christmas or you are going to leave our men and women in uniform stranded.</p>	<p>Many of our colleagues were concerned that when you look at our military bases or installations, they were flying flags that weren't the American flag. They were flying the LGBTQ flag, the Black Lives Matter flag, whatever that flag is with all of those pink and black triangles in it. That desire that we had to fly the American flag and the flags of our service branches was also surrendered by the House of Representatives to the Senate.</p>
<p>Mr. Speaker, what this bill does is it supports our troops in their efforts to defend this country and to meet our national security needs. It has a robust pay increase, it has increases in basic housing allowance, and a number of other provisions to support our troops and their families.</p>	<p>That is what occurred. That is what is actually happening.</p>	<p>We wanted a parents bill of rights in DOD schools so that you wouldn't get the strange material that goes into radical gender ideology or race ideology. That was abandoned by the House of Representatives.</p>
<p>Critically, it solidifies our alliances with our European allies, with our allies in Asia and with Israel and our allies in the Middle East, to meet the threats that we face.</p>	<p>Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ).</p>	<p>So we also expressed a great deal of concern over the censorship that the DOD was funding through a lot of its alliances. We put in our bill a prohibition on marketing through those networks that have engaged in broad-scale censorship. Unfortunately, that was replaced with a report. Instead of stopping the money flowing to censorship through the DOD, we have just asked to be informed about it as it is happening, even though we already know it is happening. That is why we have conducted these investigations.</p>
<p>You cannot oppose this bill and claim that you support the national security of this country because this bill represents that bipartisan compromise that we worked for to get a good bill, to meet our national security needs, and again, I would emphasize, to support our troops and to support their families.</p>	<p>□ 0930</p>	<p>This bill is insufficient to deal with the structural challenges that we have at the Department of Defense where they have veered substantially left. There is good in the bill, but it does not deserve an affirmative vote with this just absolutely unnecessary and uncalled-for extension of spying authorities that we already know have been abused.</p>
<p>Nothing is more important to the national security of this country than the people who we ask to defend it. This bill protects them.</p>	<p>Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I rise in opposition to this NDAA because there is a great deal of good in it, but only in Washington must we bring a bill to the floor so that we are able to militarily confront China while at the same time embracing the policies that make the United States more like China.</p>	<p>Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, before I yield to my friends and colleagues from the committee, I will respond to a charge that was made earlier that only five members refused to sign the conference report. There were 35 core conferees. Thirty core conferees did sign the conference report.</p>
<p>Mr. Speaker, I urge every Member in the body to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.</p>	<p>There is no desire on the part of our great Armed Services chairman, and even the Democrats we worked with, to have an extension of spying authorities put in this bill when we have already seen those authorities just totally abused, 278,000 violations of the existing law, as the FBI has queried information regarding Americans.</p>	<p>Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN), my friend and the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces.</p>
<p>Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the National Defense Authorization Act, and I say that respectfully to both sides who negotiated the bill, but I think the points that have been made here make my point.</p>	<p>When the Obama-appointed inspector general was reviewing whether or not the administration was complying with existing law, they found out we were breaking the law 38 times an hour.</p>	<p>Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this year's NDAA, and I thank the chairman for his leadership.</p>
<p>The fact of the matter is what is being stated is that it is impossible to oppose the National Defense Authorization Act because we put a pay raise in it, or because we put something in there that is seemingly so important that we have to ignore the critical destruction of our civil liberties by adding FISA extensions right on the top of it, without doing the reforms necessary to protect the American people.</p>	<p>To extend the authorities for spying that were being violated so that people at the FBI could do queries on their neighbors, their coworkers, their ex-lovers, that does not belong in the National Defense Authorization Act. Maybe we would be able to stomach some short-term extension if the underlying bill looked a little more like the product we sent out of the House of Representatives.</p>	<p>I am honored to serve as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Strategic</p>
<p>We do this every year. Then we are told: Oh, congratulations. We just had a conference committee.</p>	<p>We had concern over these social justice warriors that were making salaries in the hundreds of thousands of dollars at DOD, so we put a cap on that at three times what a private or airman would make. We claim that that's still in the bill, but the Senate was able to erode that and say so long as that social justice warrior is assigned any other responsibility, they are able to</p>	

Forces. I am pleased that 53 provisions I led in this year's NDAA received broad bipartisan support.

Through this bill, conservatives have achieved major wins that counter harmful Biden administration plans to treat our military like a social experiment. However, we must continue to make necessary investments in our strategic forces. We must prepare to simultaneously address two-peer aggressors, as well as deter the growing threats from Iran and North Korea. This bill does that.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill to ensure our men and women in uniform have the resources they need to defend our Nation.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Just briefly on the 702 issue. Section 702 needs to be reformed. There is no question about that. Nobody I know of, however, says that it should completely go away. If we don't do it on this bill, it completely goes away on January 1, which is a huge national security threat to this country, universonally agreed.

Now, I agree with the gentleman that we should debate that policy, but it is fascinating because on Tuesday we were set up to debate that policy. We had a couple different choices there, and the very people now who are screaming that we can't extend this without reform blocked the rule that would have allowed us to reform 702. It really doesn't make any sense.

What this bill does is it gives us time to do the reforms that need to be done without jeopardizing national security.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES), the ranking member of the House Intel Committee who knows this issue very, very well.

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I just reemphasize what the ranking member said. We had a robust conversation about 702 this week, and there should be more robust conversation. What is completely intolerable is the notion that the authority should be allowed to expire.

As ranking member of the Intelligence Committee, by God, let's reform it, but do not let it expire. If it expires, Americans and allies will die.

I rise in support of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2024 and congratulate the chairman and ranking member of the Armed Services Committee for their constructive work on this legislation which advances our national security. The partnership between the Armed Services Committee and the Intelligence Committee is as strong as it has been during my time in Congress, and I believe that this contributes to enhanced oversight of the agencies charged with protecting national security.

Among the many provisions of the NDAA, I want to particularly highlight the Intelligence Authorization Act,

which is incorporated as Division G of the NDAA. Under the leadership of Chairman TURNER, the Intelligence Committee has worked collaboratively and effectively to advance the IAA. The conference agreement we have reached with the Senate advances our national security while supporting the brave men and women in the intelligence community.

The FY24 IAA includes numerous provisions, the vast majority of which were developed on a bipartisan basis. To highlight just a few, the IAA includes a number of proposals I developed jointly with Chairman TURNER intended to accelerate the IC's adoption of cutting-edge technology, particularly artificial intelligence.

Our ability to leverage emerging technologies to the IC's mission will determine our ability to stay ahead of our adversaries in a world of great power competition.

The legislation also includes sweeping reforms to how the CIA handles allegations of sexual assault and sexual harassment. These reforms came out of a bipartisan investigation in which we found that too many CIA officers have experienced sexual misconduct and the agency's protocols for dealing with these incidents were often frustrating and not centered on victims. Our legislation would streamline those processes so victims know where to turn and what to expect.

Madam Speaker, there is no question we face dangerous and complex challenges around the world. The IC's unique capabilities are what will continue to give us the edge over our adversaries and keep Americans safe. I urge support of the NDAA and with the IAA, which is included.

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

I want to clear up one misconception, that somehow there was a block of us who were denying the ability to have a rule on the floor with respect to FISA 702.

The fact is, the question was, was there going to be a rule for something called queen of the hill, in which two bills would have been put forward with no amendments, none. There would have been no debate on the House floor. There would have been no ability to amend it here on the floor.

As usual, it would have been the people who say they are the only ones who know the information needed to make the decisions for the American people to do it in a committee, behind closed doors, often in the SCIF, without half of us knowing any of the information, and then bring it to the floor and say take it or leave it. That was what was going to occur.

We said we shouldn't do it that way, that what we should do is bring a bill to the floor that would reform FISA, allow us to offer amendments, have a debate on the warrant requirements, have a debate on who it applies to, and decide whether or not we are going to actually protect the civil liberties of the American people.

Instead, no, no, what we are going to do is pile on an extension of FISA on the back of our defense authorization; that is, on the back of our men and women in uniform. We are going to allow it to be extended and the procedures extended until April of 2025. That is what your people's House is going to do.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE).

Mr. ROSENDALE. Madam Speaker, in July, the House Republicans passed the most conservative NDAA in history that ended Biden's taxpayer-funded abortion travel fund, stopped taxpayer-funded gender transition surgeries, and prevented American citizens from being indefinitely detained without charge or trial. I was proud to vote for that legislation.

I understood that this bill would change in the Senate and knew that compromise was inevitable.

However, I cannot support a bill written by the D.C. uniparty that removes all of the reforms and watch as leadership once again suspends the rules we fought to restore, preventing Members from even amending this flawed legislation.

Even worse, this legislation includes a clean extension of FISA section 702, which has allowed the FBI to spy on U.S. citizens more than 278,000 times without a warrant. The FBI, under President Biden, has been weaponized against the American people, and major reform is needed.

FISA should not be combined with our national defense, and it is unacceptable that leadership is bypassing regular order to jam Members by forcing them to vote on two unrelated bills with one vote. Make no mistake about this, folks: This one vote will allow the United States Government to spy on you and the United States military to lock you up in Guantanamo Bay without representation.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON), one of the most senior members of the Armed Services Committee and a real leader on national defense issues.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I congratulate Chairman MIKE ROGERS and Ranking Member ADAM SMITH for the diligent work for this bipartisan NDAA, which I support.

The axis of evil, war criminal Putin, the regime in Tehran, the Chinese Communist Party, dictators with rule of gun invading democracies with rule of law makes the passage of this bipartisan legislation more important than ever.

I am grateful to have provisions included such as authorization for operations for critical missions at Savannah River Site, including plutonium pit production and the Tritium Finishing Facility; the U.S.-Israel Future of Warfare Act, which provides for collaboration on defense and technology

for border security; the Foreign Extortion Prevention Act, which is protecting American companies from demands for bribes by corrupt foreign officials. This is the most significant anticorruption law since the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which promotes peace through strength.

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

I would note that even if section 702 lapses at the end of December, the intelligence community will remain able to conduct 702 collection and queries until April 11, 2024. By the way, that is even setting aside Article I authority, which the President of the United States can go exercise under the current FISC certification.

Number two, if the NDAA is passed with a FISA extension, as I said before, to April 19, 2024, it will enable the Biden administration to seek another yearlong certification which would kick it until April of 2025.

Both of those points have been independently corroborated by CRS attorneys as recently as August of this year and by Trump administration attorneys under similar circumstances as reported in *The New York Times* in 2017, an article that laid that out.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY).

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, we all know it is Christmas and you can sure tell because here we go with the ornaments. We have got a Christmas tree headed out, and we have got to put some ornaments on it. That is what is happening right now.

Of course, we are going to violate our rules. You saw it here just a few moments ago. This violates the single-subject rule because Americans are literally sick of their Representatives coming home and saying to them: Well, I didn't want to vote for that, but this was on it, and we had to get this so I had to vote for that. That is how this town works. That is how you end up \$34 trillion in debt, and that is how you spy on 278,000 Americans under the Federal Government's authority.

It violates the germaneness rule. People say what does that matter? Why does it matter if it is germane? Madam Speaker, the House passed a bill, a pretty good bill, thanks to the chairman, a pretty good bill. The Senate passed a bill. I don't think it was pretty good, but they passed a bill. Either way, you know what wasn't in either of those bills? The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act used to spy on Americans. That wasn't in the bill, but at the last minute it was airdropped into this bill.

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In this House, we put in the rules that we need to know the single purpose of a bill. When we asked, "What is the single purpose of this bill?" this

House said, "We are not even going to tell the American people. We are not going to tell them that." They are not going to tell the American people that because they want to couple these two things together and pass a terrible National Defense Authorization Act.

They are going to say the troops are not being paid when they are being paid. They are going to allow the Federal Government, under the guise of law, to spy on every American citizen.

It is unconscionable and unacceptable. My colleagues should vote "no."

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN), my friend and colleague and the chairman of the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee.

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, war is on our doorstep. With the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Iran's proxy conflict with Israel, North Korea's long-range ballistic missile development, and China's belligerence in the South China Sea, an axis of evil is rising again.

These nations seek to challenge the security of the world that has provided our Nation's prosperity since World War II. We are answering the call with this year's NDAA. We drafted this bill to address the growing national security threats while taking care of our servicemembers.

The bill increases the top line of defense to keep pace with our national security challenges.

It provides a 5.2 percent servicemember pay increase, the largest increase in 20 years. This bill provides a path for COVID vaccine servicemembers to be reinstated.

The bill curbs a reckless administration's diversity, equity, and inclusion appetite that detracts from warfighting.

The bill provides needed force structure focus by retaining critical aircraft and ships, preparing us to deter conflict before 2030.

Madam Speaker, this is the right bill at the right time. We need it urgently to deter catastrophic conflict.

Madam Speaker, I recognize Ranking Member NORCROSS. He is a great teammate. I thank the chairman and urge all Members to support this.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining for the various Members.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BICE). The gentleman from Washington has 5½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Alabama has 4 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Texas has 9½ minutes remaining.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 1½ minutes.

Madam Speaker, I want to focus on this notion that this is how this town works and how terrible that is. I really don't understand where people get the idea that the way the world works is that you get absolutely everything you want and nobody else gets anything.

That isn't how this town works. This is how life works in your family, your community, and in your neighborhood—everywhere.

I know these Members know this because we just had the vote on Israel not long ago. I would ask: What does the IRS have to do with defending Israel? Somehow, these Members decided that they had to put the IRS cuts in with Israel. They all voted for it and were happy as clams.

If you don't like the deal, fine, vote "no." That's cool.

The idea that you say that this is just the worst process in the world, apparently you don't like democracy because that is what democracy is. You compromise and work with people. You do it all the time.

Argue against the substance of the bill, but please stop tearing down this institution and tearing down this democracy. We have to try to get along with people we don't agree with.

Madam Speaker, to quote "Game of Thrones": "We make peace with our enemies, not our friends." You have to find a way to get along with people who you disagree with. The chairman of the committee did an outstanding job of doing that in this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge everybody to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

The question is: Who gets to decide? That is the question. Who gets to make these grand pronouncements of who is going to compromise? It sure as hell wasn't any of us. That wasn't the deal.

What was tried to be done with FISA was to bring two bills to the floor unamendable and decided by only small groups of people. That is what was occurring.

With respect to this, it was decided by leadership, both sides, to take and jam the FISA extension on the back of our men and women in uniform and bring that to the floor in violation of our rules for single subject, and then they say take it or leave it. That was what was done. That was the compromise.

If you poke the bear in this town, they don't like to be poked because it changes the way this town works, heaven forbid. It has been going so well and so beautifully that we are \$34 trillion in debt, and we have rampant spying on the American people that is occurring.

In 2020 and early 2021, the FBI conducted 278,000 improper searches of Americans, according to the 2022 FISC report. We are supposed to trust the FBI to fix that.

In June 2022, an FBI analyst conducted four queries of section 702 information using the last names of a United States Senator and a State senator based on information that a foreign intelligence service was targeting those individuals.

We have rampant abuses going on, and this body is just going to extend

the very mechanism of those abuses on the back of the National Defense Authorization Act. They say: Have a nice day. Merry Christmas. Go home and have your turkey. Go home and be with your families.

That is what is actually occurring.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ).

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, in the last round of debate, House Republicans were criticized for providing a pay-for for our plan to support Israel out of the IRS. The theory is that it is just totally unrelated, but a pay-for for the things we are doing, that is always related. It is only in Washington, certainly not in many of our State capitals, where you can have an ambition to go fund something and then not identify the offset that would naturally allow you to engage in that.

The only real substantive debate I have heard in favor of this bill is that it does good pay increases for our servicemembers. Undeniably, that has universal agreement within this body.

I think about the 8,600 servicemembers who were forced to separate from our military because of an ill-conceived, now withdrawn, vaccine requirement. We were told over and over again that there would be backpay, reparations, and restoration of rank for those people who were improperly told that they could not express their patriotism through military service because they didn't want to take an experimental vaccine. That is totally absent in this legislation.

In communities like mine that are military heavy, the 5 percent pay increase will be very welcome. Every one of our military families knows someone who now is not able to have their job and who has seen impacts on their spouses, their marriages, and their children because of this mandate. We ought to have really taken care of those great folks. We did not in this bill.

I am all about compromise. To me, compromise ought to reflect the work of the House and the Senate and then linking up those matters.

Neither the House nor the Senate version of this bill dealt with extending spying authorities, as my colleague from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) said. That was something that was added in. That is the process objection. The objection is not that we are unable to compromise on that which we present different views on. It is when a totally new issue just parachutes in and drops on what would otherwise be legislation we want to agree to.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, my friend from Florida (Mr. GAETZ), who is a member of the Armed Service Committee, knows very well there are hundreds of provisions in this bill that are good for our servicemembers, in addition to the 5.2 percent pay raise, which is the biggest in 20 years.

With regard to the individuals who had to leave the service because of

COVID, this bill provides a pathway for them to get back into the service without a rank punishment.

There is much in this bill that he knows is good. To characterize it as only having the pay raise as the reason to vote for it is disappointing.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GALLAGHER), a real leader on the Armed Services Committee. He is the chairman of the Cyber, Information Technologies, and Innovation Subcommittee.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill.

As we look across the world, deterrence is collapsing, and we in this body need to do everything possible to restore it.

As chairman of the Cyber, Information Technologies, and Innovation Subcommittee, I am proud of many of the provisions that we got into the bill that will spark innovation across the Pentagon, strengthen offensive and defensive cybersecurity, and ensure our warfighters are equipped with the cutting-edge technology that they need today.

Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman for working with the select committee on the CCP to include a lot of our recommendations, from enhanced cyber cooperation with and prioritization of aid to Taiwan to detailed analyses of China's defense spending.

At the end of this process, the chairman and the ranking member can proudly say that we will have done our work on the Armed Services Committee. We have authorized what we needed to authorize. That is a testament to their leadership and the spirit of the bipartisanship they have set.

However, we also need to appropriate money to the Defense Department. We have not done that. We are having a debate about a supplemental, which begs the question: What are we supplementing?

If we don't appropriate, we will lose \$37 billion.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I would point out that the money from the IRS was not a pay-for. It actually increased the deficit. Under the rules of the House, the people who decide how to score those things scored it as adding money to it.

It wasn't a pay-for. It was going after the IRS to appease people so they could vote for the larger package.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG), an outstanding freshman who is on the Armed Services Committee.

Mr. STRONG. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the 2024 National Defense Authorization Act.

Madam Speaker, I commend Chairman ROGERS and Ranking Member

SMITH for their leadership, and I thank both sides of the aisle for their vigorous debate while working together to create a bill that is focused on the defense and security of our Nation.

The NDAA passed through the House Armed Services Committee by a vote of 59-1. This shows that Republicans and Democrats can work together to solve our Nation's problems. This committee put national security first and set an example on how to bring a bipartisan bill to the United States House floor.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the fiscal year 2024 NDAA on behalf of our Nation and the American warfighter.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, may I inquire again as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Washington has 3½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Texas has 5 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Alabama has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. NORCROSS), the ranking member on the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee.

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, Congress has a really proud tradition of passing our annual NDAA. Passing this bill is as important as ever. The NDAA is the result of hard work on both sides to support our military and provide our warfighters with the tools and the resources they need.

This bill includes my enhanced Buy American legislation to support American jobs by ensuring the reliability, stability, and security of our defense industrial base, strengthening relationships with our trusted allies. A strong military begins with a U.S. defense industrial base built with domestic components by an American workforce.

The fiscal year 2024 NDAA is a testament to compromise. I am grateful to the chairman of the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee, Mr. WITTMAN, and the professional staff for what they have done to get this across the finish line for the American people.

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

Madam Speaker, we are here because it is right before Christmas and everybody says we must pass this. Okay, we should pass the National Defense Authorization Act.

We should deal with FISA, but it shouldn't be an extension of FISA that continues the same procedures that have been abused. It extends those procedures through April 2025. That is what we are going to do.

The fact of the matter is, there was an NSA analyst's backdoor search for the communication of two individuals the analyst had met on an online dating service. There was an NSA analyst's backdoor search for the communications of a prospective tenant of a rental property they owned.

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A backdoor search was conducted for the names and dates of birth of individuals who were registered competitors at an athletic event, a backdoor search for 1,600 Americans who had flown through an airport during a particular date range and were either traveling to or returning from a foreign country, all according to a report from the Privacy and Civil Rights Oversight Board.

The FISA Court issued opinions in 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2022 decrying FBI agents' persistent and widespread violation of such safeguards.

Now, I do believe we have bipartisan reforms. We just passed a good bill out of the Judiciary Committee. I believe it was a good bill that was passed out of the Intelligence Committee. I prefer the Judiciary Committee bill. I think we should be debating those. I think we should have one bill on the floor, and I think we should amend them.

We have 18 days remaining in the calendar year before FISA allegedly expires, which I already detailed. CRS attorneys and other outside experts are detailing how they will continue to be able to collect data under 702. Nevertheless, we could get it done by December 31 if we actually did our job.

Instead, what we are going to do is kick the can down the road, and we are going to empower the court to be able to set the procedures in place for another 16 months because that is what we do. We are the House of kicking the can down the road. That is what we do every year. We are doing it right now, and we are doing it today.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, as I listen to this debate, I am reminded of how blessed we are with incredible staff on both the majority and minority side who have spent months preparing this piece of legislation. I think it is important for all of us to take a pause and thank them for all of the hard work they have done in preparing this bill, and, particularly, the overtime they have put in in the last few weeks.

Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GIMENEZ), who is an outstanding freshman member of the House Armed Services Committee.

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Chair, the United States is facing a host of pressing issues, from Communist China's increased aggression in the Indo-Pacific to attacks by Iran-backed Hamas terrorists against our dear friend, Israel. This NDAA ensures our military is ready and able to meet these challenges head-on.

In south Florida and across the Nation, living and housing costs are a priority for our men and women in uniform. This NDAA secures a 5.2 percent increase in pay to our servicemembers which is the largest in 20 years, it authorizes \$394 million more than the President's budget request for new family housing and barracks, and it in-

creases eligibility for cost-of-living allowances.

While this NDAA may not be perfect, it fully funds our military, enhances capabilities and readiness, and supports our brave servicemembers.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, as I understand it, I could go second to last, but I am prepared to close at this point, as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Washington is correct.

Mr. ROY. I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Madam Speaker, another point that I think merits observation is that, as we speak, with the 18 days remaining, the Senate, rather than working on ensuring that we get a better NDAA—but, more importantly in this context because that process is kind of played out—rather than figuring out how we are going to deal with FISA and reform it to make sure Americans' civil liberties are protected, we have the Senate in negotiations with the White House on figuring out what crumbs can be given for border security to be attached to Ukraine funding while Zelenskyy is paraded around Washington trying to demand more money for Ukraine when our border is wide-open.

So the Senate has plenty of time to hold themselves here in negotiation with the White House so we can beg for crumbs for the protection of our sovereignty and security of the people of Texas and the people of this country, but we don't have time to figure out how to fix FISA. It is pretty extraordinary. It is pretty extraordinary.

In the meantime, in this very bill is \$600 million authorized for Ukraine. Now, I am actually not personally all that troubled by those provisions. We supported them in the authorization bill in July, but I would note, importantly, to my colleagues on this side of the aisle, a majority of Republicans opposed an amendment for the continuation of that funding to Ukraine in a September vote on the floor.

A majority of Republicans opposed that funding, and, yet, we are authorizing it here on the back of a number of provisions that we don't support and on the back of FISA being piled on the top of that Defense authorization bill. For the life of me, I do not understand why this is how Republicans think we should end the year heading out for Christmas.

Madam Speaker, in closing, we have come to the floor today on a bill that all of us want to see passed. Every single one of us wants to pass a National Defense Authorization Act. Every single one of us wants to ensure that our men and women in uniform are paid ap-

propriately, have the tools they need to carry out their job, have the care they need when they get home, and that we do our job. Every single one of us wants to make sure that we do that.

Nevertheless, we are doing a terrible disservice to the people of this country by piling on an extension of a FISA regime that was abused—notably and clearly abused—against American citizens without reforming that piece of legislation by kicking the can down the road and by extending it not just through April but through April of 2025.

A vote for this bill is not just a bill for pay raises and support for our men and women in uniform. A vote for this bill is a perpetuation of the woke policies undermining our military, breaking down morale, driving down recruiting, and now undermining the civil liberties of the American people by not reforming FISA.

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

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

I think the most revealing thing said by the gentleman from Texas was: A majority of Republicans. A majority of Republicans supported something, so how possibly could we not do it?

That really reflects their opposition. They would like the majority of Republicans to control this bill.

Now, to the credit of the chairman and others, they recognize that bipartisan compromise is what we have to get to. They believe that what they want they get regardless of how anybody else votes. That is not the way the process works.

We have worked a very good bill and got a very good outcome here. We haven't even mentioned things like the AUKUS agreement, a crucial agreement in deterring China and strengthening our allies. There are a whole lot of things in this bill that are going to have a very positive outcome on national security.

Also, I do want to point out that this is important for the House to be involved. If we insist upon the notion that everybody has to agree, then we become irrelevant. This is the House expressing oversight of the executive branch, and, yes, it is on the Defense bill, but it is also in the Intel bill, and it is in the Foreign Affairs bill. If we aren't able to do that, then the executive branch becomes more powerful, and we disappear.

Now, in the appropriations process we tried that. The House couldn't pass roughly one-half of the appropriations bills because everybody insisted on having it exactly their way, and, again, we have rendered ourselves irrelevant.

Please vote for this bill. It is a reflection of a bipartisan and bicameral effort of the legislative branch to assert its authority and its obligation to exercise oversight.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I echo Mr. ROGERS' comments. Our staff is beyond

fantastic. I have not had as much time in this debate to thank them as I would like. They have done a great job. The floor staff and the parliamentary staff pulled it all together.

On a note of personal privilege, I specifically thank Connor Stubbs, my legislative director, for his outstanding work. He has the bad taste to be leaving my office tomorrow and going on to bigger and better things. He has done an outstanding job and is really reflective of the entire staff that I have, and that Mr. ROGERS has, HASC and SASC. These are tremendous people who work more hours than anybody could possibly calculate to make this happen. So I thank them very much for their hard work.

Again, Mr. Speaker, please, vote for this bill. It is enormously important that we do so, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I want to close by reminding my colleagues who are considering voting against this conference report of what it actually does and what they would be on record opposing.

The fiscal year 2024 NDAA requires military promotions to be based on merit and performance, bans the teaching of critical race theory in our military, requires border wall materials to be turned over to our Southwest border States, cuts and caps the pay of Pentagon DEI bureaucracy, defends Israel with additional weapons transfers and military training, prohibits the closure of Guantanamo Bay and transfer of terrorists to U.S. prisons, bans the contracting with Chinese companies, protects our military bases, defense research, and supply chains from Chinese espionage, trains and equips Taiwan, provides a path back to service for those discharged over the COVID-19 vaccine, creates a new monthly pay bonus, improves housing and expands benefits for junior enlisted servicemembers and their families, and, finally, the NDAA provides for the largest pay raise in over 20 years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to keep those things in mind when they vote today.

I thank Chairman REED and Ranking Members SMITH and WICKER. It has been great to work with them in this process. I also thank our House and Senate staff. They are just top-notch.

I thank the leadership on both sides, as well as the tremendous professionals of the Office of Legislative Counsel, the Congressional Budget Office, the House Parliamentarian, and the House Clerk for all their help.

Finally, I thank the brave men and women in uniform for their willing service and sacrifice around the world to keep us free and safe.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to vote in favor of the conference report, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (NDAA).

I did not vote for the Republican majority's version of the NDAA that passed the House in July. That bill was loaded with extreme and partisan social policy riders that had no place in legislation that supports our national security and the service members who defend it. That is why I'm encouraged by the bipartisan negotiations that produced a much more balanced compromise bill. While there are still some provisions I do not agree with, nearly all the worst policy ideas from the Republican majority have been removed. Excluded from the agreement are the harmful provisions that would deny reproductive health care access to our service members and their families and attack the rights of LGBTQ+ service members.

I do disagree with some remaining provisions that I believe will continue discourage building a diverse military, and ones that would inhibit the Administration's ability to improve military resilience and readiness in the face of ongoing climate change challenges. For example, this legislation maintains a provision banning Critical Race Theory in our military education system. The definition is narrower than originally proposed, but I remain concerned with how Critical Race Theory is defined and that this provision could be used to limit how certain eras of American history are taught. This NDAA also institutes a salary cap and hiring freeze on the Defense Department's Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee, pursuant to completion of a department audit. I think this is unnecessary and should have been removed.

As Ranking Member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, I am intimately familiar with the range threats to our nation and to our partners and allies around the world. That is why I will continue to fight against the same outrageous and extreme social policy provisions included by Republicans in this year's Defense Appropriations Act that would result in deterring the American public from raising their hand to serve.

This legislation temporarily extends the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) 702 authorization. I am supportive of reforms to Section 702 to ensure that the civil liberties of American citizens are protected, and Congress must consider the merits of bills on FISA reform that are moving through the House and the Senate right now. However, the national security risks associated with allowing this authorization to lapse entirely in a manner of weeks with no replacement are too grave. It is important that we allow more time for Congress to understand the sensitive details surrounding this program, continue constructive debate, and find a compromise solution that finds a prudent balance that respects individual liberty and protects national security.

I am strongly supportive of this NDAA's ironclad commitment to our allies and partners at a time when geopolitical events increasingly test America's resolve and unity. This legislation includes robust resourcing toward the European and Pacific Deterrence Initiatives, an extension of the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative, and a provision that places limits on the President's ability to withdraw the U.S. from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization pursuant to Congressional approval. These are all important parts of maintaining America's security commitments to our fellow democracies in Europe and in Asia. Of particular significance to our Pacific deterrence efforts, this legislation elevates our commitment to

AUKUS, our tri-lateral Pacific partnership with Australia and the U.K. Provisions that empower our Defense and State Departments to streamline resource and information sharing between these critical allies and measures that strengthen our collective defense industrial capacity all embrace the recognition that we are stronger together in these endeavors than alone.

Also notable is how this bill takes care of our service members and their families. This NDAA continues our commitment to invest in our most important resource in our nation's defense arsenal—our people. The compromise supports the administration's proposed 5.2% pay raise for service members, strengthens the civilian workforce, and supports military spouses and families with additional authorized investments in housing, childcare, career opportunities, health care, and other quality of life needs.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is not perfect and there are provisions in it that I disagree with. But no compromise is perfect. This legislation is significantly improved from the Republican bill that passed this body in July, which would have been a disaster for our national security and our troops if it had been enacted.

I will support the conference agreement.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, this NDAA conference report contains several important provisions that I support. These include the authorization of \$300 million for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative, \$300 million for construction of new military childcare centers, excluding the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) from the Basic Needs Allowance (BNA), and providing a 5.2 percent pay raise for servicemembers. The conference agreement also strikes many of the most problematic provisions from the House-passed NDAA, including provisions preventing female servicemembers from accessing reproductive care, preventing gender-affirming care for transgender servicemembers, and multiple provisions that would worsen our climate crisis. I'm relieved these harmful provisions will not become law.

I also strongly support a provision of the bill that is especially important to my Congressional District: the authorization of \$40 million for the Fort Hunter Liggett Network Enterprise Center. Fort Hunter Liggett is the U.S. Army Reserve's largest training installation, but many of its facilities, including the Network Enterprise Center, are badly in need of repair or replacement. This funding will allow for the construction of a new Network Enterprise Center to enable the installation to continue to meet its mission.

However, the NDAA conference report regrettably also contains a very controversial extension of current warrantless surveillance authorities by intelligence and law enforcement agencies. Airdropped into the NDAA conference report is a seemingly-innocuous 'short-term' reauthorization of Section 702 of FISA until April 19, 2024. However, this 'short-term' reauthorization masks a de facto 16-month extension for surveillance programs that law enforcement and intelligence agencies admit bypass the Fourth Amendment. This extension greenlights continued use of Section 702 despite its well-documented history of abuse and allows the government's unchecked access to Americans' personal data without a warrant. I absolutely cannot vote to

extend FISA's Section 702, even temporarily, and therefore will cast a NAY vote on the NDAA conference report.

Instead of embracing the surveillance status quo, Congress needs to reform Section 702 to protect Americans' civil liberties. Congressional leadership must bring the Protect Liberty and End Warrantless Surveillance Act to the floor for a vote. The Judiciary Committee recently passed this pivotal surveillance reform bill, by an overwhelming bipartisan vote, that is largely inspired by the bicameral, bipartisan Government Surveillance Reform Act that I introduced with Rep. WARREN DAVIDSON.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this year's NDAA.

I am pleased that we were able to work in a bipartisan fashion to finalize the Senate's State Department Authorization bill for inclusion in this year's NDAA. In late 2021, during my chairmanship of the Foreign Affairs Committee, we shepherded—through the House, into a conference NDAA, and ultimately onto the President's desk—the first comprehensive State Department Authorization bill to become law in nearly 20 years. The passage of this year's bill will make three in a row.

The bill includes many important provisions—including to: stand up a fellowship program in honor of our late colleague John Lewis and a transatlantic leadership institute; authorize support and economic diplomacy to public diplomacy and beyond.

The NDAA also includes important provisions related to the implementation of the AUKUS trilateral security partnership. By leveraging the shared capabilities of the U.S., Australia, and the U.K., the United States and its allies can shape a free and open Indo-Pacific for years to come.

The Foreign Affairs Committee and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee painstakingly and carefully negotiated the AUKUS compromise text included in this NDAA. The compromise text includes support for the families of Americans wrongfully detained around the globe, and ensures that State Department personnel have the flexibilities and authorities they need to succeed in their work—from cyber helps advance this critical agreement and includes both Pillar 1 legislation to support the transfer of Virginia-class submarines to Australia, and shared financial and training efforts. It also includes bipartisan legislation supporting Pillar 2 of AUKUS, which provides a sound way forward for ensuring cutting-edge defense technology cooperation can advance while maintaining critical safeguards and regulations.

This year's NDAA was not perfect. I am disappointed outbound investment regulations were not included, and I support moving the MCCAUL-MEEKS bipartisan bill to the floor immediately to address this crucial issue.

Nonetheless, the NDAA is once again the product of a serious bipartisan work accomplished during conference, so I support the legislation and urge all my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand here today in favor of the Conference Report on the Fiscal Year 24 NDAA. This conference report is the result of bipartisan efforts to strengthen our national defense while supporting our military members, families, and communities. I would like to thank Senator REED, Senator WICKER, Chairman ROGERS, and Ranking Member SMITH for their leader-

ship throughout the entire process to produce this bipartisan bill.

I would also like to thank Chairman WALTZ of the Readiness Subcommittee for his partnership, Jeanine Womble the readiness PSM, my MLA Rob Hurd, and my Defense Fellow Taylor Brunstad. I am proud of the work we have done to protect the Readiness of our Armed forces. This bill continues our work, along with our Senate colleagues, to support military families by providing more childcare centers, protect basic healthcare rights for women service member, support energy resiliency on our bases, increase base pay to retain and recruit top talent, and demand DoD accountability and transparency on spending to prevent wasteful use of taxpayer dollars.

It is of vital importance to me to support our servicemembers and their families at bases like Travis Air force Base and ensure they have the housing, training, equipment, and quality of life they need and deserve. I am proud to continue my work to serve the men and women in my district, and to serve the brave men and women volunteering to protect our freedom. While this bill is a strong bipartisan effort to support the military, there is still more to be done and I look forward to building on these efforts in the years ahead.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2670, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024.

Congress has the solemn duty to ensure that those who wear the uniform of the United States—and those civilians who provide logistical and operational support—have the equipment, training, and resources needed to carry out and complete their mission.

And we must never forget that a grateful nation has a sacred obligation, in the words of President Lincoln, "to care for him who has borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan."

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman ROGERS, Ranking Member SMITH, and the committee staff for their diligent work that resulted in this bipartisan, bicameral report, which includes my legislation, the Foreign Extortion Prevention Act.

I was pleased to work with Senator WHITEHOUSE to help negotiate the inclusion of this legislation, which will be the most significant international criminal anti-corruption legislation since 1977.

The Foreign Extortion Prevention Act will finally enable U.S. law enforcement to indict foreign kleptocrats for extorting U.S. businesses and Americans.

The harms caused by foreign bribe demands are innumerable and include foreign officials who demand bribes and extort individuals in furtherance of trafficking of children and drugs into and out of the United States. These crimes largely go unpunished.

With the passage of FEPA (through the NDAA), however, those who violate the provisions of FEPA could face a criminal fine of up to \$250,000 and a prison sentence of up to 15 years.

As reported by Transparency International U.S. in May 2023, a recent survey by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development found that foreign officials who demand or receive bribes are only criminally punished by their home governments some 20 percent of the time.

As many of you are aware, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) prohibits U.S. companies from bribing foreign officials.

But it does not protect U.S. companies from predatory foreign officials who solicit bribes—and then partner with the Chinese state-owned enterprises (SOEs) that are more than willing and able to pay them.

China does not appear to have ever enforced its own version of the FCPA, despite the Communist Party's continued crackdowns on companies it perceives to be corrupt or disloyal.

FEPA, by making it a crime for a foreign official to demand a bribe from a U.S. company, would therefore not only help to level the playing field for U.S. companies—but it will also deter and hold accountable corrupt officials who, by betraying their oaths for Beijing's bribes, become complicit in the Communist Party's global campaign to subvert rule of law and upend the security order.

By joining with the United Kingdom, Germany, France, and other democratic allies who have already enacted similar legislation to protect their own businesses, the United States can set an alternative example to China's use of corruption as a tool of foreign policy—one that, in promoting honest competition and rule of law, will ultimately benefit our national security.

In order to restore competitiveness, the United States must double-down on the rule of law.

The kleptocrats that extort U.S. companies also cheat their own people out of economic development and prosperity.

The United States must stand with these victims of kleptocracy.

This means combating the demand side of bribery—we must make kleptocrats think twice before they demand a bribe.

Already, the U.S. Department of Justice is attempting to deter the demand side of bribery with the tools that it has.

However, without a specific authority to prosecute foreign extortion, we are leaving the DOJ without the key tool that it needs to achieve this goal.

It is long overdue that we expand our foreign bribery laws to capture the malfeasance of foreign kleptocrats—in this age of globalization, we can wait no longer.

Please join me in passing the FY2024 National Defense Authorization act, which includes my legislation, the Foreign Extortion Prevention Act, which protects rule-abiding companies, and stands up for the victims of kleptocracy around the world.

It is time that we expand our foreign bribery laws to capture the malfeasance of foreign kleptocrats—in this age of globalization, we can wait no longer.

This legislation will protect rule-abiding companies and stand up for the victims of kleptocracy around the world.

So, I look forward to the NDAA being signed by the President of the United States and becoming law.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATURNER). The question is on the motion to adjourn offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 23, nays 307, not voting 103, as follows:

[Roll No. 722]

YEAS—23

Biggs	Good (VA)	Ogles
Bishop (NC)	Gosar	Perry
Burchett	Greene (GA)	Posey
Burlison	Griffith	Rosendale
Cloud	Hageman	Roy
Clyde	Luna	Self
Crane	Mills	Spartz
Fry	Norman	

NAYS—307

Adams	Curtis	Hudson
Aderholt	D'Esposito	Huffman
Aguilar	Davis (IL)	Issa
Alford	De La Cruz	Jackson (IL)
Allen	Dean (PA)	Jackson (NC)
Amo	DeGette	Jackson Lee
Amodei	DelBene	Jacobs
Armstrong	Deluzio	James
Arrington	DeSaulnier	Jayapal
Bacon	DesJarlais	Jeffries
Baird	Dingell	Johnson (OH)
Balderson	Doggett	Johnson (SD)
Balint	Dunn (FL)	Jordan
Barragan	Edwards	Kamlager-Dove
Bean (FL)	Ellzey	Kaptur
Beatty	Emmer	Keating
Bentz	Escobar	Kelly (IL)
Bera	Españolat	Kelly (MS)
Bergman	Estes	Kelly (PA)
Bice	Evans	Khanna
Bishop (GA)	Ezell	Kiggans (VA)
Blumenauer	Fallon	Kildee
Blunt Rochester	Ferguson	Kilmer
Boebert	Finstad	Kim (NJ)
Bost	Fischbach	Krishnamoorthi
Bowman	Fitzgerald	Kuster
Boyle (PA)	Fitzpatrick	Kustoff
Brownley	Fleischmann	LaHood
Buchanan	Fletcher	LaLota
Bucshon	Foster	LaMalfa
Budzinski	Foushee	Lamborn
Burgess	Frankel, Lois	Landsman
Bush	Frost	Latta
Calvert	Gaetz	LaTurner
Caraveo	Gallagher	Lee (CA)
Carbajal	Garamendi	Lee (FL)
Carey	Garbarino	Lee (NV)
Carl	Garcia (IL)	Lee (PA)
Carson	Garcia (TX)	Letlow
Carter (GA)	Garcia, Robert	Levin
Carter (LA)	Gimenez	Lieu
Carter (TX)	Golden (ME)	Lofgren
Cartwright	Goldman (NY)	Lucas
Casar	Gomez	Luetkemeyer
Case	Gonzales, Tony	Luttrell
Casten	Gonzalez,	Lynch
Castor (FL)	Vicente	Mace
Castro (TX)	Gooden (TX)	Magaziner
Chavez-DeRemer	Gottheimer	Maloy
Cherfilus-	Granger	Mann
McCormick	Graves (MO)	Manning
Chu	Green (TN)	Matsui
Ciscomani	Green, Al (TX)	McBath
Clark (MA)	Grijalva	McCarthy
Clarke (NY)	Grothman	McCaul
Cole	Guthrie	McClellan
Collins	Harder (CA)	McClintock
Comer	Hayes	McCollum
Connolly	Hern	McCormick
Correa	Higgins (NY)	McGovern
Costa	Himes	McHenry
Courtney	Hinson	Meeks
Craig	Houchin	Meng
Crawford	Houlihan	Meuser
Cuellar	Hoyle (OR)	Miller (OH)

Miller (WV)	Salinas	Thompson (MS)
Molinaro	Sánchez	Thompson (PA)
Moolenaar	Sarbanes	Tiffany
Moore (AL)	Scanlon	Timmons
Morelle	Schakowsky	Tlaib
Moskowitz	Schiff	Tokuda
Nadler	Scholten	Tonko
Napolitano	Schweikert	Torres (CA)
Neguse	Scott (VA)	Trahan
Nehls	Scott, Austin	Turner
Norcross	Scott, David	Underwood
Nunn (IA)	Sessions	Valadao
Omar	Sewell	Van Drew
Owens	Sherman	Van Dуйne
Pallone	Sherrill	Van Orden
Pappas	Simpson	Vargas
Pascrell	Slotkin	Vasquez
Payne	Smith (MO)	Veasey
Peltola	Smith (NE)	Velázquez
Pence	Smith (NJ)	Wagner
Perez	Smith (WA)	Walberg
Pfleger	Soto	Wasserman
Phillips	Spanberger	Schultz
Pingree	Stansbury	Waters
Pocan	Stanton	Watson Coleman
Porter	Stauber	Weber (TX)
Pressley	Steel	Webster (FL)
Quigley	Stefanik	Wenstrup
Raskin	Steil	Wexton
Reschenthaler	Steube	Wild
Rogers (AL)	Stevens	Williams (GA)
Rogers (KY)	Strickland	Williams (NY)
Rose	Strong	Williams (TX)
Ross	Swalwell	Wittman
Rouzer	Sykes	Womack
Ruppersberger	Takano	Yakym
Rutherford	Tenney	Zinke
Ryan	Thanedar	
Salazar	Thompson (CA)	

Thompson (MS)	Mooney
Thompson (PA)	Moore (UT)
Tiffany	Moore (WI)
Timmons	Moran
Tlaib	Moulton
Tokuda	Mrwan
Tonko	Mullin
Torres (CA)	Murphy
Trahan	Neal
Turner	Newhouse
Underwood	Nickel
Valadao	Obernolte
Van Drew	Ocasio-Cortez
Van Dуйne	Palmer
Van Orden	Panetta
Vargas	Pelosi
Vasquez	Peters
Veasey	Pettersen
Velázquez	Ramirez
Wagner	Rodgers (WA)
Walberg	Ruiz
Wasserman	Scalise
Schultz	Schneider
Waters	Schrier
Watson Coleman	Smucker
Weber (TX)	Sorensen
Webster (FL)	Titus
Wenstrup	Torres (NY)
Wexton	Trone
Wild	Waltz
Williams (GA)	Westerman
Williams (NY)	Wilson (FL)
Williams (TX)	Wilson (SC)
Wittman	
Womack	
Yakym	
Zinke	

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for rollcall vote No. 722, On Motion to Adjourn, I would have voted "nay."

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 722.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I was regretfully unable to vote on rollcall No. 722. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 722.

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the floor and the vote on the Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 722, Motion to Adjourn.

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 722, Republican Motion to Adjourn.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2670, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the adoption of the conference report on the bill (H.R. 2670) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. 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 5-minute vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the conference report on H.R. 2670 will be followed by a 5-minute vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2365.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 310, nays 118, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 723]

YEAS—310

NOT VOTING—103

Allred	Garcia, Mike	Mooney
Auchincloss	Graves (LA)	Moore (UT)
Babin	Guest	Moore (WI)
Banks	Harris	Moran
Barr	Harshbarger	Moulton
Beyer	Higgins (LA)	Mrwan
Bilirakis	Hill	Mullin
Bonamici	Horsford	Murphy
Brecheen	Hoyer	Neal
Brown	Huizenga	Newhouse
Buck	Hunt	Nickel
Cammack	Ivey	Obernolte
Cárdenas	Jackson (TX)	Ocasio-Cortez
Cleaver	Johnson (GA)	Palmer
Cline	Joyce (OH)	Panetta
Clyburn	Joyce (PA)	Pelosi
Cohen	Kean (NJ)	Peters
Crenshaw	Kiley	Pettersen
Crockett	Kim (CA)	Ramirez
Crow	Langworthy	Rodgers (WA)
Dauids (KS)	Larsen (WA)	Ruiz
Davidson	Larson (CT)	Scalise
Davis (NC)	Lawler	Schneider
DeLauro	Leger Fernandez	Schrier
Diaz-Balart	Lesko	Smucker
Donalds	Loudermilk	Sorensen
Duarte	Malliotakis	Titus
Duncan	Massie	Torres (NY)
Eshoo	Mast	Trone
Feenstra	McClain	Waltz
Flood	McGarvey	Westerman
Fox	Mendez	Wilson (FL)
Franklin, Scott	Mfume	Wilson (SC)
Fulcher	Miller (IL)	
Gallego	Miller-Meeks	

□ 1028

Messrs. EZELL, LUTTRELL, WEBSTER of Florida, MOLINARO, and Ms. TOKUDA changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mrs. LUNA changed her vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the motion to adjourn was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I missed the vote on rollcall No. 722. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 722.

Adams	Budzinski	Craig
Aderholt	Burgess	Crawford
Aguilar	Calvert	Crenshaw
Alford	Caraveo	Crockett
Allen	Carbajal	Crow
Allred	Cárdenas	Cuellar
Amo	Carey	D'Esposito
Amodei	Carl	Davids (KS)
Armstrong	Carson	Davis (IL)
Arrington	Carter (GA)	Davis (NC)
Bacon	Carter (LA)	De La Cruz
Balderson	Cartwright	Dean (PA)
Banks	Case	DeLauro
Barr	Casten	DelBene
Beatty	Castor (FL)	Deluzio
Bentz	Castro (TX)	DesJarlais
Bera	Chavez-DeRemer	Diaz-Balart
Bergman	Cherfilus-	Dingell
Beyer	McCormick	Duarte
Bice	Ciscomani	Dunn (FL)
Bishop (GA)	Clark (MA)	Edwards
Blunt Rochester	Clyburn	Ellzey
Boebert	Cole	Emmer
Boyle (PA)	Comer	Escobar
Brown	Connolly	Evans
Brownley	Correa	Ezell
Buchanan	Costa	Fallon
Bucshon	Courtney	Feenstra

Ferguson
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Foxy
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (TX)
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (MO)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy

Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Scott, David
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClellan
McCollum
McCormick
McGarvey
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Moore (UT)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Peterson
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Quigley
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz

Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schiff
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Swailwell
Sykes
Tennet
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Titus
Tokuda
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Duyn
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (NY)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

Hunt
Jackson (IL)
Jayapal
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Khanna
LaMalfa
Lee (CA)
Lee (PA)
Lesko
Lofgren
Luna
Mann
Massie
Mast
McClintock
McGovern
Meng
Miller (IL)

Mills
Moore (AL)
Nadler
Nehls
Norman
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Omar
Owens
Payne
Perry
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Ramirez
Raskin
Rose
Rosendale
Roy

Schakowsky
Schweikert
Self
Smith (NJ)
Spartz
Steube
Takano
Tiffany
Timmons
Tlaib
Tonko
Van Drew
Velázquez
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)

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)
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Collins
Comer
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
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
Españat
Estes
Evans
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Foxy
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott
Frost
Fry
Fulcher

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)
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
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)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Posey
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
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Goldman (NY)
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy

Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCathy
McCaul
McClain
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McCormick
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Perry
Peterson
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Scholten
Loudermilk
Schrier
Schweikert
Luetkemeyer
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill

NOT VOTING—6

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

□ 1040

Mr. COHEN changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”
Mr. MCGARVEY changed his vote from “nay to “yea.”
So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the conference report was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.
A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DR. EMMANUEL BILIRAKIS AND HONORABLE JENNIFER WEXTON NATIONAL PLAN TO END PARKINSON'S ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2365) to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national project to prevent and cure Parkinson's, to be known as the National Parkinson's Project, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 9, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 724]
YEAS—407

Auchincloss
Babin
Baird
Balint
Barragán
Bean (FL)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bost
Bowman
Brecheen
Buck
Burchett
Burlison
Bush
Cammack
Carter (TX)
Casar
Chu
Clarke (NY)
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
García, Mike
García, Robert
Gomez
Good (VA)
Gosar
Graves (LA)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Hageman
Harris
Españat
Hern
Finstad
Fischbach
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
García (IL)
García, Mike
García, Robert
Gomez
Good (VA)
Gosar
Graves (LA)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hoyle (OR)

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amo
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bonamici
Bost
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo

Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
García, Mike
García, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy
Schakowsky
Schiff
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill

Simpson	Thanedar	Wagner
Slotkin	Thompson (CA)	Walberg
Smith (MO)	Thompson (MS)	Waltz
Smith (NE)	Thompson (PA)	Wasserman
Smith (WA)	Timmons	Schultz
Smucker	Titus	Waters
Sorensen	Tlaib	Watson Coleman
Soto	Tokuda	Weber (TX)
Spanberger	Tonko	Webster (FL)
Stansbury	Torres (CA)	Wenstrup
Stanton	Torres (NY)	Westerman
Staubert	Trane	Wexton
Steel	Turner	Wild
Stefanik	Underwood	Williams (GA)
Stell	Valadao	Williams (NY)
Steube	Van Drew	Williams (TX)
Stevens	Van Duyne	Wilson (FL)
Strickland	Van Orden	Wilson (SC)
Strong	Vargas	Wittman
Swalwell	Vasquez	Womack
Sykes	Veasey	Yakym
Takano	Velázquez	Zinke
Tenney		

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 14, 2023.

I hereby designate the period from Thursday, December 14, 2023, through Monday, January 8, 2024, as a "district work period" under section 3(z) of House Resolution 5.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

INFLATION AFFECTS THE HOLIDAYS

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, this holiday season, many parents in Washington's Fourth Congressional District and across the Nation will struggle to afford a special holiday meal for their family or buy presents for their children.

The hard truth is that under the President's self-proclaimed Bidenomics agenda, we have seen trillions spent, causing inflation to skyrocket to a 40-year high.

Americans today are still struggling to afford everyday expenses because families are spending over \$11,000 more this year than last to purchase the same basic goods.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress, we have been working to rein in the out-of-control spending that this administration promotes and pursues. Over the summer, House Republicans successfully passed the Fiscal Responsibility Act to restore sanity, limit inflationary spending, and lift Americans out of poverty, but there is more work to be done.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I am proud of our efforts in mitigating the damage done by Big Government spending and reintroducing a commonsense, conservative approach to the way we use taxpayer dollars. We must continue to foster an economy that works for the American people rather than against them.

On that note, I wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

WORKING TO SUPPORT AMERICA

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise President Biden and my Democratic colleagues for our work to support the American people this year.

We are building bridges and paving new roads across this country. We broke ground on the new Hudson River tunnel to boost travel and the economy.

We are lowering prices on insulin and other lifesaving medications.

We are improving education. We are protecting voting rights. We are fighting for reproductive rights for all women.

We are creating jobs and investing in new semiconductor chip technology to protect American innovations.

The American people told us that this is what they want done. We are doing them.

Republicans threw out the House Speaker for the first time in U.S. history and worked for their reckless political agenda instead of the American people.

Democrats work for America. Republicans work for themselves.

RECOGNIZING SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring recognition to the city of Savannah, Georgia, as it was named among the best places to retire by Southern Living.

This travel publication considered numerous factors such as cost of living, home values, hospitality, accessibility, and others. Savannah was even nicknamed the "Hostess City of the South."

The city was highlighted for its arts and culture, as well as its historic charm. Being an important asset to the city, the Savannah College of Art and Design fills nearly 70 buildings downtown and hosts an annual sidewalk arts festival named "Chalk of the Town."

However, there is much more beyond this incredible culture. The city dates back all the way to 1733, which shines through the carefully preserved historic buildings, roads, and homes.

Savannah offers trolley rides through picturesque squares, as well as dozens of historic cemeteries. The city holds the key to the most excellent quality of life.

The city is my home. It is where I have lived all my life, and I am so very proud of the city of Savannah.

□ 1100

HONORING THE LIFE OF ADY BARKAN

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with a heavy heart to honor the life of my friend, Ady Barkan, who passed away earlier this year due to complications of ALS.

Ady is fondly remembered by many as a brilliant strategist, communicator, and activist. He was an activist who brought our Nation closer to making healthcare in America a basic human right.

Beyond being one of the most powerful activists in America, Ady Barkan

NAYS—9

Biggs	Burlison	Harris
Brecheen	Clyde	Rosendale
Buck	Davidson	Roy

NOT VOTING—18

Boebert	McHenry	Norman
Buchanan	Miller-Meeeks	Rogers (AL)
Cleaver	Mooney	Schneider
D'Esposito	Moore (WI)	Smith (NJ)
Eshoo	Moskowitz	Spartz
Gimenez	Nickel	Tiffany

□ 1048

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national project to prevent, diagnose, treat, and cure Parkinson's, to be known as the National Parkinson's Project, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 724.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to an unforeseen circumstance, I was unable to cast my vote for H.R. 2365. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 724.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable STEVE SCALISE, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 11, 2023.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON: Pursuant to the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation authorizing statute (20 U.S.C. §4703), I am pleased to recommend the following appointment to the Board of Trustees:

The Honorable Glenn Grothman of Wisconsin

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

STEVE SCALISE,
Republican Leader.

was also a loving husband and a dedicated father. My condolences to Rachael, his partner of 18 years, and their two children.

My heart goes out to your family, Rachael, during this difficult time. While I can't imagine a world without Ady, I know that through Be A Hero, his work and legacy will live on. That is why I am so proud to partner with Be A Hero and work towards introducing the Ady Barkan Memorial Resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution when introduced.

Thank you, Ady, for advocating for a better tomorrow.

CONGRATULATING ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM TO PARTICIPATE IN 2023 CAMELLIA BOWL

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I stand to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Arkansas State University Red Wolves football team for their well-deserved selection to participate in the 2023 Camellia Bowl, where they will face Northern Illinois University.

Reflecting on the 2023 football season, there is every indication that the Red Wolves are poised for success in their upcoming clash with NIU.

Quarterback Jaylen Raynor has been a true leader on the field, helping deliver exhilarating victories that have ignited the enthusiasm of Arkansas State's devoted fans.

As an alum of Arkansas State, I eagerly await the moment when Coach Butch Jones and the entire wolf pack take the field on December 23 to proudly represent Natural State on a national stage.

Wolves up.

WORKING FOR AMERICA

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the bipartisan NDAA, H.R. 2670, because there are men and women on the front lines across the world who are doing the work of this Nation: The civilians and men and women in the United States military that are providing logistical and operational support with equipment, training and resources needed to carry on.

Yes, and we have reaffirmed diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as the personal rights of our soldiers to have reproductive care.

In addition, my bill, the Foreign Extortion Prevention Act, was included, which stops Americans from being extorted overseas. It will finally enable U.S. law enforcement to indict foreign kleptocrats for extorting U.S. businesses and Americans individually that

basically stops the prosperous work that we are doing.

Mr. Speaker, as well I stand here supporting the Biden-Harris administration, because inflation is going down and retail purchases are going up. We are spreading broadband across America, and, yes, we are standing together to fight against denying women their reproductive rights.

Biden and Harris are going forward with this Democratic Congress, and we are standing here working for America. We will never leave you alone. We will always stand with you.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

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

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, the story of the birth of Jesus Christ from the Gospel of Luke:

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a savior, which is Christ the Lord.

POLITICALLY CONVENIENT CONDEMNATION

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

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, my Republican colleagues voted to condemn college presidents.

I wish they were condemning anti-Semitism, but don't let the title of that resolution fool you. This was never about that.

We know that because they did not condemn anti-Semitism when the Unite the Right rally chanted: "Jews will not replace us."

They didn't condemn anti-Semitism when their former Speaker shared a cartoon suggesting that Jewish bankers controlled the world.

They didn't condemn anti-Semitism when Donald Trump said that he only wanted Jews to count his money.

In every case, they have stood by in silent cowardice and defended hate

speech as free speech. Yet, they have the gall to ask college presidents to resign for emulating their cowardice.

Donald Trump's rhetoric led to a spike in hate crimes, anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim hate crimes. Both spiked again after October 6.

If you are only calling it out when it is politically convenient, you are not helping, you are a part of the problem.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF FIRE CHIEF RALPH STEGBAUER AND CAPTAIN JEFF SKAGGS

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

Mr. CAREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of two brave firefighters in my district who recently perished in a tragic accident.

Fire Chief Ralph Stegbauer and Captain Jeff Skaggs were longtime members of the Concord-Green Township Fire Department and proud sons of Fayette County.

Each man put their lives on the line daily for their community, whether it was responding to house fires at 3 a.m. or serving as first responders to roadway accidents, Chief Stegbauer and Captain Skaggs served selflessly.

Chief Stegbauer, a retired health department worker and teacher, left his mark on all those he encountered. A loving husband and proud father of two children, Chief Stegbauer always sought to build up those who were around him.

Captain Skaggs also had a long history of not only serving Fayette County, but the country as a whole. He served in the United States military as a Ranger, and later was given the rank of E5 sergeant.

Friends and family remember him as the first person to offer help to anyone who was in need. His community regarded him in the same way: never too busy to lend a helping hand.

These two men exemplified what it meant to be an Ohioan. They worked hard to support their families, but still found time to give back to their communities.

They put their lives on the line as volunteer firefighters and first responders, never asking for anything in return. Their tragic passing has left a hole in our community, and they will be missed dearly.

Their selfless public service also inspires all of us to work harder to make our communities just a little better. At Christmastime, please keep their families in your prayers.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF AMOS E. PIERCE, JR.

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

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Amos E. Pierce, Jr., a World War

II hero and father of my dear friend and acclaimed actor, Wendell Pierce. His life, spanning 98 years, was a testament to resilience, courage, and the pursuit of justice.

Amos served as an Army corporal with the 24th Infantry Regiment during the battle of Saipan in 1944. Though he faced racial discrimination, his commitment to country and values remained unwavering. Despite losing his home to Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Amos and his family triumphed over diversity.

Wendell Pierce's dedication and courage to rebuilding Pontchartrain Park and founding Pontchartrain Park Community Development Corporation was a testament to the leadership he learned at an early age from his father and reflects the family commitment to legacy and community.

Amos' enduring spirit, active involvement in church, and unwavering support for his son's artistic pursuit, define a life rich in love and a profound sense of purpose.

As a World War II veteran, father, and community pillar, Amos leaves behind an enduring legacy.

To my friends, Wendell and Ron, your father was an inspiration to me and so many others.

Our prayers are with you and your entire family. May he rest in peace. God bless you all.

RESOLVING THE MILITARY RECRUITING CRISIS

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

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the conference report for the 2024 National Defense Authorization Act.

I am proud to report that this conference report includes language that I authored to both rein in government-sponsored censorship and help resolve the military recruiting crisis.

The 2024 NDAA will require advertising agencies placing military recruitment commercials to certify that they have not placed advertisements in news sources based on personal or institutional political preferences or biases or determinations of misinformation.

This language is intended to prevent the Department of Defense from contracting with advertising agencies that utilize blacklists provided by organizations like Global Disinformation Index and NewsGuard, which have been found to be biased against conservative viewpoints.

Mr. Speaker, of the five Defense Department service branches, only two, the Marine Corps and Space Force, met their Active-Duty enlisted recruiting goals for fiscal year 2023. Last year, the Army missed its recruiting goals by 25 percent.

In the midst of this recruiting crisis, it makes zero sense to artificially limit the reach of our military recruitment

advertisements. It is especially foolish when those limitations target the sites frequented by the people most likely to volunteer to serve.

I am grateful to Chairman ROGERS, Speaker JOHNSON, and Ranking Member WICKER for fighting to include this important revision.

RECOGNIZING SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT JESS ROPER

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Senior Master Sergeant Jess Roper, who has served as my Department of Defense fellow this past year.

Jess has served in the Air Force for 18 years, primarily as a Korean linguist, and has been stationed across the country and around the world, from California to South Korea, from Hawaii to Iraq.

Jess' contributions to my office are countless. She staffed me through my work on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, she has overseen the introduction of legislation on cybersecurity and mental health, and she has delivered on priorities for the Servicewomen and Women Veterans Caucus, as well.

Jess' dedication to public service is something we should all aspire to, but she is also so much more than that.

To date, she has completed 72 marathons, including one in Antarctica. She holds two master's degrees and is also recently a first-time homeowner. She is an amazing woman.

While my team and I are very sad to see her go, we are so thrilled that she was assigned to us, and she will always be ours.

I wish her nothing but the absolute best as she moves forward in her career.

Jess, aim high, and God speed.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF K9 BEK

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

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of a distinguished member of the Myrtle Beach Police Department, K9 Bek. I am proud to congratulate this canine and the rest of the Myrtle Beach police force for their crucial role in the department's drug detection and weapons recovery programs.

With well over 300 deployments, Bek was able to track and seize an array of illicit drugs, including 44 kilograms of marijuana, several ounces of heroin, cocaine, and meth. He was responsible for multiple firearm retrievals and numerous building searches. These efforts led to over 50 criminal apprehensions.

Thank you, K9 Bek, the Myrtle Beach Police Department, and all law

enforcement agents across our country for the work that you do to keep us and our countrymen safe.

South Carolina is indeed safer because of the men, women, and dogs in uniform.

□ 1115

I KNOW HOW HARD IT IS TO BE JEWISH

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

Ms. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, as the youngest Jewish Member of Congress, I know personally how hard it feels to be Jewish because I live it every day.

I was in the House Chamber on January 6 when insurrectionists stormed the Capitol wearing T-shirts saying six million was not enough.

I have experienced anti-Semitism my whole life: Jokes about my big nose, my fuzzy hair, being called a kike while waiting to get a drink at a bar.

Anti-Semitism was on the rise before October 7, and now it is running rampant. In San Diego, we know how hateful and deadly it can be. Four years ago, we mourned a beloved community member who was killed in the Chabad of Poway, and it seems like every other week we are washing swastikas off our buildings or sidewalks.

I am so grateful to President Biden for his leadership, for not politicizing our pain, and for bringing together Jewish Members to discuss a whole-of-society approach to countering anti-Semitism.

We need to fully fund and implement the U.S. National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism to ensure that Jewish people are safe and respected everywhere.

I am committed to this work, not just for a news cycle but for life, and I hope my colleagues will join me in that effort.

A CRUCIAL MOMENT

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

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, at this crucial moment, the United States must support our democratic ally Ukraine. Stopping the Russian invasion is critically important, because right now democracy worldwide is under attack.

Helping Ukraine defeat Putin will make clear that the United States, our allies, and democracies everywhere will not tolerate the invasion of sovereign nations by bad actors.

We must also recognize the common thread between what is happening in Ukraine and what is happening in Israel. Iran is supporting dictators and terrorists who seek the destruction of democracy around the globe.

Iran funds and trains Hamas terrorists and sends weapons to Russian

forces as they inflict horrors upon civilians.

Let's be clear: If we allow Russia to win this war, the attacks on democratic nations will not stop there. The United States will undoubtedly be pulled into future global conflicts.

Now, more than ever, we must support our democratic allies in their fight against evil. Congress must recognize the urgency of this issue and send aid to our democratic allies immediately.

CONGRESS' FAILURE TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR OUR ALLIES

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

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to Congress' failure to show support for our allies abroad before leaving town for the holidays and ask that this body return to vote as soon as possible to secure the additional national security funding President Biden is requesting.

This week, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy made a trip to the United States to lobby directly for the aid his nation needs as they continue to fight on the front lines of the free world.

While addressing U.S. officers at the National Defense University, President Zelenskyy said: You can count on Ukraine, and we hope just as much to be able to count on you. Putin must lose.

He is right. Putin must lose. The world is not only watching how we respond to Ukraine right now but whether or not we will stand with our ally Israel, the only liberal democracy in the Middle East, and whether or not we are prepared to buttress Taiwan as they face increased hostility from the Chinese Communist Party.

As our allies are looking to us for support, our adversaries are waiting with bated breath to see if we will fail to meet this moment in history. This week, the Speaker wasted the House's time on a baseless impeachment inquiry, but he still can't put a bill on the floor to fund our democratic allies.

We cannot hand a Christmas present to Putin, Hamas, or Xi Jinping. We must press President Biden's request for supplemental foreign aid. If that means coming back from the holidays early to vote on it, so be it.

HONORING WENDY LEWIS

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a superb Air Force defense fellow for her tireless commitment to the U.S. Air Force, Congress, and to the constituents of Nevada's Fourth District.

Wendy Lewis' relentless commitment to the Air Force proved invaluable in

providing support to the House of Representatives and our constituents. This Nation is grateful for her commitment and the personal sacrifices that she has made during her time in the Defense Fellowship program and the United States Air Force.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives and the United States of America, I commend Wendy and her family for their dedicated support to our Air Force and to this Nation.

Nevada's official State motto is "all for our country," representing the patriotic spirit of the people of Nevada.

Wendy, who has served at Creech and Nellis Air Force Bases in Nevada, embodies this motto and is dedicated to public service. She has proven this through her service as an officer and now as a public servant.

Wendy is the personification of giving back and has given her all to honor my State's motto. She is an example of the true spirit of Nevada, and her commitment to service inspires others.

I congratulate her on an extremely successful career, her dedication to service, and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

May God bless her, our troops, and may God bless the United States of America.

TWO IMPORTANT ISSUES

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I have two issues to address in a minute.

One, is to bring attention to an excellent editorial which appeared yesterday in *The Wall Street Journal* titled: "Biden and Ukraine Need a Senate Deal."

The author, William A. Galston, states: "Though Speaker MIKE JOHNSON has reiterated his support for Ukraine aid, anti-Ukraine Republicans will likely pressure him to adjourn for the year without taking up the Senate bill."

In fact, that has happened in real-time today.

The editorial goes on to say: ". . . Mr. Biden should make clear that he is prepared to use his constitutional authority to call the House back into session."

We take an oath to protect America against all enemies, foreign and domestic. Putin's Russia is a real enemy to liberty. We do not want to be drawn into a greater war in Europe. We need to do our duty and pass assistance for Ukraine and strengthen our NATO allies.

The second reason I rise today is to talk about the introduction of the bipartisan Healthy Farms Healthy Watersheds Act of 2023, which encourages volunteer USDA programs to apply to watersheds that are trying to bear the load of toxic algal blooms largely caused by dissolved reactive phosphorus and other pollutants.

Mr. Speaker, water is life. Please sponsor the bipartisan Healthy Farms Healthy Watersheds Act of 2023.

Mr. Speaker, fresh water is life. Today, I introduce the bipartisan "Healthy Farms Healthy Watersheds Act of 2023." This Bill encourages voluntary USDA programs to strategically apply resources to maximize watershed health with existing dollars.

Increasingly harmful algal bloom (HAB) compromise water quality in all 50 states. These toxic blooms adversely impact human health, sink property values, damp tourism, waterfront business, and regional economies. Impacted areas are estimated to have spent over \$1 Billion since 2010 to address and prevent HABs, this creeping green invasion.

A major cause of the harmful bloom is the loading of excessive levels of dissolved reactive phosphorus into lakes, rivers, and bays maliciously from megafarms and animal feeding operations and other pollution.

Despite federal agencies spending Billions to help farmers adopt management practices to improve water quality, the problem persists across America. Significant bodies of water like the Great Lakes and Chesapeake Bay are weighted down with this creeping green invasion.

A new strategy is needed to make current federal investments more efficient, and more effective. The Healthy Farms Healthy Watersheds Act focuses on troubled watersheds by directing Natural Resources Conservation Service resources toward the exact substances and sources that are contributing most to HABs.

I encourage my colleagues to support this important, budget-neutral, bipartisan, common-sense legislation.

COMMEMORATING THE 11TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SHOOTING AT SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Mrs. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, today, as we solemnly mark the 11th anniversary of the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School and remember the 26 beautiful lives murdered in a senseless act of preventable violence, I ask my colleagues in this body to remember your commitment to the people we serve.

I ask that we work together to make our schools and our communities safe to ensure tragedies like Sandy Hook Elementary School are a thing of the past.

I am committed to honoring the memory of my constituents with action. Today, I remain committed to working toward an assault weapons ban. I remain committed to working toward universal background checks. I remain committed to working toward legislation like Ethan's Law, which will provide for safe storage of firearms.

I remain committed to implementing the provisions of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. I ask my colleagues to join with me so that no child, no family, and no community ever has to endure this again.

I also ask that you pray for my community on this 11th anniversary of the shooting at Sandy Hook, for the families, for the people who live there, for the town of Newtown, who will forever be bound by their grief.

RECOGNIZING THE WALSH JESUIT GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the Walsh Jesuit High School girls soccer team as Ohio 13's Congressional District Champion of the Week.

Last month, the Walsh Jesuit Warriors girls soccer team won their first Ohio High School Athletic Association Division I State championship since 2016.

After a hard-fought game, the Warriors overcame Olentangy Liberty 2-1. This win cements Walsh Jesuit's status as a soccer powerhouse with their 11th State title win since the year 2000.

The program holds the record for the most girls soccer State titles in Ohio, and their win is just more proof as to why Ohio's 13th Congressional District is the birthplace of champions.

This victory is not only a major accomplishment for these hardworking student athletes but also for their coaches, parents, and entire community that supported them along the way.

Congratulations again to the incredible Walsh Jesuit girls soccer team. I can't wait to see how you dominate on and off the pitch.

REMEMBERING THE ISRAELI HOSTAGES

(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, I met with families of Israeli hostages because it was important to hear their stories. While listening, there was deep pain and even moments of tears. These families continue carrying burdens no one should have to bear.

It has been over 2 months. These families are missing their loved ones and expressed a strong desire that we continue prioritizing their return. There are significant concerns about the rapidly deteriorating conditions of those who are still held captive. While life seems to continue for so many right now, empty seats remain at their tables.

Personally, I take this moment to thank those working around the clock for their safe return. Your tireless work provides unwavering hope.

The resilience of the families is a testament to the human spirit.

FAREWELL TO SPEAKER EMERITUS KEVIN MCCARTHY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FINSTAD). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous materials.

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

There was no objection.

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

As the Dean of California's Republican delegation, it is my honor and privilege to come to the floor of the people's House to recognize someone from the Golden State who has made a historic impact on this institution.

KEVIN MCCARTHY is not from one of California's world-famous cities. He hails from the blue-collar city of Bakersfield. KEVIN is not the son of politicians or corporate titans. He is the son of a firefighter.

His story is an American story. He is the grandson of an Italian immigrant. From staffer to Speaker, he has devoted the better part of his life to the House of Representatives.

In politics, nothing is handed to you. That certainly holds true in this town and in this building. KEVIN's success is the result of hard work and determination. KEVIN is a fighter. Time and time again, he fought for his constituents, his State, his conference, and his country.

The first sign of KEVIN's go-get-em attitude was when, at the age of 19, he started his own small business selling sandwiches. While attending college at Cal State Bakersfield, KEVIN got interested in politics, took a job working for our former colleague, former chairman of the Ways and Means Committee Bill Thomas. For the next 15 years, he worked as a congressional aid and ultimately served as a district director for Congressman Thomas.

In 2000, KEVIN stepped forward as a candidate for the first time and was elected as a Kern Community College District trustee. Just a couple years later, in 2002, he was elected to the California State Assembly. After just one term in the Assembly, he was chosen to serve as the minority leader.

Upon retirement of Mr. Thomas, KEVIN was elected, in 2006, to follow in the footsteps of his former boss here in the House. As a freshman, KEVIN was appointed to serve on the Republican Steering Committee.

From those early days in the House until today, KEVIN has been a strong and effective advocate on a number of important issues.

Water is the lifeline of the Central Valley in California. In California, we

have a saying: "Whiskey is for drinking and water is for fighting." KEVIN approached the issue of water with his characteristic optimism that brought anyone together who wanted to find real solutions.

□ 1130

California has a proud history of being at the forefront of aeronautics and space exploration, including the region KEVIN has represented. He has been a champion for recognizing that past and investing in the future.

Our State is a leader in innovation, and KEVIN has always been a vocal promoter of industries that will shape our economy and America's competitive edge in the years ahead.

Here in the House, we have seen KEVIN answer the call to lead time and time again—as chief deputy whip, majority whip, majority leader, minority leader, and then, ultimately, Speaker. KEVIN has consistently led the charge for our Conference and conservative priorities. During some difficult times, KEVIN was always the calm in the storm, levelheaded and positive.

Republicans would not be in the majority here today without KEVIN's tireless work and leadership. To say he will be missed is an understatement. Our loss is his wife Judy's gain. I wish his family, including his son, Connor, and his daughter, Meghan, the very best as we head into the holidays and the next chapter of his life.

As I mentioned earlier, KEVIN is from Bakersfield. He is probably the second most famous person to hail from Bakersfield. Country music legend Merle Haggard has had him beat for that top spot. A few years back, KEVIN introduced and passed a bill renaming the Bakersfield post office in honor of Merle Haggard.

As we join here today to celebrate another son of Bakersfield whose journey in the House is coming to an end, it seems fitting that Merle had a song titled "If We Make It Through December." In that song, Merle sings:

If we make it through December
Got plans to be in a warmer town come summertime
Maybe even California
If we make it through December, we'll be fine.

KEVIN, I have no doubt that warmer days await. I am grateful for your service, your friendship, and your leadership. You will continue to make your mark, and I look forward to the many great things to come.

Until then, farewell, my friend. God bless, and I know I will see you soon.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mrs. STEEL).

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, this is a bittersweet moment.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to stand on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, an institution shaped by years of Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY's faithful leadership. I thank and honor him for his service to the people of our State and to our

country. I am also sad to be saying farewell.

I have known Speaker MCCARTHY as a staffer, State legislator, Congressman, whip, majority leader, and Speaker of the House. Like many of us, he supported me and built me up to where I am today. I am most proud to know him as a mentor and friend.

One of his greatest strengths is that he listens. He gets to know his Members and plays to each of their individual strengths to create a winning team. His work for our home State and for our country has been invaluable.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful beyond words to have been a member of his majority and to have fought with him to better the lives of Californians and all of our fellow Americans.

You will always be my friend. Thank you for everything you have done for me and for the country.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK).

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, the ancient Greeks would have appreciated the irony of this story. KEVIN MCCARTHY spent his life preparing for the job that he held for just 269 days. For decades, he devoted all his energies and skills to building one of the most formidable political organizations of our time that ultimately took back the House last year.

In those 269 days as Speaker, despite the most slender of majorities, and with Democrats controlling the Senate and White House, he cut \$2 trillion of spending over the next decade. He forestalled the hiring of an army of IRS agents. He curtailed the woke policies plaguing our Armed Forces. He averted a government shutdown in a dangerous world.

He reopened the Capitol to the American people. He launched historical investigations into government corruption. He produced the strongest border security measure in a century and landmark legislation to restore American energy independence.

On his 269th day as Speaker, he enjoyed the overwhelming support and confidence of his Republican colleagues. He was completing the process of adopting the most conservative appropriations bills in decades. He had put House Republicans in a commanding position to sweep the 2024 election. National polls recorded that he had become the most popular elected official in America.

His speakership ended on that day. It did not end because of the Republican Conference. It ended because of eight sad and pathetic mediocrities nursing petty personal grudges. As Shakespeare said: "This house is turned upside down since Robin Ostler died."

This is not the end of the tale. History commands, and we must obey. Soon, KEVIN MCCARTHY will be called back to the national stage to play a vital and leading role in a command performance by history to save our beloved country.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Mr. CALVERT, for leading this appropriate time here today.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I come forward to be part of this. It is also with optimism because I have known KEVIN for 21 years, and he was always and is always the optimistic one in the room. He always sees what we can do.

He always sees the vision for each of us as elected Representatives and, more importantly, the country. He always thinks of the country. He always thinks how we are going to better the institution, whether it was in the California State Assembly as we were cutting our teeth in politics there or here on this national and international stage.

Mr. Speaker, I am somber right now because what has happened really is a waste, as my good friend and colleague, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, mentioned. There were only 269 days of what could have been a really great thing.

KEVIN will be part of everything we do in a different form and in a different venue because he still loves and cares about this country. He still is a great friend to his colleagues, even though he exits this area for a time.

I am grateful to him for his friendship. Anything I have ever asked, he has always helped in his leadership role for me as a Member in either one of the bodies, the State Assembly or here. He is always optimistic and has a smile. He has a lot of funny stories to go with it that I can't tell here.

He has always reached out to our families, making sure they are included. He always thinks of everybody. He is an amazing talent and will go far in leading his next enterprise, which is going to be based on our values and making our country stronger yet again. We will get there.

I am proud to call him a friend. I hope I can always have his friendship, his guidance, and his playing a major role as we go forward in saving and strengthening our great country.

KEVIN MCCARTHY, I thank you for everything you have ever done for me, and for all of us, as a friend. I am blessed to know you.

To Judy, Connor, and Meghan, the sacrifice has been big, but we are always very grateful. My family understands that, as well. God bless you.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. OBERNOLTE).

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to be here to thank my friend and former Speaker, KEVIN MCCARTHY, for his service to this country and to our Conference.

I had the experience of getting to know KEVIN when I first decided to run for Congress. I got a call from my predecessor alerting me that he would announce the next day that he was not running for reelection. I had to quite

suddenly make the decision about whether or not I wanted to run for Congress.

I got a call from KEVIN, and KEVIN said: Jay, I believe in you. You can do it. I will help you. And he did.

Once I was elected and sworn in as a Member of the House of Representatives, I was shocked to discover that I was 1 of over 100 Members of this Chamber who could say that of KEVIN. There were over 100 Members who KEVIN had given the confidence to step up and serve their country. KEVIN and I subsequently became good friends.

What I discovered about his leadership style is that it is a leadership style that I think I honor the most, that of servant leader. Every decision that KEVIN makes and has made as leader was not for his own self-aggrandizement or his own betterment. The decisions that he made served the interests of the people who he led, the Conference, his constituents, and the Members of this Chamber.

He also exhibited a quality that I think is unfortunately pretty rare in public servants, that of humility. KEVIN is an amazingly humble man. If you met him on the street, you would never guess that he was third in line to the Presidency.

Mr. Speaker, I will share a story, and KEVIN probably doesn't even remember that this happened. Earlier this year, I was giving a constituent and their family a tour of the Capitol. They were here in D.C. They had a couple of children with them. I was showing them the rotunda when KEVIN came bustling out of his office, surrounded by a whole group of people. You could tell he was on his way somewhere important.

He saw me and stopped. All of his people were saying: KEVIN, we have to go. We have to go. He stopped, walked over, and asked to be introduced to my constituents. He insisted on taking a picture with them in the rotunda. I will tell you, that made not just their day but their entire trip. They still talk to me about it. KEVIN would do that for any Member of this Chamber.

It has been an incredible honor to serve under his leadership. I have no doubt that the future is bright for my friend, KEVIN MCCARTHY, and that we can expect even more great things in the future.

KEVIN, I thank you for your leadership. I am excited to learn about what the future holds for you.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER), the Republican whip.

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, no one has worked harder to help House Republicans win back the majority and deliver on our conservative, common-sense agenda than KEVIN MCCARTHY.

As the son of a firefighter, KEVIN learned the values of grit, determination, and courage early in life. Throughout his years here in Washington as a Congressman, whip, majority leader, and our 55th Speaker of the House, it was those values that made

him one of the most fierce fighters for Republican priorities ever.

I had the privilege of serving on KEVIN's leadership team this Congress. I have seen him work tirelessly to ensure House Republicans delivered on our promises to the American people. I have seen him listen to and work with Members across every sector of our Conference to bring forward viable solutions. I have seen him do the right thing, no matter the cost. He truly believes in the greatness of this country and this institution.

□ 1145

I will be brutally honest. I usually am. It was hard to watch as things played out the way they did. KEVIN MCCARTHY did not deserve any of that treatment, but no matter what, he has always risen above the fold, handled every situation with grace, and put whatever is in the best interests of America first.

I thank KEVIN for his leadership. It has been an honor to serve alongside him. Jacquie and I are rooting for him always, and we wish him nothing but the best in whatever comes next.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM).

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative CALVERT for his leadership and for yielding.

I rise to honor and thank Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY who is a selfless and amazing leader and who is always optimistic about his service in Congress which has left a lasting impact on his community, our States, our party, and our country.

KEVIN has had my back since I first decided to run for Congress, and he has encouraged me every single step of the way. He has worked tirelessly to make our party look more like America, and the gains we have made in the past 5 years are a testament to that.

KEVIN has been committed to ensuring people like me and each of us in our conference have what it takes to be effective Members for our districts. He is the reason we have a House majority today.

I always say the GOP is the grand opportunity party, and that is because of Members like KEVIN, who are committed to promoting commonsense policies to get our country back on track, make life more affordable, keep our communities safe, and protect the American Dream.

I thank KEVIN. I wish him the best in the next chapter. I know he is just getting started because I know he never gives up.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY).

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from California (Mr. CALVERT) for hosting this Special Order for a special friend.

KEVIN MCCARTHY's relentless perseverance, keen insights, and unmatched knowledge of the personalities of the

House were amazing to witness firsthand.

While the public saw the 15 rounds of votes in January and the historic spending cuts of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, privately, what I got to see was the legislative equivalent of an elite power athlete expertly working people, process, and policy to get the best outcome in this Chamber. It was truly an expertise that he had honed over his service in the California State Assembly and here in Congress to make this place work.

It takes a legislative craftsman to make an institution like this work. It takes history, it takes training, it takes focused energy, and it takes will, perseverance and grit. I got to see all those things in KEVIN.

Now, everybody else got to see the sunny optimism, the personalities that he loved embracing, and his spirit of friendship with people he had just met. That was wonderful to see. However, to see him behind the scenes being able to put all these disparate talents and gifts that he has to work for public policy was awesome. It was a special thing to work with KEVIN.

In the wildest moments this Chamber has seen in decades, he was a great leader for House Republicans, for this institution, and for America. He had coolness, calm, and a sense of charity for folks, even if they were not going to reciprocate. As a public leader, he truly lived his values, and the way he treated us is the way that he expected others to treat everyone else.

He was a great Speaker. Success after success after success took place this whole year when Republicans in Washington are outnumbered by a Democrat Senate and a Democrat in the White House. With a very narrow majority we got big things done. It is a tough thing.

He had an innate sense of optimism. He always found an opportunity to see the bright side of any moment. Even in the darkest of days, he saw something there that would give us a sense of hope and optimism. Those qualities are what has got him through an incredible career and a really incredible life.

He is a political mastermind as well. It wasn't just policy in here that he understood how to engineer. It was the architecture of campaigns, elections, and all the stuff that goes into modern campaigns that he was an expert in. There was no one better for Republicans and no one better in America who had his capacity to put things together and to win elections.

The American people and this institution are worse off for not having KEVIN MCCARTHY here. Nevertheless, I know he will be just fine. He will be just fine. I look forward to seeing what he has in store for himself, his family, and for this country. I look forward to his new way of contributing to make this place better and to make the country better.

I love working with KEVIN on technology issues. His engagement there

was the most spirited and the most interesting for both of us. His innovation initiative from a couple Congresses ago and his deep, keen interest in public policy as it relates to technology and the use of technology will have a lasting impact here, as well. I hope KEVIN will continue to contribute in that arena.

For us, this institution is worse off for not having KEVIN MCCARTHY here. It is worse off.

It is with a bit of sadness that I have to say farewell to my dear friend here on the House floor, but not farewell forever because he is a dear friend and will always be one of my dear friends.

KEVIN, we will miss you, and we love you.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. DUARTE).

Mr. DUARTE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman CALVERT for this Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank, admire, and pay respect to my good friend, Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY.

For many years I supported candidates, many of the men I admire here and many of the ladies. I did fundraisers, and they came to my house. KEVIN was one of them.

When this race came up where I decided to run for Congress, I looked to the example of KEVIN MCCARTHY, and I said: America is about to turn socialist. If I don't step up and work alongside KEVIN MCCARTHY to win this seat, to win this critical majority today, then I may grow old in a socialist country for lack of my own efforts and for lack of seeing the inspiration and responding to the tireless work of Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY, who is a dear friend of mine and a dear friend of many.

I know in the years to come when—however far forward it is—when I talk about my time in Congress, the conversation will quickly go to an American hero, KEVIN MCCARTHY, who tirelessly and successfully worked to stop socialism in America by winning this critical majority here in Congress.

I thank KEVIN for our freedom, his leadership, and I thank him for his friendship. I wish the best to him in the future. I will be here in Congress while he does his thing, and I am happy to see it.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. VALADAO).

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, this is not a speech I ever wanted to give. I have had the honor of serving in office now for a number of years, and even during my time in the State legislature my district has always bordered KEVIN MCCARTHY's. He was in Congress, and I was in State. When I had the honor of being elected to this body, I served alongside him for a number of years now.

To say that he hasn't played a role in my ability to be here or my success here, yes, I wouldn't be here without

him. The policies we have been championing for a number of years would never have existed and would have never come to fruition if it wasn't for KEVIN MCCARTHY. We wouldn't have been able to change some of the things in the Valley that have been so positive for us if it wasn't for KEVIN MCCARTHY.

It is a sad day for us as an institution and a sad day for us in the Valley when we have all these different issues we are dealing with across the country, across this body, and across even the Central Valley in my home, we have got so much we need to still do, and the reality that he is not going to be there is a huge hole for us in the Valley.

Mr. Speaker, if you look at his time in service, understanding the policies that affect us, if it was something like water, we wouldn't have the WIIN Act if it wasn't for KEVIN MCCARTHY. We are seeing some of the results of that as we speak today.

The expansion or the repairs in the Friant-Kern Canal, being able to move water south through the delta so that our farmers and our communities can survive, projects that are being funded as we speak to expand and add water infrastructure for the Valley would not be in existence if it wasn't for KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Mr. Speaker, when you look at valley fever, a thing that we are dealing with that we are fighting, we still don't have enough research at the Valley Fever Institute, or the ability to have those policies in place or at least the research started so we can create some real solutions for a thing that we are dealing with across the country now.

Energy, as we all know, Kern County is a huge hub for energy production and to have a champion like we did—or we do today not much longer—in Congress like KEVIN MCCARTHY for energy production to make sure we continue to provide energy for our country to succeed, we are losing that voice.

As far as fire and forestry, I served in Congress under different Speakers. There are not a lot of times I have been in a situation where I am on a codel serving with my colleagues with a bipartisan group or at a press conference here on the Hill with a bipartisan group of Members talking about the same issues with a Speaker of the House. I honestly can't think of one situation where I have seen that happen, other than when it was KEVIN MCCARTHY and our Save Our Sequoias Act. I remember standing there looking around thinking: I don't think I have ever seen any other person and I still can't remember—but that is something that affects votes.

Mr. Speaker, when you think about the air quality and the impact it has on the Central Valley and the burning that has destroyed our mountain ranges, to have a piece of legislation championed by a Speaker and being able to get bipartisan support, that was something that I was very proud to be a part of.

The fun part was talking trash while playing basketball when I outscored him on the basketball court in the charity game. I think I made one basket, and he might have made zero. I am not sure. As far as shooting, I know I kicked his butt. I saw the picture of the scorecard at some of our charity events that we do in the Valley.

There are a lot of opportunities for us to do good things and have some fun together. Some of the most memorable moments are going to be this past year sitting in ELC and watching him across the table, his understanding of the policy itself, the dynamics of the votes, what is going to be able to pass the Senate, how to get the President engaged, and all those different things, we were able to have some real successes this year, to actually have a plan in place to solve real problems that now people who voted to take him out seem to acknowledge that that plan was probably our best option.

We are on the verge of losing that. It is something we are going to miss out on. To fill those shoes, to have that person who understands enough of this place and who understands how to make a change, how to implement those changes, and how to execute a plan is something that we are going to struggle with to fill.

I wish this day wasn't here. I wish he would stick around. Nevertheless, obviously, I know he is off to bigger and better things. I know we will still have plenty of opportunities for me to talk trash and make fun of him and maybe outscore him on the basketball court again if he is not too out of shape, but he is getting close to that point.

I just want to say thank you to KEVIN and to his family. Judy has been a huge asset to my family. His children have been a huge inspiration for my kids as they go through some of the same headaches that all of our children of people in this position have to deal with.

I thank KEVIN for everything he has done and will continue to do. Hopefully, we will have opportunities to work together soon in some situations.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, we spend a lot of time in this House focusing on that which we disagree on. I think if we spent more time focusing on what we have been able to do together and agree on, we would be a better House.

So I rise not to talk about the disagreements that the Speaker and I had, we had many differences, we are of different parties, and we had different perspectives, but I rise and thank Speaker MCCARTHY for that on which we could agree, because when we could agree, he took that opportunity to act upon that agreement.

It was good for the House, it was good for the country, and it was good for me.

So I thank KEVIN for what we agreed upon and what we were able to do together here and abroad to try to bring us together, try to lift us up, and try to make sure that when we could work together we did work together.

□ 1200

It is an example that we ought to follow because it was a positive example.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. CALVERT for giving me the opportunity to come to this floor as a former majority leader, as a partisan Democrat, to say and recognize the work that Speaker MCCARTHY did to try to, when we could, move forward in agreement in a positive, constructive way. Good luck and Godspeed.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, as a freshman Member, I haven't had as much time to work with Speaker Emeritus MCCARTHY as some of my colleagues have, but I am grateful for this year, working with him as part of the California delegation. Just observing his leadership of the Conference and of the House has really been something to behold.

I think it is clear to everyone that he is a once-in-a-generation political talent. The millions of things that you have to do, large and small, to build a majority, to manage the Conference, to run the House, to exercise leadership on the national and international stage, he made it look effortless and was always cheerful in the way he went about it.

I think that everyone in this House and across the country, whatever their politics, recognize that he is someone who is a leader in a way that transcends whatever position he holds, even a position as high as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

When I think about what he has meant to this institution, I think about the famous essay by Max Weber, "Politics is a Vocation," where he talks about the need to both have principles, but also to have a sense of responsibility when you are in the political arena; that this isn't just a philosophy class.

I think Speaker Emeritus MCCARTHY really embodies that sense of political leadership, of being firmly grounded in your principles, but also having an appreciation for the consequences of our actions and the unique responsibilities that we have when it comes to exercising political power.

It was also a great benefit to have a Californian leading this House. I know that KEVIN understands, as well as anyone, the challenges we face in California. I know that he and our delegation will continue to be a check there. I know he will continue to be in the fight to turn around California and this country.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Speaker MCCARTHY for his service, which will be felt by this institution for a very long time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, for me it is a sad day to come to this House floor. When I think of all the battles on this House floor over the better part of a decade that I have been a part of and witnessing the leadership of KEVIN MCCARTHY, I have to flip Shakespeare on his head today.

Mr. MCCARTHY loves the House of Commons and he loves this House of Representatives, and so we are two nations, of course, separated by a common language. It seems like it would be good to quote The Bard. I come to this House floor to praise MCCARTHY, not bury him, because Speaker Emeritus MCCARTHY has many years of leadership, decades of leadership ahead, not only at home, not only here in America, but around the world because of his leadership exhibited in this House.

As Shakespeare talked about, he, too, has suffered the slings and arrows that life brings in the public world, in politics, in this Capitol, in this House, but he has handled those every single day with grace, with humor, with leadership, exhibiting his commitment to being that happy warrior that we all know and love; that happy warrior that worked to advance every Member of the House's objectives more than his own, because that is how he is wired, Mr. Speaker. That is in his DNA in recruiting candidates—minorities, vets, women, making the Republican Party the party of the United States that reflects our entire society that believes in those fundamental tenets of America.

He nurtured that in each of those Members once they were in this House on their legislative priorities because he believes in his favorite book's mantra that we want to go from good to great, and he wanted every Member to go from good to great. KEVIN MCCARTHY delivered on that in his leadership responsibility in this House. He put the right people in the right seat every time.

As I conclude, Mr. Speaker, in this tribute to my dear friend from California, our Speaker Emeritus, I go back to Shakespeare, and like Mr. MCHENRY from North Carolina, it is not farewell; it is adieu.

Let me tell you something, Mr. MCCARTHY, as they said in Henry V, when you tackle the next agenda: "Once more unto the breach, dear friends," we are at your side. We are charging forward.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless him, God bless his family, and God bless this House.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN).

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Speaker Emeritus MCCARTHY for his dedication and service in Congress and for leading the Republican Party courageously.

We saw this year how he prioritized doing the right thing and maintaining his integrity above all else, regardless of the consequences. His unwavering support for my district, the island of Guam, and his tireless efforts in fighting for the island's interests will never be forgotten.

His legacy will continue to inspire future leaders and his impact will be felt for years to come in my district and in the Halls of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, as Speaker MCCARTHY embarks on new endeavors, I know that he will be greatly missed. May God bless and guide him in all his future endeavors.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY), the Speaker Emeritus, for any remarks he may want to make.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the dean, Mr. CALVERT, and my colleagues from California for their kind words. I am so very proud and appreciative of my friends for coming.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the constituents for giving me this opportunity to serve them. To America, I loved every single day.

Less than 13,000 people have ever been given the privilege or the honor to serve in this body.

To those colleagues on the other side of the aisle, I thank them for the work they have done. We may disagree at times—I disagreed with the vote on this one, too, but one thing I think we must quite understand and the advice I can give is, do not be fearful if you believe your philosophy brings people more freedom. Do not be fearful that you could lose your job over it.

I knew the day we decided to make sure to choose to pay our troops, while war was breaking out, instead of shutting down, was the right decision. I also knew a few would make a motion because somehow they disagreed with that decision. Do it anyway. I would do it all again.

However, there is so much we were able to accomplish in a short amount of time. I watched a short clip the other day of a quote of mine: "I had the privilege of being leader for 5 years and I think about did I leave this place better than I received it?"

I remember sitting where Congressman CALVERT was and it was the state of the Union. The Democrats had won the majority. I was elected minority leader while another colleague from my State, NANCY PELOSI, was elected Speaker.

I watched the Democrats stand up and they were very diverse. They looked like America. I watched us stand up. We had lost the majority. I say we looked like one of the most restricted country clubs in America. I thought at that moment I could be the leader of a declining party, or I could focus on what I know brought me to this party: Conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that we are all equal.

I would take that message to places people didn't think they would vote for

a Republican. The California delegation at that time was pretty small, and, yes, it was competitive having the Speaker from California. She would put out that she was going to win a lot more seats in California. However, I am proud to say in those election cycles, we picked up five more seats in California. That is larger than our overall majority. We picked up five more in New York, Oregon, and Arizona. And in that same timeframe, the party I loved lost in the Senate, both cycles, lost the Presidency, but we won. What is the secret? It is the quality of the candidate.

I looked at YOUNG KIM, MICHELLE STEEL, JOHN DUARTE, and DAVID VALADAO. These are unbelievable seats that that idea wins in. I look at our party today and it doesn't look like it did 5 years ago. We were winning in places you haven't seen before. When I look to the future, I think it is much brighter. Why? Because the ideas are different.

When you look at the time I served as Speaker, we didn't ignore the border. We actually secured our border with the smallest majority here to govern. Even when we had a large one, we could not do it, and that came from the subcommittee of the Chairman TOM MCCLINTOCK. We brought people from all sides of the aisle together.

When I watch the gas prices just skyrocket under the Biden administration, we didn't sit back. We made it our number one priority and passed energy independence.

The public sits above, but for those 4 years, they didn't get to. We opened this place back up because it is the people's House. We created the select committee on China to make sure America can be competitive. We put our accountability on the weaponization so the American citizen would be protected.

We made the largest cut in American history, and this body voted for it, welfare reform to get people back to work, and the largest recessions in American history, where money was appropriated, not used. Only in Washington would you let it still be there.

As we watched crime rise across the country and D.C. want to go the same way, first time in 30 years, this body stood up; 170 on the other side of the aisle thought you should decriminalize carjacking, and others. The President threatened to veto it, but we did it anyway. We stopped him; and it became law.

We believe in building things in America, but we watched many times the laws we thought that were passed before to protect us only slowed us and weakened us. For the first time in 40 years, we reformed NEPA.

We did all this with a slim majority, but what I am most proud of is what the future holds. The legacy will be about the ones I see who serve here now, and I know the potential of what they will do. I know the potential of this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I am so thankful to be given the opportunity to serve. I will

be departing, but that doesn't mean I will stop serving. Those across this Nation should join together to become those citizen legislators. We cannot let this body fail to do the jobs that are the most basic that we should do every day. We should never allow this body to stop doing what is right.

□ 1215

If you come across that question of whether you should do what is right out of fear of losing your job, do it anyway because it is the right thing to do, and this is what the Nation requires. I think putting people before politics is always the right answer.

I thank my friends for their kind words. I thank them for their friendship that will not end, and I thank this Nation for creating a body that is represented by the people. I think we should rise to the occasion one more time. Thank you.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, it has been my privilege to lead this Special Order for the last hour to say good-bye to our friend from the floor but not from our lives. He will be around.

Finally, I will requote our friend from Bakersfield, California, Merle Haggard, once again:

If we make it through December

Got plans to be in a warmer town come summertime

Maybe even California

If we make it through December, we'll be fine.

Merry Christmas, happy Hanukkah, and I yield back the balance of my time.

EXPRESSING MY GRATITUDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Still I rise, Mr. Speaker, always proud to have this preeminent privilege of standing here in the House of Representatives, honored to have the opportunity to serve the people of the Ninth Congressional District who elected me, but also the people of this country, this entire country, because when they elected me, they elected me to become a United States Representative. As such, when I vote, I am voting for them, but I am also voting for the country.

Today I rise to be grateful and to express my gratitude and my appreciation to the people of the Ninth Congressional District for allowing me this opportunity, this singular opportunity of serving in the Congress of the United States of America. I have been blessed.

I thank the people who happen to live in Brazoria County for allowing me to serve them. It has been an honor, and it continues to be my honor. I, in no way, am indicating that I am about to leave the Congress. I think that this is an opportunity to express my gratitude. I plan to be here next year and

until the people of the Ninth Congressional District decide otherwise.

I thank the people who live in Brazoria County. I thank the people who live in Fort Bend County—these counties adjoin each other—and Harris County.

I didn't get here because I was so smart. I am here because there were people who thought that I might make a difference in their lives, and I have tried my best to do so, so I thank them for affording me this opportunity.

I thank my staff. Members of Congress get things done only when they have a good staff. I have an excellent staff, and I thank them for what they do to make it possible for me to do things that I ordinarily would not be able to do.

I had a friend, Mickey Leland, who served in this Congress, and he reminded me on many occasions that a great person will always rise to the occasion, but the greater people make the occasion, so I thank these occasion makers, the people who make it possible for me to come here and stand and speak in the House of Representatives in this Capitol Building.

I thank my chief of staff here in Washington, D.C., who does an outstanding job. I won't go through his credentials in the entirety, but he is a lawyer, Scott Bell. I thank Scott for the fine job he has done to lead the D.C. team.

That team consists of Aaron, who is my legislative director; Raphael, who is a senior in the office; Jalaina, who is a legislative assistant in the office; Madison, who is my office administrator; and then there are other persons who are coming on board. I believe that Izzah will be on board with me. I have extended an offer to her. We will see if she accepts.

My D.C. team has done an outstanding job. I am very proud of the job that all of the members of this team have afforded the people of the Ninth Congressional District of Texas.

However, I do want to mention one standout, and that is Claudia. Claudia and I happened to bump into each other when she was working in another capacity here on the Hill. I take great pride in selecting people who don't apply for the job, people that I just happen to bump into along life's way. Such was the case with Claudia. I just bumped into her. We had some casual conversation, and something said to me, this is the person who can represent you when people first enter your office. I thank Claudia very much for the job that she does.

Jalaina and I met when I was at a speaking engagement. She didn't apply for the job. I spoke to her for some small length of time, found out that she was looking for a job on the Hill. She applied, and Jalaina now works in the office. I mentioned her earlier. She is a legislative assistant in the office.

I am proud of this D.C. team, but in Houston I have a team that has been with me for a very long time, and I am

proud of them, as well. I am proud of Rachael Rodriguez, who came to me from labor. She is a labor-oriented person, as am I. I am a dues-checkoff member of a local labor union, 1550 AFSCME. As such, I am proud to say that Rachael Rodriguez has done an outstanding job leading the Houston team. She is more than capable, competent, and qualified. She has a great personality. She is the kind of person who respects others with her smiles. Rachael Rodriguez.

Then, of course, there is Crystal Webster. Crystal is the deputy district director, and she does a little bit of everything. In that office we all take pride in getting the job done. Everybody will pitch in to do whatever has to be done. Crystal Webster has done an outstanding job. I am grateful that she has been with me for many years.

The persons that I have just spoken of, Crystal and Rachael, have both been with me for more than a decade.

Of course, I am honored to have in that office Clarence Holliday. We call him Doc. He has done outstanding work in the outreach area, also as a caseworker. He is just a fine man, former NAACP president out in Fort Bend County. He does outstanding work. I am proud to have him.

I am also proud to have Catherine. Catherine is polyglot. She speaks four different languages; quite well, I might add. She connects me to communities that but for her I wouldn't connect with. These people are making a difference in the lives of the people in the Ninth Congressional District.

I also am honored to have with me Sam, Sam Merchant. Sam Merchant is a person of Indian heritage; not Native American, Indian heritage. He has been with me for a number of years as an outreach person. I regret to say to you that Sam will be leaving the office. He has served us well. He is moving on to a sunset of retirement. I greatly appreciate the work that Sam has done for the people of the Ninth Congressional District.

Of course, we have Robertine, Robertine Jefferson. Her father was my pastor. He passed away some time ago. I never intended to hire Robertine. I just happened to be at an event and found out that she was interested in work, and she came on board with me. She helps us with our events. She is an event coordinator; par excellence, I might add. She does an outstanding job. I could not but for her do the many different things that we do in the district.

Of course, there is Teque'lia. Teque'lia is the coms director in the office. She came on board not so very long ago and has been very talented. She picks up on things very quickly, and she produces a great work product, so I am proud to claim Teque'lia as a member of the team in Houston, Texas.

There are other persons who are not on the team by virtue of working in the office. I want to make sure that I acknowledge them as well because they

are in and out of the office, so thank you. Of course, there is Colbe who works in the office. Colbe is a receptionist out front. She drives when necessary, does a little bit of everything, as well. I am proud to have this team of workers in the Houston office, all of whom serve us well.

Today, I will do two additional things, and I will depart. The first thing I would like to do is to thank the people that I work with here, people that I disagree with, people that I agree with. I think this is a time to put aside differences, as I heard Mr. HOYER so eloquently express earlier in a presentation; put aside differences and just be grateful, just be grateful that you have the opportunity to serve and be grateful for the people that you serve with regardless of their political persuasions. Just be grateful. So I am grateful to all of the people that I serve with here, and I thank them for the work that we do together.

In closing with this work, I am going to say a prayer for all of us, if I may, after which I will present someone else who will take the microphone and continue for the rest of the time that remains.

Today, this is my prayer that I have written. I say this prayer before I consume any food. It is accidental if I consume food and I don't say this prayer because I am grateful to have the gift of life.

I tell people that I am better than I deserve because I have been blessed to have the most unique gift in all of the universe, the gift of life. I don't know why I have it. I didn't earn it, so I have to be grateful for it. I try to use it in the most efficacious and the most beneficial way possible. I make mistakes. I am not a perfect person. I am a sinner, but I do try my best to treat people right. I ask for forgiveness; and I do ask for forgiveness more often than I probably should, but I do ask.

This is my prayer, and I don't ask anybody to join me in my prayer, you do whatever you would ordinarily do. This is my prayer for my country and for the people that I serve with:

Most gracious Creator, we know You by many names, but we also know that by any name, You are the Creator of all that was, is, and ever shall be; and I, as one of Your creations, want to take the time to now thank You, and I do so on behalf of the many others who may believe as I do.

I thank You for Your love, Your grace, and the gift of life. I thank You for Your mercy and Your forgiveness throughout life. I thank You for Your angels to protect life. I thank You for Your creation to sustain life: Your air, the breath of life; Your water, the elixir of life; Your star that we know as Sun, the light and warmth of life; Your terra firma that we call Earth, the foundation and home of life.

I today ask that You would recognize our weaknesses, our strengths, and give us the opportunity to serve You and Your creation so that it may continue as You would will it.

I ask all of these things in the name of the Creator of all of creation, and I thank You.

□ 1230

At this time, I am honored to introduce someone I have the utmost respect for. Elected from Maryland's Fifth Congressional District, he is one of Maryland's finest and a Georgetown University lawyer. He served as majority leader twice, from 2007 to 2011 and then again from 2019 to 2023. He is a person who has made a difference in my life and, in so doing, has made a difference in the lives of the people of the Ninth Congressional District, which I represent.

I am so honored to have this opportunity to yield to the honorable gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), a lawyer, a former State senator, and still a Member of Congress. I respect and love my dear brother.

God bless you. Merry Christmas and happy holidays.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding. He is one of the great gentlemen of this institution, a man of faith, a man of great intellect, a man whose heart and conscience form his stances on issues. I am so blessed to be his friend.

Mr. Speaker, save for the gentleman from Texas, these seats are empty. The House of Representatives has adjourned for the year. We have adjourned to go home.

Mr. Speaker, I say we have adjourned. We won't adjourn technically until we finish special orders and perhaps 1 minutes. We have no more business, but we have an unfinished agenda, an unfinished agenda to confront the enemies of freedom and democracy.

Mr. Speaker, when President Zelenskyy came to our Nation's Capital back in September, he visited the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution in the National Archives. Standing before our Nation's founding documents, he said, and I quote President Zelenskyy: "It is not the evil empire but the lack of unity that can bring freedom to its knees."

He reiterated that message this week as our Members prepare and are currently returning home for the holidays. We get to return home and celebrate with our families in comfort and warmth. Mr. Speaker, the Ukrainians huddled amid snow and mud on the front lines of freedom will not have that luxury. The tens of thousands of Ukrainian children abducted by Putin's regime do not get that privilege. Neither do their families.

Zelenskyy is right, Mr. Speaker. We do face another evil empire today, a new axis of evil: Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping, Kim Jong-un, and the autocrats in Iran and in other parts of the world and its many proxies, including Hamas, Hezbollah, the Houthis rebels, and others who all stand as threats to democracy and freedom.

As these dictators and despots continue their assault on democracy, free-

dom, and international law, they watch whether the free world, of which we should be and for all intents and purposes are the leader of, waiting for that free world to stand together to oppose them. We will not have that opportunity until 25 days from now.

These past few months, Congress had an opportunity to send them that message of unity and strength. We have not done that.

Over 300 Members of the House, Mr. Speaker, voted to provide Ukraine additional aid all seven times it came to this floor. We are not united on this issue. We simply have not brought it to the floor to express that unity and message to all the world.

An overwhelming majority of Members also wanted to provide aid to Israel, including myself. Mr. Speaker, Speaker JOHNSON acknowledged the need to aid our allies, saying in Florida the other day: "Ukraine is another priority. Of course, we can't allow Vladimir Putin to march through Europe, and we understand the necessity of assisting there."

Mr. Speaker, we have all gone home without undertaking that responsibility. Sadly, we apparently don't understand the urgency of that assistance.

Instead of giving us a clean vote to act on that consensus, Speaker JOHNSON needlessly complicated the issue by tying it to his Conference's partisan proposal to overhaul our border policy.

That decision, Mr. Speaker, was inconsistent with his cosponsorship of H.R. 395 back in 2017, which said the purpose of that bill was "to end the practice of including more than one subject in a single bill . . . enacted by Congress."

Mr. Speaker, the reason we have not acted on Israel, the reason we have not acted on Ukraine, the reason we have not come to the defense of democracy and freedom in Ukraine and to oppose terrorism in Israel, the reason is contrary to that one-purpose bill that Speaker JOHNSON was the sponsor of. He wants to put multiple issues in that, including border security, which we have been working on for 15 years but haven't been able to come to consensus.

We should be and we are in consensus on Ukraine, but we did not act. Evidently, they think that ethical principles only apply when it is politically convenient.

I agree that we need to fix the broken immigration system and address the situation at the border, but this is not the way to do it, not at the expense of the defense of freedom and democracy.

House Republican leadership spent the last week advancing a sham impeachment inquiry, a bill about whole milk, and legislation about duck stamps while Ukraine twisted in the wind. Our House should have had only one priority this week—ensuring democracy's survival.

By failing to provide this aid, our Congress signaled to our friends and

foes alike that America chooses reluctance over resolve, doubt over determination, and division over decisiveness. That posture of uncertainty puts our national security at risk.

The America First contingent of the Republican Party sends an even more damaging message. Time and time again, leaders of the American far right praise Putin, demonize Ukraine, and spread misinformation about the war.

Tucker Carlson, once one of the most-watched people on American TV, has become one of the most-watched people on Russian state television, where propagandists often play clips of his segments.

President Trump continues to play into Putin's hands, as well. Trump recently said that if reelected in 2024, he would end the war in Ukraine within 24 hours. There is only one way to do that—give up, retreat, turn tail on the defense of democracy and Putin.

In response—and this is instructive—Putin said, “We cannot help but feel happy about it,” meaning Trump's claim that he would end the war in 24 hours. Giving up is the only way to do that.

Mr. Speaker, we have seen this kowtowing just recently on Capitol Hill. This week, Congresswoman MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE tweeted: “Zelenskyy is here in D.C. today begging for your money, and warmongering Washington wants to give him limitless American dollars.”

That, of course, is not true, but it warms the heart of Vladimir Putin. She went on to say: “How much money will Washington spend to slaughter an entire generation of young Ukrainian men as Washington fights its proxy war with Russia?”

I can remember, because I have been here a long time, when Republican friends accused the Democratic side of the aisle of too often blaming America first. Of course, that is what MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE said.

It is disgusting to say that we are slaughtering Ukrainians when Putin's forces are doing just that every day.

We are doing everything possible to keep Ukrainians alive. Ukrainians courageously give their lives, as so many of our American forebearers have done, in defense of their country, in defense of their sovereignty, and in defense of their people's lives. Ukrainians courageously give their lives to defend their democracy, their country, and their families.

They will continue to do so with or without our support. Our aid, however, may well determine whether their sacrifice leads to victory or defeat. Yet, Mr. Speaker, the chairs are empty.

In another tweet, Congresswoman GREENE asked: “Why doesn't anyone in Washington talk about a peace treaty with Russia, a deal with Putin promising he will not continue any further invasions?” Putin's promises have no credibility.

“Washington wants war,” she said, “not peace.”

That is a lie. Washington wants peace, but it is not prepared to pay for peace with being dominated by a dictator.

Believe me, we want peace, but we want a peace that lasts. A promise of peace from Putin is worthless. He is a former KGB officer turned dictator who has built his career one lie, one deception, and one betrayal at a time.

He already broke one peace agreement, the 1994 Budapest Memorandum, in which Putin, on behalf of Russia, agreed to respect Ukraine's sovereignty and borders in exchange for Ukraine's nuclear arsenal.

□ 1245

He has the nuclear arsenal. Ukraine was either the third or fourth largest holder of nuclear weapons in the world, and they gave them up in return for Putin's promise that their borders would be secured and unviolated.

Then it went into Crimea, and the West's response was weak. He is in Crimea today, notwithstanding the fact that that is under Ukrainian sovereignty.

Putin went back on that pledge when he took Crimea. He didn't stop with Crimea, however. He went into eastern Ukraine, and there is no reason to expect that he will stop with Ukraine.

Winston Churchill once said, an appeaser is one who hopes that if he feeds the crocodile enough, the crocodile will eat him last, but surely the crocodile will eat him.

John F. Kennedy shared the same wisdom in his book, “Why England Slept.” He wrote, “Any person will awaken when the house is burning down. What we need is an armed guard that will wake up when the fire first starts or, better yet, one that will not permit a fire to start at all.”

The seats in this House are empty today while the fire threatens democracy and freedom in Ukraine, which is the front line of democracy and freedom today.

Mr. Speaker, the fire rages. Our inaction only stokes the flames. If you don't believe me, listen to what Russian State TV is saying. Allow me to quote from the transcript of a broadcast earlier this week: What is happening in the U.S. is beneficial for us. That is a quote from Russian TV, controlled by Putin.

The seats are empty, and Putin is happy.

They went on to say: “Ukraine is losing. Russia is winning. This is it. Their funding and weapons came to an end.”

They were relying on the United States of America, that shining city on the hill that stands for freedom, individual rights, democracy, religious freedom. That beacon on the hill is less bright today because these seats are empty.

Putin said: As of now, well done, Republicans—his words, not mine—well done, Republicans, for standing firm. That is good for us.

“Us” is Russia. “Us” is the dictator. “Us” is the aggressor. “Us” is the

international lawbreaker, criminal, and murderer.

Just a few hours ago, at an end-of-the-year press conference, Vladimir Putin said of Ukraine: “Everything is coming from the West, but the free things will run out some day, and it seems it is already happening.”

In other words, Putin is saying the West is retreating from the defense of freedom, and the seats in this body are empty.

There is nothing that Putin and the rest of the axis of evil likes to see more than our Congress divided, our country divided, and our coalition divided. We must not give them that satisfaction.

If we neglect to send these resources without condition and without delay, we fail not only the people of Ukraine, but the people of Israel and the people in Palestine, to whom we want to give relief and humanitarian aid.

We fail the America envisioned by our Founding Fathers, a Nation with the courage to stand up to forces of empire and despotism. We fall short of the principles they enshrined in our founding documents, the very same documents that President Zelenskyy made his pilgrimage to a few months ago.

Mr. Speaker, when we return to the Capitol on January 9, each Member of this Congress will face a choice. Will we, as Zelenskyy said, allow freedom to be brought to its knees or, Mr. Speaker, will we be standing strong, standing united against the evil empire.

Regrettably, the seats are empty today.

Every week, every day, every hour we fail to act, we risk allowing the enemies of freedom to make that decision for us. We must not let that happen.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the former majority leader for the outstanding presentation. I think it is an appropriate way to bring this to closure today. May God continue to bless him and keep him.

Mr. Speaker, as I shake Mr. HOYER's hand as he passes me by, I am blessed to know that sometimes fortuitous circumstances can benefit you.

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss not to mention the newest staff member on my team, Eric Goodwine.

Eric does an outstanding job for us in Houston. He not only assists me in the office, but he also is the principal person that gets me from point A to point B. Eric does an outstanding job of ensuring that things are arranged when I arrive at various venues, and I am proud to have him on the team.

Eric, thank you again. Please forgive me for not mentioning you initially. All of this was from memory so charge it to being 25 three times and now working on my fourth 25th birthday, but there is a God that rules above and a fortuitous circumstance has made a difference.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless this House, and may God bless the United States of America.

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

CRISIS AT THE BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CISCOMANI) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address something that I keep hearing from my constituents, and quite frankly, is the top issue on people's minds all across the entire country: The situation at the border.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have several Members join me for this Special Order hour to speak about this issue.

Mr. Speaker, whatever angle you look at this, this is something that is considered a crisis.

Whether you are looking at the national security implications; whether you are looking at the lack of order at the actual border; whether you are looking at what our agents in our offices are going through; whether you look at the disrespect for the rule of law and the abuse in the asylum system; whether you look also at the humanitarian crisis and what women and children are going through as they are getting trafficked—as we all know, the report of missing children within the care of the State, over 85,000—there is no upside to this crisis. There doesn't seem to be a turnaround of this situation either.

Mr. Speaker, I will be addressing my colleagues in the House today quite extensively about this issue because it is, again, something that has been top of mind for us.

It is not a new subject. It is not a new issue. It is something that we have seen continue to get worse and worse as the months and the weeks, and actually the years, have gone by. This administration has lost complete control, if at any point they had any, of the border.

This wasn't the case just 2½, 3 years ago. So when we talk about the policies that can actually work, we are not talking about in theory. We are not imagining that this could work. We actually can point to successes that we had as a country in controlling the situation at the border.

Now, I will be talking about this in a little bit as well, but I am an immigrant myself. I have gone through the process, and I will be digging a little deeper on that. I can tell you, having gone through this process, I understand

how broke the system is and how much improvement it needs in a lot of areas.

However, abusing the system the way it has been abused is not good for anyone. It is not good for our country, not good for the order of our country, and not good for the migrants themselves either.

It is also not good for those that have been waiting in line to have their turn at this shot of the American Dream that I have enjoyed. I want many others to do so as well, as they follow the system that we have put in place that—I will repeat—needs fixing and improving.

However, the numbers that we are seeing at the border, the data on the crime and the crossings, are unprecedented, as the chief of the Tucson sector, which is now the busiest sector in terms of encounters in the entire country, described it not too long ago.

He said: Before I called it unprecedented. Now I don't have an adjective to describe what the situation is now.

Mr. Speaker, just about 10 days ago when the week closed, it was reported that 17,500 encounters had happened in the Tucson sector alone. Before a couple thousand a week was an alarming number, and even borderline crisis, now we are looking at 3,000 or so a day on some days.

These are unsustainable numbers, and it is not trending in the right direction.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have some of my colleagues join me in addressing this topic on today's Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD), a former sheriff that has experience in battling crime and fighting for law and order.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Arizona for yielding.

As very well stated, Mr. Speaker, a little over 2½ years ago, the Republicans in this body were talking about a crisis at the southern border. The illegal immigrants that were pouring into this country had created a crisis.

Finally now, 3 years later almost, the Democrats across the aisle finally want to admit that there is a crisis, but they blame it on funding. We need more funding.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I am here to tell you, it is not a funding issue, it is a policy issue. We need to change our policy.

In May, House Republicans passed H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act. In 2023, we passed that bill. This robust border bill will require the Biden administration to complete the Trump-era border wall, increase the number of Border Patrol agents, reinstate the remain in Mexico policy, and remove all the incentives that are encouraging people to cross our border illegally.

Senator SCHUMER must bring H.R. 2 to the Senate floor for a vote. We need them to do their job over in the Senate. We need relief from this crisis.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 7½ months, that bill has been sitting, languishing in the Senate, with Democrats refusing to even negotiate the issues.

It is very clear now, 7 months after House Republicans passed that bill, that now the Democrats own the border crisis and the Democrats own the national disasters that will flow from this crisis.

In 7 months' time, over 1 million illegal immigrants have been encountered at our southern border. Make no mistake, the United States has been and will continue to be a nation of immigrants that welcomes people from around this world who love this land.

I have seen firsthand the death, destruction, disorder, and diseases that have been brought into our communities by the unvetted migration coming over our porous southern border.

Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, a 24-year-old man, who HHS left unidentified, posed as a minor, was flown to my district, where he killed one of my constituents.

The Democrats own that. He was not the first criminal to enter as a criminal, and he won't be the last.

□ 1300

Even the leaders in New York, California, and other blue States are calling out for support as they deal with the influx of migrants into their cities. The Democrats own that.

Among the 2.4 million people that CBP encountered in FY 2023, 15,000 of them had criminal records, and 169 of them were on the terrorist watch list. Again, these are just the ones that we know about. The Democrats own that.

This humanitarian national crisis has stretched our immigration system to a breaking point. A nation without borders is not a nation.

Every day that President Biden and Senator SCHUMER ignore this crisis, our country becomes less safe. While the Senate has refused to negotiate and accept the major tenets of H.R. 2, CBP has intercepted 8,400 pounds of fentanyl at the southwest border.

The fentanyl pouring in over this border is killing our neighbors, friends, and families at an alarming rate. In just 2022, over 70,000 people died of fentanyl poisoning. The Democrats own that, too.

If we can't prove who is coming across the border, the default policy, according to Secretary Mayorkas, is to let them in. Don't know who they are, but come on in. That has to stop. The Democrats own that, too.

I implore Senator SCHUMER to bring H.R. 2 to the floor for a vote. The Democrats own this border crisis and the death and destruction it has and will cause in our country. The Democrats own that, too.

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my friend being here and speaking so passionately and also from experience on this, both personally and professionally, as we just heard.

This is exactly what the issue here is. It is the need for partnership and bipartisanship on this issue. This is not a

partisan issue. I think that we can all see that. Some have tried to make it a partisan issue, and it is really not.

What Mr. RUTHERFORD just explained is exactly the nature of the problem. Both sides should be equally concerned about this issue, both sides of the aisle.

I know that is for sure the case at home. At home, you don't see partisan division around this issue. I hear from mayors that are Democrats and mayors that are Republicans. I hear from county supervisors that are Republicans and county supervisors that are Democrats. They are both equally concerned with the situation because we are dealing with it on the ground.

That is exactly why, in my district in Arizona's Sixth Congressional District, we get it. We know what the solutions are. That is an enforcement of the current laws, and as was described, the measures in H.R. 2 that need to be adopted.

These are the kind of policy changes that we need. It is not just all about resources. Resources are definitely a part of the solution, but resources without the proper policy changes and the proper policy enforcement will be an incomplete solution to the problem.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. VALADAO).

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arizona for yielding.

What we are seeing at our southern border is a humanitarian and national security crisis. Earlier this year, I was at the border with my colleague from Arizona to see the situation on the ground firsthand.

Our Border Patrol agents are overwhelmed by the surge of migrants from around the world, and we need to give them more support.

Unfortunately, the Biden administration has sent a clear message that our southern border is open for business for drug smuggling and human trafficking. The flow of illegal drugs, guns, and human traffickers has a direct impact on the people from the Central Valley.

I just held a teletownhall this week, and one of the issues that came up the most was the situation at our border and concerns with fentanyl.

We must take action to combat the loss of life from illegal drugs, like fentanyl, which are flowing across our open border at an alarming rate. The House has passed legislation this year to increase the number of Border Patrol agents, deploy new drone and surveillance technologies, and restore construction of the border wall. These are commonsense measures that would go a long way to ensure our Border Patrol agents have the tools they need to deal with the crisis.

For too long, extremes on both sides of the aisle have discouraged real and meaningful discussion regarding border security and immigration reform. We need to secure the border and make reforms to our broken immigration system. We won't be able to make these reforms or find compromise with the

current humanitarian and national security crisis we have at the border today.

I will continue working with my colleagues to find common ground for reforming our broken immigration system and to secure our border.

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative VALADAO for his words.

Obviously, California is a border State as well, but we heard from Florida and Arizona. This is a top issue. As I was mentioning at the beginning of my remarks, this is the number one issue of our constituents and it should be. This is something that is impacting us every day, and it is something that has been getting worse and worse.

It is not just in my district. My district, the Sixth Congressional District, is a border district, and we know that is obviously impacted. There are other border areas, even outside of my district, where migrants are being released on a daily basis, up in the hundreds. This is something that alarms the community and is something that needs to be fixed.

Let's understand something. Arizona, like Texas and California, have clearly experienced living and breathing and existing and collaborating and prospering with our neighbors to the south. This is something that is part of our culture, part of who we are.

Although the border has never been perfect, and no one is claiming that it has been, it has never been as open as it is today and has never been described as a crisis at the level that it is now.

That is why it is concerning to all of us living there, because we have seen it deteriorate and get worse by the day. In the last 2 years, we have seen examples of records broken that we never thought would be broken in terms of apprehensions and also the amount of drugs coming in, specifically through our ports of entry.

When the Biden administration has gotten involved, like they did about 10 days ago, it was to close a port of entry. Well, the results of closing that port of entry have been nonpositive ones, given that the legal traffic has stopped while the illegal traffic continues to not only happen but increase while people are no longer able to cross for legal purposes. That is a problem, and that is another sign of the administration missing the mark on this.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS), my colleague and neighbor up north, someone who has been fighting for these issues longer than most, even in Arizona, in public office.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I appreciate him holding this Special Order to discuss this most existential of issues.

Talk about nihilism for a second. Nihilism is where you actually are fostering programs and activities to ensure your demise. I can tell you, what is happening on the border is unbelievable.

When my colleague, Mr. CISCOMANI, starts talking about Lukeville, he is talking about the Lukeville port of entry. Thirty-five people live in Lukeville. This is a port of entry people from Phoenix and southern Arizona use to transport down to Rocky Point on the Sea of Cortez and vice versa and our friends from Mexico come up and go shopping in Arizona. It is a very synergistic type of relationship.

What happened, more than 10 days ago, that resulted in the closure 10 days ago of that port of entry, is that there were so many illegal aliens coming there and entering our country that the Border Patrol couldn't process them. We couldn't keep enough people there to process legal traffic and deal with the influx of over 1,000 a day. Wow. Now, we have that port of entry closed, and you still have 1,000 to 1,600 people a day coming there from all over the world.

That is one of the distinctions from my friends in Texas. Eagle Pass, which is also being inundated right now in the Del Rio sector, most of those folks coming across there speak Spanish, because they are coming from Central American and South American states.

What happens is, when you have these people coming in from Mali, Mauritania, Madagascar, West Africa, Somalia, Syria, or the Middle Eastern countries that are coming through Lukeville, we don't even have translators for them. Our port agents down there can't even communicate with these folks.

That is just one port of entry. I am going to give you one more example. Yuma is a town of about 80,000, 85,000 people, sits right on the border across from San Luis, Mexico. They have got one hospital in Yuma.

By the way, what is Yuma? You need to understand what it is. Almost every piece of lettuce that you eat, or other green leafy vegetable, in the winter-time, for about 6 months out of the year, comes from Yuma, Arizona. It is an agricultural community. They work well together. During planting and harvesting, 7,000 to 10,000, sometimes 12,000, people a day come across legally to help the farmers in Yuma.

What happens now? What happens now is if you are a lady and you are going to give birth to a baby, many times you can't even get into the maternity ward at the Yuma Regional hospital. Why is that? Because of the influx of people from across the border, who are in the country illegally, and the women are going to have babies right there at Yuma Regional. Every maternity bed is taken up with someone who doesn't live in this country. Where do they go? They drive 3 to 3½ hours up to Phoenix or 3 to 3½ hours over to San Diego.

We have known people who have had heart attacks and other really serious emergencies who could not even get into the emergency room in Yuma. They had to be transported by helicopter, Air Evac, up to Phoenix.

Why is that? Because we are inundated at the southern border. This is a crisis of our own making. Not ours, but this administration's making.

People say to me: Why do they do this? It is inexplicable. It is not incompetence. Surely, if you are incompetent, at some point you would say: Hey, almost 10 million illegal aliens in the country in 3 years, we have got a problem; we probably ought to change our policies.

They don't want to change their policies. They do not want to enforce the law. There are laws on the books that would help slow this down immediately, if they would enforce them. You know what the first one would be? You actually take the 1.5 million people who are in this country illegally, who have received due process and have removal orders to leave the country but who refuse to leave the country, you would actually find those people and remove them.

You know what happens when you are removing people? Then folks say it is probably not worth spending every dime that I have, every dime my family has, getting in debt to the cartels, and going across all of that hardship to get into the country. That is what they would say. How do we know that works? Because when President Trump said we are going to start removing people by their orders, it slowed it down.

By the way, let's go back to Yuma for a second, Yuma, Arizona, where I was talking about the hospital. During President Trump's last year, the entire year, 8,600 people who were illegally entering the country were apprehended in the Yuma sector. It is like 120 miles long. They do that in a week now. That is about a week's worth of illegal aliens crossing. Trump had that for an entire year. You couldn't do that by accident or incompetence. It almost has to be by design.

How do you stop it? You start enforcing the law. How do you get this administration to enforce the law? You tell them we are going to fund only certain aspects of the government, like the military, like the border patrol, like ICE, like air traffic controllers, and like the TSA. Let's make sure the country is safe, but we are not going to give Mr. Biden any more money than that.

For all of the bureaucracy and the crazy programs that he has out there—by the way, they churn out 40,000 pages of laws on a regular basis from those bureaucracies—we are going to slow that down until they do something with measurable metrics that shows us that they are actually bringing down the number of illegal border crossings and bring it under control. That is how you settle this.

□ 1315

We have to settle this. It is going to change this country.

We can talk more about fentanyl. When my colleagues across the aisle

say that 95 percent of fentanyl is seized at the ports of entry, why do you suppose that is? It is because, at the ports of entry, you actually have people waiting there, investigating and inspecting vehicles and individuals crossing. There are machines where they can look into a truck and see what is in there. They can see if there is something disorderly in there and then inspect it.

Between the ports of entry is where we know that 1.75 million people have come across during the Biden administration. They are wearing camo and carpet shoes so they won't be detected. Our BuckEye cameras and field cameras pick them up, but we just can't get to them.

Where Mr. CISCOMANI and I live in the Tucson sector, the terrain is so rough and rugged that we might see somebody there, but it will take you 2½ to 3 hours to get your vehicle there, get out of your vehicle, and hike to where they are.

They will then pop up south of Phoenix. They will go through the Tohono O'odham Reservation. They will pop up through Pinal County. When they come out, they are 40 miles, as the crow flies, from Phoenix, which is a major hub for transporting illegal drugs and human trafficking. That is what is going on between the ports of entry.

Every hearing that we have held in the last 3 years where this has been brought up, the Democrats have said we interdict 95 percent of that at the ports of entry. No. You interdict 95 percent of the overall interdiction at the ports of entry, but you don't know what you are not interdicting.

What we do know is that 1.97 million people carrying backpacks come into our country. What is in those backpacks? It used to be bales of marijuana. It isn't bales of marijuana now. It is small backpacks to bring in fentanyl pills. That is what is going on.

I beg this administration to wake up. I beg my colleagues to join us. Let's entice this administration to do what is right and enforce our border laws.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for having this Special Order today. Let's join hands and defeat this wide-open border that is forever going to adjust our country.

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. BIGGS for his words and his work on this.

As we close today's session, I will re-emphasize something that I said at the beginning. This crisis, as much as we talk about this, and it is absolutely true on the national security side, on the risk, and all the issues that I mentioned, I absolutely believe that the Biden administration has utterly failed. We square up the responsibility for failing at the border on the President and his team, for sure.

This is also something that is a humanitarian crisis. We have children who are being trafficked. In a lot of cases, as described, they are recycled through when they cross. They get sent

back and then keep getting recycled through.

They are abusing the laws that protect adults and treat them differently when they are carrying with them children, minors, specifically tender age children, which would be 12 and under.

These issues are real. The New York Times published a story where they reported that there were over 85,000 minors missing in our country who had been smuggled into the United States. There was no way to track them. The Federal Government had lost track of them.

Mr. Speaker, I am a dad of six. I am an immigrant myself. When I look at that, it angers me. As a father, it angers me. As an immigrant, it angers me. There is no reason that our government should have lost track of these children. This crisis affects kids and women and everyone being trafficked, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I will take this opportunity to thank our Border Patrol agents who have continually put their lives on the line—the different organizations and, obviously, the rank and file, those men and women who are on the front line, the officers and everyone involved in this job. It is a thankless job.

They are seeing the worst impact ever with the least support that they have ever had. We need to make sure that we have their backs. I want them to know that we have their backs.

One of the last things that I want to say is that this is not going to be a complaining session. This is not a session where we highlight and add light to the failures of the administration and complain about that. That is something that we need to be stronger on and to voice.

I have been offering solutions. We have been offering solutions. We have been writing letters to the Secretary, demanding answers for the closure of the port of entry, working on a bipartisan basis, and calling the National Guard to the border so they can be activated by this administration. We have also offered different bills that would address the criminal aspect of what is happening at the border.

I believe we need to secure our border now. The time is now to do that. I also agree that immigration reform is needed. Asylum process updating is needed, as well. All this can be done and should be done. This should be the number one priority that we have.

Mr. Speaker, I am committed to making that happen in my time here in Congress. In my first year, this continues to be my issue.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for listening. I thank my colleagues for participating. I thank my colleagues for a partnership to protect the border, protect our communities, and make sure that everyone has a shot at the American Dream, the way that our system has been created for people to do so.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

TACKLING ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, we are going to follow up on the last series of speeches and point out to the American public that over the next month—we are now going to leave for about 2½ weeks. But over the next month, all eyes should be on the Republicans of the House of Representatives as we finally dig in and try to tackle the biggest problem that America faces today. That problem is the illegal immigration across the southern border.

I want to give some statistics because I have talked to a lot of people, and some people are still confused. They think we will be mean if we try to cut off the illegal immigration, or xenophobic, or something.

I point out to the American people one more time that the number of people coming across our southern border each month is historically wildly high. It is even high by the standards of the Biden administration.

The most recent figures we have are still for October 2023. Almost 300,000 people came across our southern border in October. That is up from about 180,000 a year ago. It went from 180,000 to 290,000. If you go back 2 years, you are down under 100,000. If you go back 3 years, it was under 20,000.

We are going up even higher than I thought. We are going up to about 14 times as many people crossing the border today as were crossing the border 3 years ago. It is a disaster for the United States.

Of that amount, depending on the month, we are up to having 6,000 to 9,000 unaccompanied minors crossing the southern border. There was a time when Americans' heartstrings were pulled a little bit if a family was separated. If a 16-year-old comes across the border without either of their parents there, isn't that a broken family? For all we know, they may never see their parents again. They may be human trafficked. They might wind up working illegally on a third-shift job.

The New York Times reported it, and the Biden administration objects to it, but I think anybody would agree that we have lost track of tens of thousands of unaccompanied minors in America.

Why aren't more people upset by this? There are people who say some of them are okay. Are we making any effort to find out if they are okay?

Some other statistics that should be tackled here, as we permanently change America, is that we not only look at the number of people coming here illegally, but we should be looking at the number of people who are coming here who are being deported after they do bad things.

Let me say that one more time. We find dramatic reductions in the number of people who are coming to our country who are being deported from our country after they do bad things.

In the most recent year available, 72,000 people were deported, primarily for breaking the law. You have COVID in the middle there. If you go back 2 years, that 72,000 was 185,000. Before COVID hit at all, we were deporting about 250,000 people a year for breaking the law. We have now dropped that to about one-quarter as many.

We not only have a problem with the current administration that has an open border, with the number of people crossing the border up by 14 times what it was 3 years ago, but the number of people deported compared to—and I don't like to make this a Trump thing—under Trump has dropped about one-quarter as many.

It is hard to believe right now, but at the time of the Trump administration, people were critical because people were doing horrible things and not being deported. I think President Trump should have been deporting more. Nevertheless, almost a quarter as many people are being deported as were 4 years ago.

We are both letting far more people in the country and kicking out fewer people who I think everybody should agree are a problem.

Mr. Speaker, there is going to be a strong effort made when Congress returns from our Christmas break to do something to aid Ukraine. The Republicans feel, and rightfully so, that this is such a crisis of what is going on at our southern border that we should not be addressing any other crises around the world until this situation is solved.

There are other statistics that the public should be aware of. Every year in this country, over a million people are allowed in the country with green cards. It is not impossible to come here. Right now, almost a million people are sworn in every year to become new citizens.

This is the highest number that we have had since 2006, so don't let anybody say it is impossible to come here. Don't let anyone say that America is xenophobic and turning its back on the world. Just shy of a million people every year are being sworn in legally. A million people a year are also being let in on visas. As a result, nobody should say that America is afraid of people from other parts of the world.

The only question is: Should we have people coming here who have not been appropriately vetted? How much of a quick change in the makeup of America's population can we stand?

Mr. Speaker, I have statistics available for last year, when 970,000 new people were sworn in as Americans. I was at a ceremony in Milwaukee County where 270 people were sworn in in 1 month by itself.

Last year, despite this huge illegal immigration, we had just short of a million people naturalized. That is the most since 2008.

□ 1330

There were only 2 years, from what I can tell, in the last 50 years when more people were legally sworn in as new citizens than who were sworn in last year. I am led to believe, at least by my local officials, that that number is going to go up again when we collect the final numbers from 2023.

I strongly encourage my Republican colleagues to hold the line. We have passed legislation out of the House—and we don't even really need legislation, but we have passed legislation out of the House to change the immigration laws the degree to which we will go back to where we were a couple years ago and only a small number of people will come here who are not legal, and we will stop the current trend of having such a wholesale change in the make-up of our immigrants coming to America.

John Adams said that the Constitution is built for a moral and religious population and totally unfit for any other.

We therefore have to make sure that just as we do a good job of raising our children who are expected to live in a country under our wonderful Constitution which anticipates a limited government which is necessary for a free people, we have to make sure that the people who come here are a moral group of people who are prepared to live in a country based upon less government and leaving people alone. If the House Republicans do not get what they want in January or February, then it is scary for the future of our country.

This is a fight the Republicans, of course, do not want.

Who wants to fight?

Nevertheless, it is something that is necessary to change our country. If we lose that fight, then we are going to go back to the days, or continue the days, of 180 or 300,000 people per month crossing the southern border.

I hope the press pays careful attention to what is going on here, and I hope the American people pay close attention to what is going on here.

The next topic I am going to address, and we have addressed it before, is that we are right now working through the 12 bills which we call appropriation bills and which the people back home would call budget bills.

In virtually every bill, there will be a disagreement as to whether America ought to be spending more money identifying people based on racial make-up, trying to use the racial make-up of where your parents were born 2 or 3 or 10 generations ago when determining who gets a job, who gets a promotion, and who gets a government contract.

This has been a big part of American life since 1965, but under the Biden administration it has become a much bigger, I won't say problem, but a bigger part of American life because we ask people what their racial background is.

Maybe I should explain why it is something of concern to me.

I personally became aware of this when a local human resources professional contracted out to someone. This business had over 50 employees, and it is something that every business with at least 50 employees has to worry about. They were going to hire a new engineer, and they were told by a firm they had hired to monitor this sort of thing that if they currently had four men who were engineers, then they had to make sure the fifth person was a woman.

In other words, despite the fact that the guy owned this company privately, the government was going to sit in a room and say: We don't care if the best person for the job is a guy, it has to be a woman.

Later on, they were going to hire a member of management. Before this time they had four members of management who happened to be White folks. They were told that the next person should be a person of color.

Again, this person who called me was a human resources professional, a woman herself, but she just felt that something was wrong with this. It is our company. If we find somebody we think we ought to hire, then we ought to hire that person.

The Biden administration and virtually every agency wants more attention paid to where people come from. I think there are two justifications for that, and I wish we were debating it more openly.

The first justification is diversity. I question whether that is really the motivation or is it just to divide Americans. The reason I say that is because when you identify people by their ethnic background, it has nothing to do with their life experiences or their opinions on any individual issues.

Some of the rules make no sense whatsoever. When identifying somebody, a person self-identifies. You could be one-quarter a protected class or one-eighth a protected class, and the government will say that because you are say, one-eighth Peruvian, that therefore you bring a diverse viewpoint and it is important we bring you into a company. That makes no sense. Nevertheless, that is the current justification.

Or the justification may be that we have to make up for past sins. Again, people getting preferences are ever-increasing. These are people who were not even in this country 20 years ago.

Why would we have to put our thumb on the scale or order a company to hire somebody who thought the United States was so wonderful that they would immigrate here?

Last night, I was reading about a woman who came here who had one parent from Jamaica and one parent was, I think, from the Bahamas. In any event, this person's ancestors were not suffering in any way in the United States. Nevertheless, they used the excuse that in order to make up for past injustice, we have to give preferences. This makes no sense.

The diversity argument is also strange. We can have somebody who came here from Vietnam three generations ago. Maybe they are right now one-quarter Vietnamese. Maybe they don't know how to talk Vietnamese and have never set foot in Vietnam. Nonetheless, according to the diversity bureaucracy, it is important they are given preference because they will bring a diverse viewpoint to the workforce.

Mr. Speaker, does it make any sense to say that you are going to bring a diverse viewpoint if you know nothing at all about the country or culture which you supposedly represent?

In any event, there are programs along this line being pushed throughout the Federal Government.

I think, largely, the Republican Party will try to decrease them and just say that we are going to view people as individuals while the Democratic Party wants to forever label people by where their grandfather or great-grandfather or great-great-grandfather lived.

I think that is a recipe for divisiveness. I hope the Republicans prevail, and I hope the American public objects to this increasingly divisive program.

I want to focus on one area in particular. Recently the Biden administration has decided to add to the groups of people whom I think will be given preference in the government contracts.

By the way, I recently toured a company owned by and run by a guy from Asia. His parents had founded the company and were very, very successful, but despite the fact that, from what I could tell, he was going to inherit a company worth tens of millions of dollars and had lived a very lavish, let's say a spoiled life to this point, he was taking advantage of, or was being given an advantage for government contracting because he was perceived to be a protected person or a person who needed assistance.

This is a person who is going to inherit tens of millions of dollars and who is living in an upscale Wisconsin suburb, but under current law, he had to be given preferences over maybe somebody who had lived in America for generations, who was brought up in a difficult background, and who founded his own company working it from the ground up. Nevertheless, because of this divisive affirmative action sort of stuff, the American, the guy whose great-great-grandparents were here, was going to be given a disadvantage in getting a government contract because he was not the son of Asian multimillionaires.

We ought to have a discussion about this. This is the sort of thing that should matter.

Nevertheless, the Biden administration, in addition to trying to hire all different people in our agencies, wants a new group that would be considered persons of color and given preference, and that is Middle Eastern or North Africans.

Now, I will make a couple of comments about that. Right now, Mr. Speaker, if you look at a map from Morocco all the way over to Iran, these people are considered just like any other American. They are not given preferences.

Why they would get preferences, I don't know.

I think most people from this part of the world immigrated here only very recently, so I wouldn't even say their parents or grandparents or great-great-grandparents were treated poorly in this country.

Insofar as I know people from this part of the world, I believe they think like every average American. I don't see what sort of diverse viewpoint they are bringing to the workplace. Moreover, I should point out, that right now people from Middle Eastern or North African background are making, if money can be described as a success, considerably more than the average American citizen, including the average American White citizen.

Nevertheless, the Biden administration wants to say to this group from Morocco, from Lebanon, from Syria, and from Iran that if you found a company here, then you get preferences if you are dealing with the Federal Government.

I have yet to find one person back home who knows the Biden administration is trying to do this, but it is something that ought to be more publicized in the mainstream media, and it ought to be subject to debate.

One of the topics that should be brought up is the question: Is this a way to destroy America and divide Americans, or when people vote they create a situation in which people say: What are you going to give me because I am from Peru?

What are you going to give me because I am from Vietnam?

What are you going to give me because I am from Iraq?

What are you going to give me because I am from Angola?

I think that is where we are headed, and the time is now to nip it in the bud.

By the way, I mentioned that people from North Africa make more than the average American. That is also true for the wealthiest immigrant group in this country, people from India. People from China make more than the average American. People from the Philippines make more than the average American. People from Cuba make more than the average American.

From what I can see, it might take one or two generations, but then people from Africa or Southeast Asia make more than the average American. So we should not be afraid to put an end to this.

We have a labor shortage. These DEI specialists should be swept aside, and we should go back to the days in which companies could hire and promote people based on who is the best for the job.

I hope this is discussed over the next 3 weeks back home so that when Congress reconvenes and works on our appropriations bills we try to do what we can to get rid of these DEI specialists.

The final topic of the day is with regard to two different groups who are being treated very differently, and it is time we got rid of the differences.

Beginning in the 1960s, the Federal Government began to institute widespread use of income-based benefits. Some of them were low-income housing benefits, some of them were at the time what we called AFDC benefits, some of them were food benefits, and some of them were healthcare benefits. Nonetheless, they all gave more benefits to people who were considered to be in poverty.

Frequently, being in poverty meant that you couldn't get married because if you have a couple together and one of them has a job, then they usually are not considered to be in poverty, so they don't get free housing, free food, and free checks. There is a flawed program called the earned income tax credit in which people also get more money.

All these programs have two things in common: They largely penalize people who get married to someone with an income, and they largely discourage people from working. In my experience talking with people on a lower level of the income scale, they all know when they should stop working to get the maximum benefits.

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There is a sweet spot if you are a single parent, around \$16,000 to \$18,000, and you get your earned income tax credit. You get your rent-free apartment or almost rent-free apartment. You get your food share. You get your medical care. You may be getting some separate individual checks. As a result, we are discouraging two things: We are discouraging marriage, particularly marrying somebody who has got an income, and we discourage work.

There is a bill working its way through Congress right now, which is adding a new class of Pell grants. Pell grants are what amount to college scholarships for people who are perceived to be low income.

What happens with Pell grants—and the same thing should be said about food stamps, the same thing should be said about low-income housing—if one couple gets married and raises a child on their own, under most cases they are not eligible for free government scholarship.

If they decide not to get married and maybe you have one parent with a small income, their children get what amounts to a college scholarship. I had a woman approach me saying that her and her husband got married and their daughter was \$35,000 in debt when she graduated from college. She thought that was unfair because her sister didn't get married and her daughter was getting what amounted to almost

free tuition for 4 years because of the martial status of her parents.

The child from a married couple is \$35,000 in debt, compared to very little debt of the child of the unmarried couple.

In America, we are supposed to be treating people equally. Obviously, we are not treating people equally here. It is like it is the policy of the Federal Government to discourage marriage and particularly discourage marriage if you have children. This is not something that has been talked about lately. It hasn't been talked about in depth here, as far as I can tell, since the 1990s, but since equity or "equality" or something is the catch word that you hear a lot of around here, I think we ought to look at these programs and stop penalizing people who get married and have children.

It is a shame, but a lot of people feel they can't afford to have kids anymore, maybe they have no kids, maybe one child, and you hear it is because they don't have enough money; meanwhile, we have no problem taxing them to make sure people with a different lifestyle have a variety of things.

It is not going to change in January or February, but I hope the people in this institution begin to think about that. Was it right to set up programs and the only way you can get them is if you don't get married when you have children?

I will recount a little anecdote with regard to the Pell grants. I used to speak on this back in Wisconsin before I was a Congressman, and I would go through all the different programs which you lose if you get married and have a job. I talked to a young gal who was in the room at the time—because sometimes I think I have to know more how young people think—and when talking about the grants that went out to people of supposed lower income—of course, this also encourages working off the books. All these things do—the gal said, me and my husband got married before we had a child, but none of my friends are getting married. They get free college. I think people in this institution have to stop and think, is that right? Should we be teaching the young people that you get free college if you don't get married when you have a kid?

That is what we are teaching them right now. That is what we taught that young gal in Green Bay if she is listening. I have heard what she said, and I hope it is something that is talked about a little bit more in this institution.

The three topics for the American public to chew on over the next 3 weeks: The record number of people coming across our border and permanently changing America and bankrupting America. The obsession over identifying people where their great-great-grandparents came from as if their view of the world is the same of somebody who was born in Mexico or China or somewhere else in the 1890s.

Lastly, our rather strange policy of trying to discourage people from getting married before they have children. I hope the American people chew on that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleague has been covering a lot of very important subjects here. I know he is frequently in the area of immigration and the invasion of our border, so I appreciate Mr. GROTHMAN's strong efforts on highlighting that so the American people understand.

It really boils down to when we are looking at the border invasion that we have quite a battle. I do not understand why the Biden White House is simply sitting by watching it happen, even having personnel propping the gates open to allow this to happen.

We do not understand fully who is coming in. It is not just people from Mexico or even Central America. There is a lot of very dangerous people coming across the border. They apprehend many people on the known terrorist or mayhem list, at the very least, and I wonder whose side are they on. Whose side is the administration on when they allow this to happen? Whether it is the drugs coming across, the fentanyl, the people who are setting up and going to be the potential terrorist cells that are going to hit this country at some point, and we see all these protests going on over Palestine.

Mr. Speaker, they are just waiting for the green light on this. It is completely irresponsible and antithetical to the constitutional vows we take what is going on with the Biden administration and their nonenforcement of the border. Much work needs to be done.

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

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 115), as amended by section 1601 of Pub L. 111-68, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of the Open World Leadership Center:

Mr. BACON, Nebraska

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO ADAMS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 2406(b)(3) of Public Law 116-9, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Adams Memorial Commission:

Mr. GRIFFITH, Virginia

Mr. MOOLENAAR, Michigan
 Mr. LYNCH, Massachusetts
 Mr. CONNOLLY, Virginia

**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO
 THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
 GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 4303, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of Gallaudet University:

Mr. BUCSHON, Indiana
 Ms. MCCOLLUM, Minnesota

**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO
 THE UNITED STATES GROUP OF
 THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY AS-
 SEMBLY**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Member on the part of the House to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly:

Mr. NORCROSS, New Jersey

**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO
 THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
 THE INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN
 INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE
 CULTURE AND ARTS DEVELOP-
 MENT**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 4412, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development:

Mr. COLE, Oklahoma
 Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, New Mexico

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly an enrolled bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 2670. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT ON
 THE INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZA-
 TION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024,
 SUBMITTED BY MR. TURNER,
 CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE PER-
 MANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON
 INTELLIGENCE**

The following is the Explanatory Statement to accompany the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 ("the Act"),

which has been included as Division G of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024. The Explanatory Statement reflects the result of negotiations between the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (together, "the Committees"). The Explanatory Statement shall have the same effect with respect to the implementation of the Act as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a conference committee.

The classified nature of U.S. intelligence activities prevents the Committees from publicly disclosing many details concerning their final decisions regarding funding levels and policy direction. Therefore, the Committees have prepared a classified annex—referred to here and within the annex itself as "the Agreement"—that contains a classified Schedule of Authorizations and that describes in detail the scope and intent of the Committees' actions.

The Agreement authorizes the Intelligence Community to obligate and expend funds as requested in the President's budget and as modified by the classified Schedule of Authorizations, subject to applicable reprogramming procedures.

The classified Schedule of Authorizations is incorporated into the Act pursuant to Section 7102 of the Act. It has the status of law. The Agreement supplements and adds detail to clarify the authorization levels found in the Act and in the classified Schedule of Authorizations.

This Explanatory Statement incorporates by reference, and the Executive Branch shall comply with, all direction contained in the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Report to accompany the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (S. Rept. 118-59) and in the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Report to accompany the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (H. Rept. 118-162). The Agreement supersedes all classified direction related to programs and activities authorized by the Schedule of Authorization.

The Executive Branch is further directed as follows:

**INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW OF DISSEMINATION
 BY FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION RICH-
 MOND, VIRGINIA, FIELD OFFICE OF CERTAIN
 DOCUMENT**

The Committees are committed to ensuring full transparency in the FBI's actions implicating the rights of the American people to the free exercise of religion and speech. Therefore, the Committees direct that, not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct and submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on the Judiciary, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, a review of the actions and events that served as a basis for the January 23, 2023, dissemination by the field office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation located in Richmond, Virginia, of a document titled "Interest of Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremists in Radical-Traditionalist Catholic Ideology Almost Certainly Presents New Mitigation Opportunities." The review shall cover any orders or direction regarding the document from any official in any field office concerning purported proximate links between any religion, any political affiliation, or the intent of this report.

The Committees further direct that, not later than 10 days after the date of the enact-

ment of this Act, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall submit to the same committees identified above the unredacted August 22, 2023, Inspection Division report associated with the Richmond Domain Perspective.

**FUNDING LIMITATIONS RELATING TO
 UNIDENTIFIED ANOMALOUS PHENOMENA**

Section 7343 of the Act provides for funding limitations relating to unidentified anomalous phenomena because of perceptions of insufficient transparency in this area. Section 7343 is also intended to avoid technology and security stovepipes and expand awareness regarding any historical exotic technology antecedents previously provided by the Federal Government for research and development purposes if they are shown to exist.

Section 7343 further provides a limitation regarding independent research and development funding to ensure that certain indirect expenses are prohibited. That provision is intended to be interpreted consistent with Department of Defense Instruction Number 3204.01 (dated August 20, 2014, incorporating change 2, dated July 9, 2020; relating to Department policy for oversight of independent research and development), or any successor instruction.

**SCREENING AND VETTING OF VISITORS OR AS-
 SIGNEES FROM SENSITIVE COUNTRIES AT THE
 NATIONAL LABORATORIES**

The Committees are concerned that the Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence at the Department of Energy (DOE-IN) does not require the comprehensive screening and vetting of foreign visitors or assignees from the People's Republic of China (PRC), Russia, Iran, North Korea, and Cuba who work or otherwise collaborate with scientists in our National Laboratories. United States Government-funded research carried out at National Laboratories is incredibly important and sensitive. Whether a laboratory supports a science mission or is oriented toward supporting national security, it is critical that all foreign visitors and assignees from countries of concern receive appropriate vetting in order to mitigate counterintelligence risks. In fiscal year 2023, more than 7,000 nationals from the PRC visited 16 National Laboratories. Russian visitors numbered more than 3,700. The Committees understand that international cooperation on matters of basic, fundamental science helps maintain the United States' technological edge. At the same time, we need to protect both the classified research as well as unclassified research that result in technologies with dual-use applications, and which can be adapted for military or economic gain, from getting into our adversaries' hands.

The Committees therefore direct that DOE-IN require a robust effort to screen and vet visitors or assignees to our National Laboratories from the PRC, Russia, Iran, North Korea, and Cuba. The Committees also direct DOE-IN to ensure appropriate oversight over such screening and vetting to ensure that counterintelligence threat information related to potential assignees or visitors is appropriately identified and tracked. The Committees further direct that, not fewer than twice per year, the Director of DOE-IN shall submit to the Committees a report noting each instance in which a visitor or assignee from the PRC, Russia, Iran, North Korea, or Cuba, identified as a significant counterintelligence risk was permitted access to a National Laboratory.

**BRIEFING RELATING TO CERTAIN INTELLIGENCE
 AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES OF
 THE COAST GUARD**

Section 416 of H.R. 3932 provided the Commandant of the Coast Guard with enhanced

authority to obligate and expend amounts made available under the National Intelligence Program for intelligence and counterintelligence activities if the object of the activity is of a confidential, extraordinary, or emergency nature.

Therefore, the Committees direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard, no later than March 31, 2024, to brief the congressional intelligence committees, the congressional defense committees, the congressional appropriations committees, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Technology on why this authority is necessary and appropriate.

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE NOTICE TO CONGRESS BEFORE ESTABLISHING NEW NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER OR ASSIGNING SIGNIFICANT NEW FUNCTION TO EXISTING CENTER

The Committees direct the Director of National Intelligence to provide reasonable notice to the congressional intelligence committees before the Director establishes a new national intelligence center or assigns a significant new function to an existing national intelligence center.

BRIEFING RELATING TO CONFIDENTIAL HUMAN SOURCE PROGRAM OF FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

The Committees direct the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, no later than March 31, 2024, to brief the congressional intelligence committees and the congressional judiciary committees on the Federal Bureau of Investigation's management of confidential human sources, specifically pertaining to the current notification requirements and program review processes in the event that an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has reasonable grounds to believe that a confidential human source, or any immediate family member of such a source, has engaged in unauthorized criminal activity, including any misdemeanor or felony crime.

ENHANCED PERSONNEL SECURITY REVIEW WITH RESPECT TO SOCIAL MEDIA

The Committees are of the view that—

(1) A trusted national security and Intelligence Community workforce is paramount to the protection of our nation's security and to reduce the risk of unauthorized disclosures of classified and other sensitive information;

(2) the increased global availability and use of social media accounts, including by members of the national security workforce of the United States, increase the risk of unauthorized disclosures of classified national security information, which can endanger the United States and its partners and allies, and empower foreign adversaries;

(3) to maintain trust in and the protection of the national security and Intelligence Community workforce of the United States, the Intelligence Community must fully and continuously use available vetting resources and all authorities prescribed by law, while guaranteeing all constitutional protections of such workforce;

(4) the Intelligence Community must maintain high-quality vetting processes and ensure appropriate and necessary measures are taken to thoroughly and in a timely manner investigate and adjudicate prospective applicants for sensitive national security positions within the Intelligence Community; and,

(5) the Intelligence Community should use existing authorities to ensure robust continuous vetting for continued eligibility for access to classified information and carefully manage the speed and accuracy of the security clearance adjudication process at both

the initial investigation process and throughout the career of personnel serving in positions within the Intelligence Community.

MATTERS PERTAINING TO UNITED STATES ECONOMIC AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGY COMPETITION WITH UNITED STATES ADVERSARIES

The Committees support the National Intelligence Strategy of 2023 goal of leveraging emerging technologies and their adoption at scale. Sections 7502 through 7506 of the Act further advance this objective, and the Committees expect the Intelligence Community to implement these provisions faithfully and expeditiously.

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY COUNTERINTELLIGENCE OFFICE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Section 7318 establishes a counterintelligence office located within the Department of Agriculture. Accordingly, the Committees direct the Director of National Intelligence to submit the report required in section 7318(f)(2) to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House, at the same time that the Director submits the report to the congressional intelligence and appropriations committees.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(z) of House Resolution 5, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 1 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, December 15, 2023, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-2544. A letter from the Chief, Planning and Regulatory Affairs Office, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major rule — Fiscal Year 2024 Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) Funding received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-2545. A letter from the Chief, Planning and Regulatory Affairs Office, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major rule — Fiscal Year 2024 Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) Funding received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-2546. A letter from the Chief, Planning and Regulatory Affairs Office, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major rule — Fiscal Year 2024 Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) Funding received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-2547. A letter from the Senior Legal Advisor for Regulatory Affairs, Office of General Counsel, Treasury, Financial Stability Oversight Council, transmitting the Council's Major final interpretive guidance — Guidance on Nonbank Financial Company Determinations received December 6, 2023,

pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-2548. A letter from the Regulatory Policy Analyst, RPMS, Office of Policy, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Direct-to-Consumer Prescription Drug Advertisements: Presentation of the Major Statement in a Clear, Conspicuous, and Neutral Manner in Advertisements in Television and Radio Format [Docket No.: FDA-2009-N-0582] (RIN: 0910-AG27) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2549. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 13303 of May, 22, 2003, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2550. A letter from the President, transmitting notice that the continuation of the national emergency with respect to global illicit drug trafficking declared in Executive Order 14059 of December 15, 2021, must continue in effect beyond December 15, 2023, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 202(d); (90 Stat. 1257) (H. Doc. No. 118—89); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

EC-2551. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting two (2) notices of a designation of acting officer and a discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2552. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Atlantic Ocean, Jacksonville Beach, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0735] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2553. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary interim rule and request for comments — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Hackensack River, Jersey City, NJ [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0794] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2554. A letter from the Legal Tech, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Cheboygan River at Cheboygan, MI [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0113] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2555. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; San Diego Bay, San Diego, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0702] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2556. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; Lake Havasu, Lake Havasu City, AZ [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0593] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2557. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Mission Bay, San Diego, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0761] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2558. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Cumberland River, Nashville, TN [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0797] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2559. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Ohio River Mile Markers 2.5-3, Brunot Island, PA [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0850] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2560. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Atlantic Ocean, Key West, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0135] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2561. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Vessel Launch, San Diego Bay, San Diego, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0818] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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. STEIL: Committee on House Administration. H.R. 3229. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to apply the prohibition against contributions and donations by foreign nationals in connection with elections to contributions or donations in connection with ballot initiatives and referenda; with amendments (Rept. 118-318). 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 Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 6779. A bill to end unemployment payments to jobless millionaires; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 6780. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Medically Tailored Home-Delivered Meals Demonstration Program to test a payment and service delivery model under part A of Medicare to improve clinical health outcomes and reduce the rate of readmissions of certain individuals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN):

H.R. 6781. A bill to amend the Marine Debris Act to reauthorize the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. MASSIE (for himself, Ms. BOEBERT, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GOSAR, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. PERRY, and Mr. ROY):

H.R. 6782. A bill to reduce, from 21 years of age to 18 years of age, the minimum age at which a person may obtain a handgun from a Federal firearms licensee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas):

H.R. 6783. A bill to protect the investment choices of investors in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. STAUBER (for himself, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Ms. HAGEMAN, Ms. BOEBERT, and Mr. BENTZ):

H.R. 6784. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide for protective regulations when a species is listed as an endangered species; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER (for himself and Mr. CLEAVER):

H.R. 6785. A bill to reform rural housing programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. LYNCH:

H.R. 6786. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to make grants to eligible entities to assist certain individuals in reentering a secondary school or a high school equivalency program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. LEE of Nevada (for herself, Mr. HORSFORD, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 6787. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 to modify the authorization of appropriations for the Las Vegas Wash program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FULCHER (for himself and Mr. SIMPSON):

H.R. 6788. A bill to improve communication between the United States Postal Service and local communities relating to the relocation and establishment of Postal Service retail service facilities, and for other purposes;

to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. BARR (for himself, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. POSEY, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. STEIL, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. ROSE, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. NORMAN, Mrs. KIM of California, and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas):

H.R. 6789. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to clarify standards for UDAAP enforcement actions brought by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself and Ms. SEWELL):

H.R. 6790. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to preventing end-stage kidney disease, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER (for herself and Mr. BUCSHON):

H.R. 6791. A bill to amend the Digital Equity Act of 2021 to facilitate artificial intelligence literacy opportunities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H.R. 6792. A bill to amend the public service loan forgiveness program under the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require an on-line portal, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. BRECHEEN (for himself, Mr. BURLISON, and Mr. GOOD of Virginia):

H.R. 6793. A bill to prohibit further action on the proposed rule entitled "Energy Conservation Standards for Ceiling Fans"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BURGESS (for himself and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 6794. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the Medicare independence at home medical practice demonstration program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BURLISON (for himself and Mr. CARTER of Texas):

H.R. 6795. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for education; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 6796. A bill to extend the provisions of the Foreign Service Families Act to the intelligence community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself and Ms. JACOBS):

H.R. 6797. A bill to provide for enhanced United States leadership at international organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 6798. A bill to provide internet at residences owned or leased by the United States Government in foreign countries for the use of Department of State personnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself and Mr. GALLAGHER):

H.R. 6799. A bill to reform joint duty requirements in the intelligence community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select).

By Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK (for herself and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H.R. 6800. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify the requirements for appointment, qualifications, and pay for therapeutic medical physicists of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK (for herself, Mr. RUIZ, and Ms. SEWELL):

H.R. 6801. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure that remote physiologic monitoring services are not subject to cost sharing under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CRAIG (for herself, Mr. VAN DREW, and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 6802. A bill to improve supply chain resiliency for critical drug products with vulnerable supply chains and ensure that reserves of critical drugs and active pharmaceutical ingredients are maintained to prevent supply disruptions in the event of drug shortages or public health emergencies; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 6803. A bill to provide greater support for grandfamilies and older caregiver relatives; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, Energy and Commerce, 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. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 6804. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program to provide self-harm and suicide prevention services in primary care offices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. PALLONE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. TONKO, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. SOTO, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mrs. FLETCHER):

H.R. 6805. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to designate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on 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. FEENSTRA (for himself, Mr. VALADAO, and Mr. SORENSEN):

H.R. 6806. A bill to provide for the establishment of a program to certify artificial intelligence software used in connection with producing agricultural products; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 6807. A bill to increase funding for cancer research by the National Cancer Institute to be more in proportion to the mor-

tality rates of cancer; to the Committee on Appropriations, 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 Mrs. FLETCHER:

H.R. 6808. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to develop a risk-communication strategy to inform the public about the hazards or potential hazards of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on 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. FOSTER:

H.R. 6809. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to allow certain Federal student loans to be transferred from a parent to a child, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida (for himself, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. POSEY, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. STEUBE, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mrs. CAMMACK, and Mrs. LUNA):

H.R. 6810. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 518 North Ridgewood Drive in Sebring, Florida, as the "U.S. Army Air Corps Major Thomas B. McGuire Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. GARBARINO (for himself and Ms. HOULAHAN):

H.R. 6811. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to provide for high-priority research and extension grants for natural climate solutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 6812. A bill to authorize the Pines Foundation to establish the Fire Island AIDS Memorial, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia (for himself, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. OGLES, Mr. PALMER, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. PERRY, Mr. HUNT, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. CLINE, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. BABIN, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. ROSENDALE, and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas):

H.R. 6813. A bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing the proposed rule related to revisions to the air emissions reporting requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. VEASEY):

H.R. 6814. A bill to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to assess certain offshore oil and gas platforms and pipelines for potential use as artificial reefs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRIFFITH (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. CLINE):

H.R. 6815. A bill to require the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to revise its regulations to protect patients from unintended exposure to radiation during nuclear medicine

procedures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HERN (for himself, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. WALBERG, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. BABIN, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. CLINE, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. OGLES, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. DUNN of Florida):

H.R. 6816. A bill to prohibit the availability of Federal education funds for elementary and secondary schools that receive direct or indirect support from the Government of the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. HERN:

H.R. 6817. A bill to impose a fee on certain remittance transfers to fund border security; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, 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 Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 6818. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide employers a credit against employment and income taxes for certain employee training expenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 6819. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor and Secretary of Energy to submit a report to Congress on occupations and career paths affected by changes in energy production and critical manufacturing; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CARSON, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia):

H.R. 6820. A bill to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to remove the exclusion of certain small business concerns from the disadvantaged business enterprise program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, 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. KAPTUR (for herself and Mr. GALLAGHER):

H.R. 6821. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to establish a pilot program that focuses Department of Agriculture conservation funding on reducing the most problematic nutrients in the highest-impact areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. KHANNA (for himself, Ms. MACE, Ms. PORTER, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 6822. A bill to amend title 44, United States Code, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. LATURNER (for himself, Mr. ESTES, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, and Mr. MANN):

H.R. 6823. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require providers of a

covered service to provide location information concerning the telecommunications device of a user of such service to an investigative or law enforcement officer or an employee or other agent of a public safety answering point in an emergency situation involving risk of death or serious physical harm or in order to respond to the user's call for emergency services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MASSIE:

H.R. 6824. A bill to require the Attorney General to submit to the Congress a report that includes the demographic data of persons determined to be ineligible to purchase a firearm based on a background check performed by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MEUSER (for himself, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa):

H.R. 6825. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to raise the offering amount threshold for when issuers using the crowdfunding exemption are required to file financial statements reviewed by a public accountant who is independent of the issuer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MFUME (for himself, Mr. HOYER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. IVEY):

H.R. 6826. A bill to designate the visitor and education center at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine as the Paul S. Sarbanes Visitor and Education Center; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MOLINARO (for himself and Ms. CLARKE of New York):

H.R. 6827. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to increase commodity assistance under the summer food service program; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

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. RAMIREZ, 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, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CASAR, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. PORTER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MCGARVEY, Ms.

SÁNCHEZ, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. CARAVEO, Ms. KUSTER, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 6828. 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 Mr. PALLONE (for himself and Mr. KIM of New Jersey):

H.R. 6829. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize and support the creation and dissemination of cardiomyopathy education, awareness, and risk assessment materials and resources to identify more at-risk families, to authorize research and surveillance activities relating to cardiomyopathy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BROWN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. IVEY, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. MFUME, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. PLASKETT, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Ms. WATERS):

H.R. 6830. A bill to require certain libraries to maintain a diverse collection of books, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SALAZAR (for herself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. WALTZ, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 6831. A bill to reauthorize the Venezuela Emergency Relief, Democracy Assistance, and Development Act of 2019, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SHERRILL (for herself, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 6832. A bill to require the priority and consideration of using native plants in Federal projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. SMUCKER (for himself, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 6833. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve and enhance the work opportunity tax credit, to encourage longer-service employment, and to modernize the credit to make it more effective as a hiring incentive for targeted workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. STEVENS (for herself, Mr. POSEY, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. TLAIB):

H.R. 6834. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to issue a final rule adding as a class all perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances with at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom to the list of hazardous air pollutants under section 112(b) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7412(b)), and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. STRICKLAND (for herself, Mr. STEIL, and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 6835. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish a grant program for multigenerational activities for long-term care facilities; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Mr. NEWHOUSE):

H.R. 6836. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for a moratorium on number reassignment after a disaster declaration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 6837. A bill to prohibit the circumvention of control measures used by internet retailers to ensure equitable consumer access to products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself and Ms. PEREZ):

H.R. 6838. A bill to require the Secretary of Education to disclose information about career and technical education and funding under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, and require FAFSA applications to include a career and technical education acknowledgment; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. BERA (for himself, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CORREA, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mr. SWALWELL):

H. Res. 935. A resolution calling for the safe, timely, and sufficient delivery of humanitarian aid to civilians in the Gaza Strip; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Ms. MENG, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. CASE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. LIEU, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. BERA):

H. Res. 936. A resolution commemorating the 80th anniversary of the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. BACON, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina):

H. Res. 937. A resolution raising awareness for the sarcoma cancer chordoma; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KHANNA:

H. Res. 938. A resolution expressing support for a comprehensive political reform plan; 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.

By Mr. KUSTOFF:

H. Res. 939. A resolution supporting the designation of December 16, 2023, as "National Wreaths Across America Day"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, 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.

**CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND
SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS**

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

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 6779.

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

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit unemployment payments to jobless millionaires.

By Mr. MCGOVERN:

H.R. 6780.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

healthcare

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 6781.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Ocean conservation

By Mr. MASSIE:

H.R. 6782.

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

Article 1, Section 8 and Second Amend-

ment

The single subject of this legislation is:

Firearms and interstate commerce

By Mr. SESSIONS:

H.R. 6783.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 (Commerce

Clause)

[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:

To protect the investment choices of investors by restoring stability to traditional financial vehicles.

By Mr. STAUBER:

H.R. 6784.

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

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

The purpose of this bill is to make reforms to the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 6785.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

to reform rural housing programs, and for other purposes

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 6786.

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

Article I, Section VIII, Clause XVIII

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill will create a grant program with the Department of Labor in consultation with the Department of Education to conduct in-person or virtual programs to help high school dropouts earn their GED and enter the workforce.

By Ms. LEE of Nevada:

H.R. 6787.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 provides Congress with the power to "lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises" in order to "provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States."

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 to modify the authorization of appropriations for the Las Vegas Wash program, and for other purposes.

By Mr. FULCHER:

H.R. 6788.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 allows Congress to make all laws "which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution" any of Congress' enumerated powers, including Congress's powers over appropriations.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To improve communication between the United States Postal Service and local communities relating to the relocation and establishment of Postal Service retail service facilities.

By Mr. BARR:

H.R. 6789.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to clarify standards for UDAAP enforcement actions brought by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 6790.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to clarify standards for UDAAP enforcement actions brought by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H.R. 6791.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To support AI literacy, and for other purposes.

By Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 6792.

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

Spending Clause, Article 1, Section 8, Cl. 1 and the Necessary and Proper Clause, Article I, Section 8, Cl. 18.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill revises provisions related to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program.

By Mr. BRECHEEN:

H.R. 6793.

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

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To ensure that the proposed rule by the Department of Energy titled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Ceiling Fans" (88 Fed. Reg. 40932) shall have no force or effect.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 6794.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To extend the Medicare independence at home medical practice demonstration program.

By Mr. BURLISON:

H.R. 6795.

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

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill expands 529 accounts and helps provide options for families. The bill also takes away certain federal subsidies from states that are hostile to school choice policies and encourages adoption of school choice laws.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 6796.

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

Congressman Joaquin Castro
Constitutional Authority—Necessary and

Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION ARTICLE I,
SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS
CLAUSE 18

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for

The single subject of this legislation is: provide certain benefits to members of intelligence community and their families

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 6797.

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

Congressman Joaquin Castro
Constitutional Authority—Necessary and

Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION ARTICLE I,
SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS
CLAUSE 18

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for

The single subject of this legislation is: To improve US leadership at the United Nations and other multilateral institutions

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 6798.

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

Congressman Joaquin Castro
Constitutional Authority—Necessary and

Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION ARTICLE I,
SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS
CLAUSE 18

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for

The single subject of this legislation is: To provide for Internet access to diplomats at hardship posts

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 6799.

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

Congressman Joaquin Castro
Constitutional Authority—Necessary and

Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION ARTICLE I,
SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS
CLAUSE 18

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for

The single subject of this legislation is: the intelligence community

By Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK:

H.R. 6800.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is: Veterans Affairs.

By Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK:

H.R. 6801.

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

Article 1, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is: Medicare.

By Ms. CRAIG:

H.R. 6802.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Securing America's pharmaceutical supply chain

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 6803.

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: child welfare

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 6804.

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

Article 1, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is: helping to prevent suicide.

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H.R. 6805.

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

The Constitutional authority of Congress to enact legislation provided by Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is: Environment

By Mr. FEENSTRA:

H.R. 6806.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill provides for the establishment of a program to certify artificial intelligence software used in connection with producing agricultural products.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 6807.

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:

Increases cancer funding by 25% to the National Cancer Institute (NCI) for FY24-FY28 and asks for a study and report to Congress on the cancer drug shortage.

By Mrs. FLETCHER:

H.R. 6808.

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

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Environment

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 6809.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

education

By Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida:

H.R. 6810.

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

Congress is granted the authority to introduce and enact legislation pursuant to Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 518 North Ridgewood Drive in Sebring, Florida, as the "U.S. Army Air Corps Major Thomas B. McGuire Post Office Building".

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 6811.

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

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would allow for grants to be made available for natural climate solutions that are based on traditional ecological knowledge, promote biodiversity and climate change resilience, and reduce runoff as part of high-priority research and extension initiatives as authorized by the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990. Specifically, this legislation makes natural climate solutions a USDA high-priority research and extension initiative administered by the

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 6812.

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 authorizes the Pines Foundation to build and maintain a small memorial at the Fire Island National Seashore.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.R. 6813.

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

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit the Secretary of the Environmental Protection Agency from finalizing a proposed rulemaking.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana:

H.R. 6814.

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

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Preserve marine ecosystems and increases fishing access for anglers by improving long-standing artificial reefing programs for decommissioned energy infrastructure.

By Mr. GRIFFITH:

H.R. 6815.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to revise its regulations to protect patients from unintended exposure to radiation during nuclear medicine procedures

By Mr. HERN:

H.R. 6816.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Education

By Mr. HERN:

H.R. 6817.

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:

Homeland Security

By Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 6818.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Allows an employer that maintains a qualified training program for their employees in a taxable year to be eligible for a tax

credit equal to 30 percent of the direct costs incurred by the employer.

By Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 6819.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Requires the Secretaries of Labor and Energy to annually submit to Congress a joint economic analysis of occupations and career paths impacted by changes in the energy and manufacturing industries.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 6820.

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

U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Transportation

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 6821.

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

Article 1, Section VIII, to regulate commerce

The single subject of this legislation is:

Commerce

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 6822.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

National Archives

By Mr. LATURNER:

H.R. 6823.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require a mobile or internet service provider to disclose the location information of a device pursuant to certain requests.

By Mr. MASSIE:

H.R. 6824.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Firearms and reporting of criminal statistics.

By Mr. MEUSER:

H.R. 6825.

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

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

ACCESS Act of 2023

By Mr. MFUME:

H.R. 6826.

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

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

National Park Service

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 6827.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Child nutrition

By Ms. OMAR:

H.R. 6828.

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 Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 6829.

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

Pursuant to clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds the authority for this legislation in article 1, section 8 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:
Health

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H.R. 6830.

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

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To ensure public libraries have diverse collections of books

By Ms. SALAZAR:

H.R. 6831.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Venezuela Sanctions

By Ms. SHERRILL:

H.R. 6832.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 14.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the priority and consideration of using native plants in Federal projects, and for other purposes.

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 6833.

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

Clause 3 of section 8 article 1 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve and enhance the work opportunity tax credit, to encourage longer-service employment, and to modernize the credit to make it more effective as a hiring incentive for targeted workers.

By Ms. STEVENS:

H.R. 6834.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:
PFAS

By Ms. STRICKLAND:

H.R. 6835.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

The Care Across Generations Act would establish a grant program for long-term care facilities to operate or contract with a child care program and facilitate multi-generational activities. The bill would also require the Assistant Secretary of the Administration for Community Living to issue a report to the House Ed&Labor and Senate HELP committees with findings and policy

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 6836.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

[The Congress shall have Power . . .] 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:

amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for a moratorium on number reassignment after a disaster declaration, and for other purposes.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 6837.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

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:

Makes it illegal to knowingly circumvent a security measure, access control system, or other technological control or measure on an Internet website or online service to maintain the integrity of posted online purchasing order rules for products or services, including toys, and would make it illegal to sell or offer to sell any product or service obtained in this manner.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 6838.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Requires the Department of Education to publish information on the Office of Federal Student Aid website regarding Career and Technical Education information. In addition, the FAFSA application must include a one-page summary about CTE programs and require applicants to sign an acknowledgment box before starting the FAFSA application.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 7: Mr. GIMENEZ.
H.R. 11: Mr. AMO.
H.R. 14: Mr. AMO.
H.R. 41: Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.
H.R. 51: Mr. AMO.
H.R. 82: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
H.R. 211: Mr. NORMAN.
H.R. 261: Mr. NORMAN.
H.R. 325: Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 531: Mr. STRONG and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 536: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 574: Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 619: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 620: Ms. ADAMS and Ms. PETTERSEN.
H.R. 698: Mr. AMO.
H.R. 770: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 795: Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 807: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 808: Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.
H.R. 856: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 865: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 866: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 871: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 898: Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas.
H.R. 926: Mr. FOSTER and Mr. AMO.
H.R. 933: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 953: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 987: Mr. GUEST.
H.R. 1045: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 1083: Mr. LIEU, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. PAPPAS, and Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 1088: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 1097: Mr. GAETZ, Mr. WENSTRUP, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1118: Mr. AMO.
H.R. 1135: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 1173: Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 1235: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 1247: Mr. HOYER.
H.R. 1342: Ms. ROSS and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 1491: Mrs. SYKES.
H.R. 1680: Mr. GALLEGO and Mr. WENSTRUP.
H.R. 1831: Mr. VAN ORDEN.
H.R. 1833: Mr. PALLONE and Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 2447: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 2584: Ms. LEE of Florida.
H.R. 2666: Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 2673: Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. NICKEL.
H.R. 2706: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 2715: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 2891: Mr. TIMMONS.
H.R. 2923: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 2949: Ms. PEREZ and Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 2966: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 2992: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 3005: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 3018: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. MCCLELLAN, and Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 3204: Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. WATERS, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. AGUILAR, and Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE.
H.R. 3216: Mr. GALLEGO.
H.R. 3350: Ms. WEXTON.
H.R. 3374: Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 3375: Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 3381: Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
H.R. 3433: Ms. WATERS, Mr. IVEY, Mr. SABLAN, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 3475: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 3519: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 3541: Mrs. HOUCHIN.
H.R. 3605: Ms. SANCHEZ.
H.R. 3611: Mr. HUNT.
H.R. 3690: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3698: Mr. TRONE, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. MOSKOWITZ.
H.R. 3702: Mr. KILDEE, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 3713: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 3725: Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 3782: Mrs. PELTOLA.
H.R. 3847: Ms. SANCHEZ.
H.R. 3850: Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 3970: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 3998: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 4016: Mr. MURPHY.
H.R. 4103: Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 4195: Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 4286: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 4326: Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas and Ms. DELAURIO.
H.R. 4519: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEEMER, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 4541: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 4550: Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 4572: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 4579: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania and Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 4663: Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 4748: Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 4757: Mr. STEUBE and Ms. WILD.
H.R. 4800: Mr. MOLINARO.
H.R. 4844: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 4850: Mr. AMO.
H.R. 4886: Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 4896: Mr. LAHOOD.
H.R. 4903: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 4993: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 5007: Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California.
H.R. 5041: Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. AMO, Ms. SHERRILL, and Mr. HOYER.
H.R. 5160: Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 5251: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 5324: Mr. ALLRED, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 5344: Ms. CARAVEO.
H.R. 5399: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 5402: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 5414: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 5474: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 5563: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 5576: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 5601: Mr. MFUMEN, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 5647: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 5686: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 5757: Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 5827: Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 5844: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 5847: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 5856: Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.
H.R. 5937: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 5950: Mr. MOLINARO.
H.R. 6031: Mr. PALLONE and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 6049: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 6083: Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 6105: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H.R. 6110: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 6191: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 6244: Mr. CASAR and Mr. CARTER of Texas.
H.R. 6267: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 6319: Mr. STAUBER and Mr. VASQUEZ.
H.R. 6407: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER and Mr. CASE.
H.R. 6415: Mrs. SYKES.
H.R. 6433: Mrs. PELTOLA.
H.R. 6439: Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 6446: Ms. WEXTON.

H.R. 6485: Mr. ADERHOLT.
H.R. 6492: Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 6504: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 6527: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 6538: Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 6593: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 6594: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 6629: Ms. ADAMS and Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 6662: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 6663: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 6672: Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 6683: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. MOORE of Utah.
H.R. 6690: Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 6696: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 6706: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H.R. 6720: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 6721: Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 6736: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 6745: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 6747: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 6753: Mr. ROSENDALE.
H.R. 6754: Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 6761: Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.J. Res. 13: Mr. AMO.
H.J. Res. 98: Mrs. KIM of California and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.
H. Con. Res. 13: Mr. NUNN of Iowa and Mr. BANKS.
H. Res. 33: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H. Res. 616: Ms. CRAIG.
H. Res. 634: Mr. KHANNA.
H. Res. 850: Mr. FRY.
H. Res. 872: Mr. MOLINARO.
H. Res. 874: Mr. ALLRED.
H. Res. 886: Mr. PAPPAS.
H. Res. 895: Mr. SWALWELL.
H. Res. 901: Mr. WALBERG, Mr. TRONE, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. SELF, and Mr. ALLRED.
H. Res. 905: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 907: Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. CASTEN, and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H. Res. 915: Mr. MORELLE.
H. Res. 920: Mrs. CAMMACK.
H. Res. 929: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H. Res. 934: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.